

A Checklist of Water Conservation Ideas For

Commercial Buildings

This checklist provides water conservation tips successfully implemented by industrial and commercial users. This list has been revised from the original copy first published and distributed by the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power.

General suggestions

Increase employee awareness of water conservation.

Install signs encouraging water conservation in employee and customer restrooms.

When cleaning with water is necessary, use budgeted amounts.

Determine the quantity and purpose of water being used.

Read water meter weekly to monitor success of water conservation efforts.

Assign an employee to monitor water use and waste.

Seek employee suggestions on water conservation; put suggestion boxes in prominent areas.

Determine other methods of water conservation.

Building maintenance

Check water supply for leaks.

Turn off any unnecessary flows.

Repair dripping faucets and showers and continuously running or leaking toilets.

Install faucet aerators where possible.

Reduce toilet water use by adjusting flush valves or installing dams and flapper mechanisms.

As appliances or fixtures wear out, replace them with water-saving models.

Shut off water supply to equipment rooms not in use.

Minimize the water used in cooling equipment in accordance with manufacturers recommendations. Shut off cooling units when not needed.

Cafeteria area

Turn off continuous flow used to clean the drain trays.

Turn off dishwasher when not in use. Wash full loads only.

Use water from steam tables to wash down cooking area.

Do not use running water to melt ice or frozen foods.

Use water-conserving ice makers.



Exterior areas

Convert from water intensive lawns, trees, and shrubs to Xeriscape -- Landscape design incorporating plants that provide beautiful color and require less water.

Inventory outdoor water use for landscaped areas.

Water landscape only when needed. Two-to-three times a week is usually sufficient.

Water in the early morning or evening.

Make sure that water does not run into the streets or alleys.

Stop hosing down sidewalks, driveways, and parking lots.

Use time controllers on sprinkler systems.

Do not water on windy days.

Water in winter only during prolonged hot and dry periods. (During spring and fall, most plants need approximately half the amount they need during the summer.)

For more information, contact: