

## ***Interactive comment on “Household water use and conservation models using Monte Carlo techniques” by R. Cahill et al.***

### **Anonymous Referee #4**

Received and published: 25 May 2013

The authors presented a case study on previously developed approach as cited in this paper (Rosenberg et al., 2007) which was applied in other parts of the world. The authors though used recent empirical data to recommend conservation actions that households can adopt to decrease their water demand with the least cost.

But what is the new scientific contribution made by the authors in this paper? I would suggest changing the title to include the fact that this work is mainly a case study like: “case study: household water use and conservation. . .”. Also, Monte Carlo techniques have been used previously in many water use and conservation studies. Instead I would focus on other important and new aspects in the approach of this paper.

Besides the constructive feedback provided by the three anonymous referees, here is

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some additional feedback to consider:

I stress the point made by anonymous refer #3 for the need to explain the methods in the body of this paper instead of heavily referencing the Mr. Cahill's master thesis. An average reader should understand the basic research methods without going back and forth to other references.

Behavioral changes can be shot term in a sense of responding to emergency or dramatic events, but studies have shown that people would go back to their old behavior afterwards. So I'm not sure if it is correct to consider behavior change as a short term action that would last forever.

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Interactive comment on Hydrol. Earth Syst. Sci. Discuss., 10, 4869, 2013.

## HESSD

10, C2004–C2005, 2013

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