Many new forms of water metrics



Purpose

From resource to service How do water-using practices change How do these changes relate to time and technology? Beyond 'averages' Distributions of practice, maps. Litres per practice and how this changes and varies How do conventions – e.g. The green lawn become established, what is 'normal'

What are the questions to ask?



Conventional representations: and what they disguise what is this water being used for, and how do water-consuming practices vary



http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/research/library/publications/41051.aspx

Geographies of practice





For the exhibition, we could make/fake maps., like this



Start of day

End of day



Which water consuming practices go here?

January

July

December

A guessing game? Does that help? Aim: to show variation in end uses over the year, to show that practices interconnect.. But how





Beyond the average

For the show: participants from the floor?



148 litres per person per day

Different ways in which this 'average' is composed

(we have enough water jacks for 75 L.)



What if there were only 20 litres, how would they be used?

Second round exercise, or is this better for the 'stand'/exhbition?

Household water use by 'service'?



Professor David Butler

Centre for Water Systems, Exeter University

Does it make sense to talk of water – this is garden water

Demand as an outcome of practice



Which is the normal lawn?

Exhibition.. Public/private conventions, range?

Relatively new stuff	
Hoselock/fittings	Wash stand
Paddling pools	Basin in bathroom
Sprinklers	Toilet size
Drip irrigation	Bidet? Plumbed in.
Aquaria, hot and cold	
Washing machines	
Shower	
Dishwasher	
Icemaker	
Central heating	
Coffee machines	
Toilets	
Underfloor heating	

Opportunities to consume Infrastructures of flowing and containing

The water history of a house

1800 - 1920? collect water from a pump (there are still a couple left in the town)

1920 - water from a tap in the yard; outside toilet

1930s - indoor water in kitchen lean-to, outside toilet

1960s - indoor bathroom, ground floor (our row of houses was condemned in the 1950s but saved by a local builder whose wife still lives opposite)

1970s - plumbed washing machine, outside tap for garden (so full circle from only source of water, to unnecessary, to "vital" bit of gardening kit)

1970s - central heating

2006 - upstairs bathrooms, dishwasher (whether chosen or imposed - who knows?)

2010 - well, I can't think of anything we want but who knows what we or the next owners will do?

Important point, but how to make it tangible?

Dynamic routines

Once a week

Almost once a day



Picture by Elaine Nason



Beyond the meter...



Audience: water companies, policy

Academic

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How to make an 'act' from these resources and ideas?

What are the questions to ask? What do measurements and methods obscure?

Conceptualising and representing diversity and change, and possibly explaining it..