

Water management information, resources available online

The League's website, www.oml.org, now contains an updated resource page for the Oklahoma Municipal Utility Program (OMUP). From the home page, click on OMUP Water/Drip GRIPS.

"Cities who are developing conservation programs can access example ordinances and see how other cities have done it," said David Poole, OMUP chairman and Nichols Hills city manager. A broad variety of example ordinances are provided that address different types of water systems, Poole said. Some will target lakes and reservoirs, others address purchased water systems and others are designed for communities that use wells. Different conservation styles communities might choose are also included.

"Some are heavier on the conservation side, while others have more emphasis on enforcement," Poole said. Ordinances include "triggers" – water supply levels that once reached, indicate a specific action.

"Cities will have a series of different triggers for different systems," said Poole. He said the site will include a template to walk city officials through the development of a public water supply contingency plan.

"This will be a walk-through form that tells you how to put a drought plan together and tailor it to your community," he said.

An archive of past articles on municipal water issues will also be included on the page, as well as a list of upcoming training opportunities. Also, a comprehensive list of links to water-related organizations and resources will be provided. These include:

- Oklahoma Floodplain Management Association
- Association of State Floodplain Managers
- Oklahoma Water Resources Board
- Federal Emergency Management Agency
- Oklahoma Emergency Management
- Corps of Engineers
- U.S. Geological Survey
- EPA National Pollutant Discharge System
- Stormwater Management Resource Center
- National Flood Insurance Program

More enhancements are being added, so keep checking back and be sure to let us know how we can make the site more helpful to you. For more information or if you have suggestions for the OMUP page, contact OML Director of Research Cheryl Dorrance.