

A Digital Library for Water Conservation

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We will describe the information infrastructure that we are using to build a digital library and archive for the Conserve Florida Water, water conservation clearinghouse. The goal of the library, currently in its first year of development, is to provide decision support primarily to utilities, but potentially to broader audiences, in the area of water conservation best management practices (BMPs) relevant to Florida. This includes fact sheets on BMPs, pointers to supporting technical reports and research publications including access to digitized versions of publications not previously available in digital form, datasets and other databases on water use, and mathematical models on water consumption and savings benefits. The information will be integrated and cross-referenced to the extent that the history and research behind any particular conservation measure can be easily retrieved. We will describe data mining techniques that are being applied to the available datasets. The digital library is organized around a set of subject headings which we have assembled from several existing glossaries and which is formally represented using an ontology. We are working closely with the UF Digital Library Center to archive all clearinghouse resources and provide appropriate OAI compliant metadata.

We will also provide a computer demonstration of the Web site we have created for the digital library (<http://conserveflorida.org>).