



Veolia's Water Impact Index: A Tool for Water Footprinting

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Veolia Water North America- Water Impact Index

- We are a water service provider company- water IS our business
- Committed to leadership in sustainability- water is a precious natural resource
- Knowing you specific impact on the resource is critical to sound decision making and sustainable practice. Index provides additional parameters needed to make informed choices about effective water management.
- The index is part of VWNA toolbox for Sustainable Water Resource Management





Details of the Water Impact Index Tool

- Algorithm addresses quality, quantity, AND a local stress impact factor
- Accounts for inputs and outputs of quality and quantity
- Water impact index is in gallons equivalent, and addresses input vs. output volumes and input vs. output quality- all corrected for local stress
- Uses Water Stress Index from Pfister et al, 2009
- Can be used for direct and indirect water impact assessment
- Is location-specific and allows for assessing changes over time and/or evaluating various scenarios/options
- Is not conducive to quantitative inter-site or inter-company comparisons

Characteristics of the Water Impact Index

- An increase in the ***volume of water withdrawn*** increases the Water Impact Index
- An increase in the ***volume of water released*** decreases the Water Impact Index
- An increase in the ***quality of the water withdrawn*** increases the Water Impact Index
- An increase in the ***quality of the water released*** decreases the Water Impact Index
- An increase in the ***scarcity of water*** increases the Water Impact Index

