



# Water Conservation Tips for Businesses



- ◆ 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.
- ◆ When possible, replace or retrofit plumbing fixtures to save up to *63 percent* of water use. This includes toilets, urinals, showerheads and faucets. In the meantime, install a toilet displacement device to cut down on the amount of water needed to flush. Place a one-gallon plastic jug of water into the tank to displace water – be sure it does not interfere with operating parts (do not use a brick, it may dissolve and loose pieces may cause damage to internal parts). *Save 2-3 gallons per flush!*
- ◆ Detect and repair leaks in plumbing fixtures. *Save 20-50 gallons per day!*
- ◆ Change window cleaning schedule from "periodic" to "as required." *Save from 2-100 gallons per wash!*
- ◆ Shut off the water supply to equipment and areas that are unused.
- ◆ Read water meter weekly to monitor success of water conservation efforts.
- ◆ Fit hoses with high pressure, low volume nozzles with shut off valves. *Save 8-18 gallons per minute!*
- ◆ Use a broom, rather than a hose, to clean sidewalks, driveways, loading docks and parking lots. *Save 150 gallons or more per wash!*
- ◆ Wash vehicles less often. *Save 80-150 gallons per wash!*
- ◆ Inventory outdoor water use for landscaped areas.
- ◆ Water landscapes only when needed – 2-3 times a week is usually sufficient. *Save 25-50 gallons for each minute of irrigation eliminated!*
- ◆ Install soil moisture overrides or timers on sprinkler systems. Time watering to occur in the early morning or evening when evaporation is lowest and avoid watering on windy days. *Save 20-25 gallons!*
- ◆ Mulch around plants to reduce evaporation and discourage weeds. *Save 40 gallons per day!*
- ◆ Avoid runoff and make sure sprinklers cover just the lawn or garden, not sidewalks, driveways, or gutters. *Save 15-20 gallons!*



*"When the well is dry we learn the worth of water." – Ben Franklin*

## *Be Water Smart, Not Water Short!*