



**American Water Works
Association**

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The Authoritative Resource for Safe Water[®]

Utility Alert

TO: AWWA Member Utilities
FROM: AWWA Government Affairs
DATE: August 27, 2010

Who: Drinking Water Utility Managers
What: Survey on sustainability rating tools for drinking water utilities
When: Please complete ASAP (Deadline September 17)

The American Water Works Association (AWWA) is conducting an electronic survey on sustainability at drinking water utilities to gauge interest in a rating tool for the sector and to gather input on potential design features.

Your participation in this survey is critical. To participate, click on the link below. The survey takes between 15 and 20 minutes to complete.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/AWWA-SustainabilityRatingTool>

AWWA is exploring creation of a drinking water utility sustainability rating tool due to increased focus on sustainability within the utility sector. The current Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certification criterion, developed by the U.S. Green Building Council, is focused on buildings and is widely used in commercial building market; however, it has very limited applicability to the water utility sector.

Because of the many factors involved, there isn't a current standard definition for a "sustainable drinking water utility," and utilities are hard-pressed to present their sustainability efforts concisely and clearly. The rating tool would allow drinking water utilities to effectively evaluate and present their sustainability efforts to relevant stakeholders (employees, customers and others) while also identifying areas for future improvement.

The electronic survey will remain open until Friday, September 17, 2010.

Questions? Contact Cynthia Lane in the AWWA Washington Office at (202) 326-6122 or clane@awwa.org.