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State of California  
The Natural Resources Agency  
Department of Water Resources  
Division of Statewide Integrated Water Management  
Water Use and Efficiency Branch

# DRAFT

## Commercial, Institutional and Industrial Task Force Best Management Practices Report to the Legislature

**A report to the Legislature pursuant to  
Section 10608.64 of the California Water Code**



January 6, 2012

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20 This report is also available on the Water Use and Efficiency web site at:

21 <http://www.water.ca.gov/wateruseefficiency/sb7/committees/ag/a1>

22

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1 **2 Executive Summary**

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3 (To be added later)

1 **3.0 Preliminary Working Draft – Introduction**

2

3 This section has not yet been reviewed by the members of the Task Force.

4 Senate Bill X7-7 was enacted in November 2009 mandating water conservation,  
5 measurement, and reporting activities for urban and agricultural water suppliers. There  
6 are 18 actions in this legislation for which the Department of Water Resources (DWR) is  
7 assigned as the lead agency. These actions have been designated by DWR as  
8 “projects” for implementation of the legislation.

9 Specifically, SB X7-7 states;” DWR shall in conjunction with the CA Urban Water  
10 Conservation Council (CUWCC) convene a task force consisting of academic experts,  
11 urban retail water suppliers, environmental organizations, commercial, industrial, and  
12 institutional water users to develop alternative best management practices for  
13 commercial, industrial, & institutional (CII) water sector. (10608.43)”.

14 **The CII Task Force (CII TF) was also directed to assess the potential statewide**  
15 **water use efficiency improvements in CII sectors that would result from**  
16 **implementation of the alternative BMPs. The CII TF, in conjunction with DWR, will**  
17 **submit a report to the legislature by April 1, 2012.**

18 **Public and Report Development Process:**

19 DWR and the CUWCC has formed the CII TF to seek technical and policy input from  
20 stakeholder representatives and the public as it plans and implements the requirements  
21 of the law. Sub committees were formed to address technical components specific  
22 tasks. The CII TF is chartered to review technical material and documents, and to  
23 provide comments, data and supporting information to DWR’s project management  
24 team in implementing SBX7-7 requirements as pertains to section 10608.43 of the  
25 legislation, and as the TF and DWR prepares the legislatively mandated report.

26 The CII TF convened March 1, 2011 and will hold monthly meetings until the report to  
27 the Legislature is complete. Meetings of the CII TF are open to the public. Agendas  
28 are out ten days in advance of the meetings and posted on the CUWCC CII TF website  
29 dedicated to this project, as well as referenced on the DWR Water Use Efficiency web  
30 site, [www.wateruseefficiency/sb7](http://www.wateruseefficiency/sb7). At each meeting, the public will be given an  
31 opportunity to comment as well as submit written comments at any time during the  
32 process.

33

34 **TF Scope:**

35 The CII TF scope was defined by the statute as outlined below:

1 Development alternative best management practices for commercial, industrial, and  
2 institutional users and an assessment of the potential statewide water use efficiency  
3 improvement in the commercial, industrial, and institutional sectors that would results  
4 from implementation of these best management practices.

- 5 • a review of multiple sectors within commercial, industrial, and institutional users  
6 and recommended water use efficiency standards for commercial, industrial, and  
7 institutional users among the various sectors of water use;
- 8 • appropriate metrics for evaluating commercial, industrial, and institutional water  
9 use;
- 10 • evaluation of water demands for manufacturing processes, goods, and cooling
- 11 • evaluation of public infrastructure necessary for delivery of recycled water to the  
12 commercial, industrial, and institutional sectors;
- 13 • evaluation of institutional and economic barriers to increased recycled water use  
14 within the commercial, industrial, and institutional sectors;
- 15 • identification of the technical feasibility and cost of the best management  
16 practices to achieve more efficient water use statewide in the commercial,  
17 industrial, and institutional sectors that is consistent with the public interest and  
18 reflects past investments in water use efficiency.

