

**Resolution to Reduce Water Consumption Through Use of Sustainable Residential Technology**

WHEREAS, modern resource saving technology is more efficient than outdated models, excessive water usage greatly increases residential water bills, and water is a finite resource and its overuse can greatly impact the environment including fish and wildlife habitat; and

WHEREAS, residents who own wells may encounter lowered water tables from excessive water usage thereby reducing and sometime eliminating their wells use as water supplies; and

WHEREAS, Wisconsin's annual water usage consists of 42% municipal usage and 5% agricultural irrigation usage with agricultural usage increasing significantly in certain areas of the state, (Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources); and

WHEREAS, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources recognizes that the density and intensity of withdrawals in Wisconsin depends on the condition of the source water and the demand for water (Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources); and

WHEREAS, renewable and sustainable household technologies can significantly reduce home water consumption; benefiting the environment and generating cost savings for households; and

WHEREAS, the average American household spends \$2,200 annually on utilities and could save significant amounts of money by reducing energy and water consumption (The NEED Project); and

WHEREAS, low flow toilets save approximately \$110 annually by using 1.5-5 gallons less than the outdated toilets (Poplar Network), efficient showerheads use less than 2 gallons of water per minute instead of 2.5 gallons per minute, efficient washing machines reduce the water usage by 25 gallons per use (Home Water Works), and garden rain barrels provide an additional water source.

Now therefore be it resolved, that the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation at its 2017 Annual Meeting held April 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> in Wisconsin Rapids, calls on the Wisconsin Legislature and the Governor to extend tax rebates for residential water saving technologies; and

Now therefore be it further resolved, that the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation work with the Wisconsin Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy in Wisconsin, to promote and fund cost-effective water-saving solutions for homes and residential buildings.

Submitted by Conservation Leadership Corps:

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**Sources:**

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