

Title Watershed Protection	Number WTR-610	Rev. no. 0
Responsibility Drinking Water Division	Supersedes N/A	Pages 1
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1. PURPOSE

This policy provides guidance to Seattle Public Utilities to manage facilities and activities in the municipal drinking water supply watersheds that affect water quality.

2. POLICY

Control human activity and be prepared to respond to emergencies in the municipal watersheds to maximize protection of drinking water source water quality.

- A. Require that all individuals and groups have approval from the Director of SPU or designee for access to the municipal watersheds.
- B. Enforce trespass and other laws and regulations related to municipal watershed access and deterrence of unauthorized use, taking additional security measures when needed along known security trespass corridors or where SPU property is adjacent to residential areas.
- C. Meet all current federal regulations for unfiltered surface water supply in the Cedar River watershed, including provisions of the Cedar supply's Limited Alternative to Filtration, and filtered surface water supplies in the South Fork Tolt watershed that require the identification of municipal watershed boundaries. Signs, fencing, and gates will be used to meet these regulations and to deter unauthorized use and trespass.
- D. Prohibit public access for fishing in SPU's municipal watersheds
- E. Prohibit public access for hunting in SPU's municipal watersheds, unless it is deemed necessary by the Director of SPU for the protection of water quality, allowing tribal hunting in accordance with treaty rights or by specific agreements.
- F. Pursue land ownership, landowner agreements, and/or legislation to protect SPU municipal watersheds, emphasizing land ownership, when feasible, to provide the greatest level of control and watershed protection.
- G. Aggressively pursue prevention and suppression of all wildfires on municipal watershed lands.

- 1) Include public education, communication of industrial fire precaution levels, forest patrols, weather monitoring, and fuels management in wild fire prevention program.
- 2) Prioritize human life and safety (both for the public and for those fighting the wildfires) as highest priority.
- 3) Then emphasize containment of a wildfire to the smallest acreage possible.
- 4) Use water from any water body within the Cedar and Tolt watersheds for fire suppression on a case-by-case basis as decided by the Director of SPU or designee.
- 5) Use fire retardant materials when authorized by the Director of SPU or designee.