## 21 **Report Contents:**

22  
23 In the report the reader will find disparate section related to the various tasks outlined in  
24 the scope. The content is organized in such a way that the projects unrelated to the  
25 BMP's themselves were discussed first followed by the reporting of the various CII  
26 sectors and recommended BMP's. The report therefore, begins with a discussion of  
27 appropriate metrics, standards, an evaluation of CII water demand and the technical  
28 feasibility and the potential savings of BMP implementation. This is followed by a  
29 technical discussion of the various CII sectors and their water use, technologies and  
30 recommended BMP's. The final segment of this report discusses the role of recycled  
31 water.

32  
33 In each of the sections detailing the various sectors the content format began with a  
34 discussion of the background and overview of that particular sector. This was followed  
35 by describing how water is used and in the case of industry its NAICCS code of  
36 Operations and the availability or lack of data. There is then a description of specific  
37 BMP's, savings, metrics and any other influencing factors such as regulatory issues,  
38 water quality issues and any other factors that would influence the feasibility of  
39 implementing that BMP. Case studies are also inserted with the appropriate BMP's  
40 when they are available.

41  
42 In the Commercial and Institutional sections you will find descriptions of processes that  
43 carry over to many of the industrial sectors such as thermodynamics. In order to reduce  
44 redundancy these shared similar processes that were detailed in the commercial

1 section and are then referenced back to the discussion of that process in the  
2 commercial section when they are applied to an industrial sector.

3  
4 The recycling section in order incorporated discussions and assessments of status of  
5 recycled water use, the Recycled water TF findings, identifying barriers to reuse,  
6 recommendation to increasing water reuse, infrastructure requirements for reuse, and  
7 the evaluation of institutional and economic barriers to recycled water use.

8 The Draft Report (in pdf) as well as the supporting materials can be found at:  
9 <http://dnn.cuwcc.org/CIITaskForceMaterials.aspx>

10 <http://www.water.ca.gov/calendar/index.cfm?meeting=18282>

11

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15

1 **4.0 Preliminary Working Draft - Water Use and Demand In the**  
2 **Commercial, Institutional and Industrial Sectors**

3  
4 This section has not yet been reviewed by the members of the Task Force.

5 **Current CII Water Use Estimates:**

6 The California Department of Water Resources (CDWR) estimates that, based on the  
7 xx year data, public water purveyors for which water use data are available in the state  
8 provided approximately 1.89 million acre feet of water per year to CII sectors. It is also  
9 estimated that an additional 418,000 acre feet of self-supplied water is used by the CII  
10 sectors. These estimates do not include power plants water use. The U. S. Geological  
11 Survey (USGS) report *Estimated Use of Water in the United States in 2005*, estimates  
12 that thermoelectric power plants in California use about 55,500 acre feet of fresh water  
13 each year. Table X summarizes freshwater use by sector from self-supplied and public  
14 sources in California.

15

Commercial/Institutional	1,401,600
Industrial	312,300
Landscape Irrigation	594,100
Thermoelectric Power Plants	55,500
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,363,500</b>

16

17 Based on the recycled water survey conducted by the SWRCB2009 *Municipal*  
18 *Wastewater Recycling Survey*, recycled water provides an additional 209,500 acre foot  
19 of fresh water a year to CII sectors including power plants. Saline water use from  
20 coastal sources also provides additional water primarily to the mining and steam electric  
21 power plants, estimated to be 14.5 MAF per year. Table Y summarizes recycled water  
22 use for the same sectors.

23

24

25

26

<b>Table Y. Recycled Freshwater Use for CII Sectors in California</b>	
Type of Use	Acre feet per Year
Landscape	112,600
Golf Course	43,600
<b><i>Total Irrigation Use</i></b>	156,200
Industrial	47,100
Commercial	6,400
<b>TOTAL RECYCLED WATER USE</b>	<b>209,700</b>

1

2 Total freshwater use from all sources for the CII sectors is therefore estimated to be  
 3 2.57 million acre feet a year.

