

Groundwater Advisory Committee
Options Paper
for
November 15 Ballot

Date: November 14, 2007

From (list GAC members): Jodi Habush Sinykin

Title (Subject): Water Conservation Considerations

RECOMMENDATION:

Consistent with the Committee's support for a comprehensive statewide water management policy and recognition of the value of increased conservation and efficiency measures in areas of the state requiring special consideration, like the Groundwater Management Areas and Groundwater Protection Areas, we recommend to the Legislature as follows:

That the Legislature authorize the development and implementation of a coordinated statewide water conservation program that:

- evaluates the value of conservation practices for high-capacity well approval holders within GPAs or near protected springs;
- requires the demonstration of conservation and best management practices for all high capacity well approval holders within designated Groundwater Management Areas (GMAs) and Groundwater Attention Areas (GAAs).
- identifies Wisconsin's water management and conservation goals and objectives for both groundwater and surface water;
- identifies strategies to achieve these goals and objectives consistent with other statewide water conservation planning efforts, including identification of existing legal impediments to conservation;
- provides for implementation of recommended measures and practices through development of administrative rules, with public input.