

# A Checklist of Water Conservation Ideas For

# Laundries and Linen Suppliers

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.

Conduct contests for employees (e.g., posters, slogans, or conservation ideas).

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

Install signs in employee and customer restrooms encouraging water conservation.

When cleaning with water is necessary, use budgeted amounts.

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

Assign an employee to monitor water use and waste.

Determine the quantity and purpose of water being used.

Determine other methods of water conservation.

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

## Building maintenance

Check water supply system for leaks and turn off any unnecessary flows.

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

Reduce the water used in toilet flushing by either adjusting the vacuum flush mechanism or installing toilet tank displacement devices (dams, bottles, or bags).

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

Shut off water supply to equipment rooms not in use.

Keep hot water pipes insulated.

Avoid excessive boiler and air conditioner blow down. (Monitor total dissolved solids levels and blow down only when needed.)

Install flow reducers and faucet aerators in all plumbing fixtures wherever possible.

Avoid excessive filter or softener back flush. Back flush only when needed.



## Operations

Recycle water where feasible consistent with state and county requirements.

Reprogram machines to eliminate a rinse or suds cycle, if possible, and if not restricted by health regulations.

Reduce water levels to minimize required water per load.

Evaluate wash formula and machine cycles for water-use efficiency.

Wash full loads only.



## Exterior areas

Convert from high-water using lawns, trees, and shrubs to xeriscape -- Landscape design incorporating plants providing beautiful color and requiring less water.

Inventory outdoor water use for landscaped areas.

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

Make sure water does not run into the gutters, streets, or alleys. Use controllers on sprinkler systems.

Wash autos, buses, and trucks less often.

Discontinue using water to clean sidewalks, driveways, loading docks, and parking lots. Consider using brooms or motorized sweepers.

Do not water on windy days.

Time watering, when possible, to occur in the morning or evening when evaporation is lowest.

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

**For more information, contact:**