4



1 **Section 5A: Preliminary Working Draft - Technical Feasibility and**  
2 **Potential Water Savings of Best Management Practices on Water Use in**  
3 **the Commercial, Institutional and Industrial Sectors**

4 This section has not yet been reviewed by the Task Force.

5 Purpose: To examine the technical feasibility and the potential for water reduction by  
6 implementing the Best Management Practices (BMP's) described in this document.

7 **Technical Feasibility of Implementing the BMP's**

8 All BMP's described in this document are technically feasible and have been used in the past.  
9 However, it does not mean that each BMP is applicable in all cases. In developing best  
10 management practices (BMP's) three guiding principles should be kept in mind.

- 11 1. One size does not fit all – For any given industry, there may be a dozen potential BMP's.  
12 Not all will be applicable. In many cases establishing one BMP could mean that another  
13 will not be applicable because they will “be saving the same water.”
- 14 2. Every facility is unique - Analysis of potential payback is unique to each facility and  
15 situation. Facilities, even in the same industry, vary in their process, equipment  
16 selection and design. This means that what may work at one vegetable processing plant  
17 may not be applicable at another; what works in one research laboratory or hotel may  
18 not be applicable in another.
- 19 3. The list should be used only as a guide - The intent of the manufacturing BMP's is to  
20 provide a list of possible measures that plants can adopt for their specific situation.

21 **Potential Savings by Implementation of the BMP's**

22 First and foremost, many commercial, institutional, and industrial (CII) facilities in California are  
23 already practicing up-to-date water efficiency techniques. The selection and implementation of  
24 these BMP's is determined by their local economics and design. Others have real opportunity  
25 to reduce water use further in an economic manner. The State does not currently have the data  
26 necessary to establish the baseline of use in each CII sector. One of the major objectives of the  
27 section on metrics is to begin to gather the information needed to make this evaluation on a  
28 State wide basis.

29 This document contains numerous examples of water saving. These are found in the text of the  
30 BMP's themselves and as examples along with the text which contains a number of case  
31 studies to illustrate potential savings. In most cases, the information needed to estimate  
32 statewide savings must await the development of the baselines and metrics recommended in  
33 this report. However, there are two examples of Statewide achievement that illustrate what  
34 such analysis has to offer. The first Statewide example is in section 7 the California  
35 Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation of this report which has already realized a 21  
36 percent reduction totaling over 2.4 billion gallons of water annually (7,365 acre-feet annually).

1 The second example is found in the Water Recycle section. Based on a 2009 survey, almost  
2 670,000 acre feet of water are being recycled annually (218 billion gallons of water annually).

3 The BMP's and the examples cited from the case studies describe many ways to reduce  
4 freshwater use can be summarized into the following five categories:

5 1. **Adjust equipment and fix leaks** - Making adjustments and repairs to existing equipment  
6 and processes so that it operates more efficiently. For example, in the General Building  
7 Sanitation Section, an example is given of the Park 55 Wyndham Hotel in downtown San  
8 Francisco. The toilet retrofit resulted in a larger than expected savings based on  
9 "engineering" estimates because leaks and faulty equipment was fixed. In another example,  
10 Eagle Food in Sun Valley, California audited their facility and implemented the following  
11 measures:

- 12 • Restrict water flow at hose stands – Eagle Foods installed flow control valves to  
13 reduce water flow from 7.5 gallons per minute (gpm) to 3.5 gpm.
- 14 • Use water brooms instead of hoses to wash down for sanitary purposes
- 15 • Install hose bib connectors to reduce leakage at water tanks
- 16 • Replace cracked hoses as needed to reduce leakage  
17

18 Although the first two measures were examples of modifying or installing more efficient  
19 equipment, the last two measures reduced leaks. The combination of measures resulted in  
20 a savings of nearly 230 gallon a day.

