



Effective April 13, 2007

**Bernalillo County Water Conservation Requirements for
All New Single Family Residential Buildings**

Must Complete Either Option 1 or Option 2

Option 1.

An approved Cistern system to collect rooftop rainwater runoff for landscape irrigation. The Cistern should be designed to store water from 85% of the roof area and meet all applicable state and local regulations.

Option 2.

Complete one of the following three alternatives.

Alternative 1. Install an approved on-demand hot water system such as but not limited to:

- a. On demand hot water heaters in close proximity of hot water points-of-use.
- b. Plumbing system design features that minimize pipe distance between hot water source and hot water points-of-use.
- c. Hot water re-circulating system with a pump, a timer, and/or a thermostat. Copper water lines, if used in the system, shall be insulated in accordance with the New Mexico Energy Conservation Code.

Alternative 2. Install any combination of two of the following items:

- a. An Energy Star rated dishwasher.
- b. An Energy Star rated clothes washing machine.
- c. High efficiency toilets in all bathrooms. (Toilets that Flush 1.3 gallons per flush or less)

Alternative 3. Install plumbing stub-out for a graywater system to collect gray water from a minimum of one bathroom and one washing machine in accordance with all applicable local and state regulations.

Pond and Fountain Restrictions

Ornamental ponds shall not exceed 500 square feet of surface area. Ornamental fountains shall not exceed 250 square feet of surface area. Multiple water features on the same property will be considered together to determine surface area. Flowing water used in fountains, waterfalls and similar features shall be re-circulated. Ponds and fountains shall be designed to be consistent with the requirements of all applicable local and state regulations.

Planting Restrictions

Single family residential properties except for those zoned A-1 Agricultural with access to water provided through the Middle Rio Grande Conservancy District or community acequia systems for irrigation purposes shall not be designed and constructed to use high water use turf or other restricted plants on more than 20% of the landscape area, except;

- a. In the event that 20% of the landscape area is greater than 3,000 square feet, high water use turf and other restricted plants shall not be used on more than 3,000 square feet of the landscape area;
- b. In the event that 20% of the landscape area is less than 300 square feet, high water use turf and other restricted plants may be used on up to 300 square feet of the landscape area.