

How To Make Your School Water Efficient

Enjoy a drop in the price of your water bill - money you can use for other things. It has been proven that as much as a 20 % saving can be achieved at little or no cost.



You can start saving now by following this step by step guide:-

Step One

Keeping a Record

Monthly meter reading - this is not as difficult or time consuming as it might sound. Contact your water company (Severn Trent 0845 750 0500 or South Staffs 0845 607 0456) if you need to relocate your meter to make it more accessible they don't usually charge for this service.

Compare your water bill with previous periods to check for signs of abnormal water consumption. A study of 2799 schools within the Midlands calculated the following average consumptions:-

-  primary schools use 26.8 litres of water per pupil per day
-  secondary schools use 29.8 litres of water per pupil per day

Step Two

Regularly Check For Leaks

When ?	Where ?	How ?
Weekly	Toilets, changing rooms, staff toilets, canteen and laboratories	Visual checks for leaking taps & overflows
Monthly	Whole site	Choose a time when no water should be used. Check the meter: a stationary meter indicates all is well, if it ticks check for leaks
Quarterly	Whole site	Close the stop tap. A stationary meter means you are not paying for a leak between the meter and the stop tap. Call your water company's leak line if the meter is still ticking. (Severn Trent 0800 783 4444 or South Staffs 0800 243 352)

Follow the ACTION PLAN to reduce consumption

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>ACTION</u>
Taps	Replace washers regularly to prevent leaks Retro fit self closing taps or fit new self closing spray taps (these also prevent flooding)
Basins / sinks	Replace / fit plugs Supply bowls for sinks in classrooms, labs and canteens
Toilets	Fit urinal controls During refurbishment's fit dual flush controls to toilets (Cistern capacity now reduced to 6 litres). Consider waterless urinals in staff toilets
Showers	Install push button controls or proximity sensors Install low flow shower heads

continued...

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>ACTION</u>
Site grounds	Consider installing a water butt or rainwater harvesting system to water plants, wash vehicles etc.
Catering	Replace appliances with energy / water efficient models
Swimming pools	Fit a pool cover to minimise evaporation. This is cost effective and has a short payback period. Consider reusing back-flushing water for toilet flushing or another grey water application

Visit www.waterintheschool.co.uk for information, case studies and a number of links between water consumption & the national curriculum.



Sustainability and Energy Management Section provides help & advice with all of these actions and other good practices your school can adopt.

For information contact 303 6530 / 6456