21 2. **Modify equipment or install water saving devices and controls** - Adding devices,  
22 automated systems, or equipment to existing water using equipment and processes. For  
23 example, the Los Angeles County, Department of Parks and Recreation (LACDPR) installed  
24 weather based controllers, rain sensors and monitoring system at its El Cariso Park & Golf  
25 Course and Veterans Park. This resulted in a 27 percent reduction in water use of 198 acre  
26 feet (64.5 million gallons a year).

27  
28 Artistic Plating and Metal Finishing, Inc. of Anaheim, California installed electrode less  
29 conductivity controllers on nine tanks on the plating line. This reduced water use by 49%.  
30 This also reduced chemical costs by 20%. The total cost was \$14,500 but it saves \$13,800  
31 per year, a pay back of 13 months.  
32

33 3. **Replacement with more efficient equipment** - Replacing older inefficient water using  
34 equipment and fixtures with water saving types of equipment is one of the most recognized  
35 ways to reduce water use. For example, in the General Building Sanitation Section, an  
36 estimate of total potential statewide water savings that could result from the replacement of  
37 existing CII toilets with high-efficiency toilets was made in 2005. That analysis estimated the  
38 savings potential as being between 26,000 and 38,000 acre-feet per year (AFY) of water.  
39 Another 3,000 to 5,000 AFY could be saved through legislation, codes, and standards  
40 applied to new construction. In a similar manner, installing a clean in place system in a food  
41 processing plant can cut the water use by half for washing pipes and vessels.  
42

1 4. **Water reuse/recycle** - The many case examples of water recycling in California show the  
2 potential for using this source of fresh, non-potable water. On-site sources of water are also  
3 being used. Examples range from the low impact stormwater management options used in  
4 San Diego County, California to rainwater harvesting and air conditioning condensate  
5 recovery in many places in the United States. The food processing industry provides many  
6 examples of the reuse of their effluent for crop production.

7  
8 5. **Change to waterless process** - There are a number of examples of replacing water using  
9 equipment with equipment that does not use water in the actual BMP's. From the section on  
10 Thermodynamics using air cooling and ground effect (geothermal) air conditioning systems  
11 eliminates cooling tower water use entirely. In conventional cooling towers, approximately  
12 2.5 gallons of water is used per ton hour of cooling. This means that a large office building  
13 can require 20,000 to 30,000 gallons of water a day during the hottest part of the summer  
14 just for the cooling towers.

15 The use of dry vacuum pumps in laboratories and medical facilities offers another example.  
16 In recent years, most major radiology departments in hospitals have converted to digital  
17 imaging because of its superior medical diagnostic capabilities. This has resulted in the  
18 elimination of water for large plate X-ray film development. This can save as much as  
19 500,000 gallons of water per year per film developer.

20 The reader is urged to read the many examples in the text of this document and in the case  
21 studies.

## 22 **Calculation of Water Saving Potentials**

23  
24 Pacific Institute (2003) provided the following method to estimate the Percentage Water  
25 Conservation Potential (S):

$$26 S = [(1-p)c]/(1-pc)$$

27  
28 Where p is the Penetration Potential (%); and  
29 C is the Technical Saving (%).

30  
31 Let's use water saving for toilets as an example to illustrate the above formula. Suppose a small  
32 community has totally 50 toilets with 10 toilets at 1.6 gallons per flush and 40 of them at 3.5  
33 gallons per flush. Also suppose that the lower flush rate above (1.6 gallons) meets the best  
34 management practice. The Technical Saving, c, is calculated as  $(3.5-1.6)/3.5 = 0.543$ , and the  
35 Penetration Rate, p, is calculated as  $10/50 = 20\%$ . We can thus calculate the Percentage Water  
36 Conservation Potential,

$$37 S = [(1 - 20\%) \times 0.543]/(1 - 20\% \times 0.543) = 48.7\%.$$

38  
39  
40 After obtaining S, we can calculate the Annual Water Saving of the community by multiplying S  
41 by the Current Annual Water Use. Now assuming the Current Annual Water Use is 0.5 million  
42 gallons (MG), we get  
43

1 The Annual Water Saving Potential =  $0.5 \text{ MG} \times 48.7\% = 0.2435 \text{ MG}$  or 243,500 gallons per  
2 year.

