

checklist

Water Efficiency Opportunity (USEPA)

WATER EFFICIENCY OPPORTUNITY CHECKLIST

Facility/Building:

Date Prepared

Prepared by:

Reviewed by:

WATER EFFICIENCY PRACTICE

YES

NO

1. ORGANIZATIONAL WATER EFFICIENCY PRACTICES

- a. Have you set water use reduction goals and targets for your facility
- b. Are water meters installed on high water using processes, and are they working properly?
- c. Do you have easy ways for employees to suggest ideas for water efficiency improvements (e.g., suggestion boxes)?

2. COOLING AND HEATING

- a. Has once-through cooling water been eliminated with the use of chillers, cooling towers, or air-cooled equipment?
- b. Has blow-down/bleed-off control on cooling towers and boilers been optimised?
- c. Is condensate being reused?
- d. Is treated wastewater (or other sources of water for cooling tower make-up) reused where possible?
- e. Are cycles of concentration for cooling towers maximized through efficient water treatment?

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f. Is a conductivity controller installed on each cooling tower?		
g. Have cooling towers been equipped with overflow alarms?		
h. Are high-efficiency drift eliminators in use?		
3. RESTROOMS AND KITCHENS		
a. Are water-efficient fixtures installed (e.g. WaterSense labeled faucets, toilets, urinals, and showerheads)? Are there signs on dual-flush toilets showing people how to use them?		
b. Have you installed metered or sprint-loaded faucets, or faucets with sensors?		
c. Have you adjusted plumbing to use the minimum amount of water that is functional?		
4. PROCESS USE		
a. Have you installed timers to automatically shut off water flow when water is not required, such as at the end of a production cycle?		
b. Are solenoids and automatic shut-off valves checked regularly to ensure that they are working properly?		
c. Is equipment set to the minimum flow rates recommended by the manufacturer?		
d. Have pressure-reducing devices been installed on equipment that does not require high pressure?		
e. Can process equipment reuse water (closed loop) or use reclaimed water from other parts of the facility?		
f. Have you replaced water-based transportation with either waterless techniques or recycled water?		
g. Are signs posted near equipment encouraging employee awareness of water use, and discouraging tampering with equipment flow rate?		
5. CLEANING AND SANITATION		
a. Are all hoses equipped with an automatic shut-off nozzle?		
b. Has process cleaning or facility cleaning been replaced with waterless techniques (i.e., using pressurized air to clean products or containers, sweeping debris off the floor) where possible?		
c. Are improved rinsing techniques used (counter-current systems, sequential use from high to lower quality needs, conductivity flow controls, improved spray nozzles/pressure rinsing, fog rinsing, etc.)?		
d. Is spent rinse-water being reclaimed and reused for lower-grade processes or for other facility applications?		
e. Have steps been taken to reduce the water used by steam sterilizers, such as jacket and chamber condensate cooling modification?		
f. Are you using detergents that can easily be removed with little water?		

6. LANDSCAPING AND IRRIGATION

a. Are low-flow sprinklers, trickle/drip irrigation, and optimized watering schedules in use?

b. Are preventive maintenance techniques in place?

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c. Has your facility designed its landscape to consider the local climate and grouped plants by similar watering needs?

d. Is grass planted only in places where it will provide optimal functional and aesthetic benefits?

e. Are systems in place to capture and reuse rain water and storm water for landscaping, or for other uses (e.g., cooling tower make-up, process water, or dust suppression)?

7. LEAKS

a. Are you conducting regular leak inspections?

b. Are leaky faucets, faulty fittings, and broken pipes and hoses identified and repaired promptly?

c. Are employees (including custodial crews) educated and empowered to identify leaks and point them out for repair?

d. Is there a user-friendly method to report leaks?