

3.0 Conservation and Open Space Element

3.1 NATURAL RESOURCES

Objectives

- A. Protect natural resources including groundwater, soils, and air quality, to meet the needs of present and future generations.
- B. Ensure that environmental hazards including potential flooding and impacts from agricultural practices are adequately addressed in the development process within the City and the Wasco Planning Area.

Policies, Standards

1. Protect areas of natural groundwater recharge from land uses and disposal method, which would degrade groundwater quality. Promote activities, which combine stormwater control, and water recharges.
2. Expand programs that enhance groundwater recharge in order to maintain the groundwater supply, including the installation of detention ponds in new growth areas.
3. No urban level development shall be approved in the City unless the development is, or will be served by the City sewer system, except in the Rural Residential zone.
4. Water conservation methods shall be continued.
5. To assist the City in meeting the clean air quality requirements of the federal and state Clean Air Acts, the San Joaquin Valley Unified Air Pollution Control District will be consulted to provide community planning guidance to help reduce potential air quality impacts.
6. Promote biological diversity and the use of plant species compatible with the bio-region.
7. If street trees are removed, they shall be replaced with tree species specified on the City's Street Tree Master Plan at a three to one ratio.
8. New construction activities shall comply with the PM-10 control measures as set forth by the San Joaquin Valley Unified Air Pollution Control District's *Guide for Assessing and Mitigating Air Quality Impacts*.
9. To protect human health, the City groundwater resources will be monitored on a regular basis to test for bacteriological and toxic chemical components.