3

4 In order to calculate the Percent Water Conservation Potential  $S$  and the Annual Water Saving  
5 Potential in 2010 statewide in CII sectors, we need the current Penetration Rate  $p$  and  
6 Technical potential  $c$  as well as the current water use in each NAICS sector. To collect such  
7 data and much other information, a new CII statewide water survey similar to the one that DWR  
8 conducted in 1994 is needed as well as the development of metrics standard.

9

10

11

12

## 1 **Section 5B: Cost Analysis Approach**

2  
3 **Legislative Mandate:** Section 10608.23 of the California Water Code (CWC) mandated the  
4 formation of the CII Task Force and the creation of a final report to the legislature creation by  
5 that TF in collaboration with the CA Department of Water Resources and the CA Urban Water  
6 Conservation Council (CUWCC). This final report should contain “identification of technical  
7 feasibility and cost effectiveness of the best management practices to achieve more efficient  
8 water use statewide in the commercial, industrial and institutional section...”

9 **Purpose:** This white paper is to discuss variables involved in cost analysis and propose an  
10 approach for the final report for assessing cost effectiveness of a Best Management Practice  
11 (BMP).

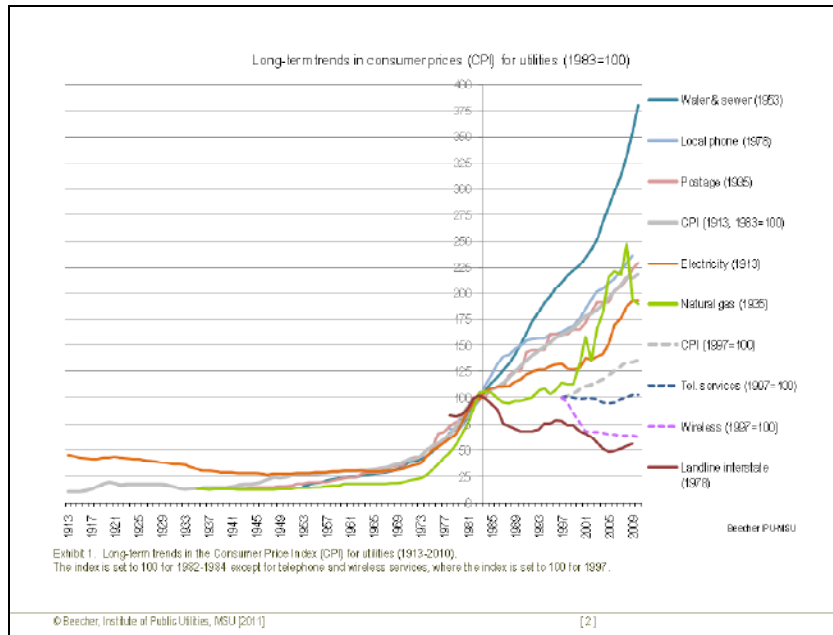
12 **Economic Analysis Approach:** Economic analyses may be conducted from a number of  
13 perspectives, including the utility, customer, and community/society. The perspective  
14 determines which costs and benefits to include in the analysis. The utility perspective is based  
15 on costs and benefits to the water utility. The customer/business perspective is based on costs  
16 and benefits to the customer or business. The societal perspective is based on costs and  
17 benefits to the water utility and its customers, and it may also include external costs and  
18 benefits, such as recreational benefits that may accrue to downstream communities by leaving  
19 more water in streams and rivers. The approach in this chapter focused on the  
20 customer/business perspective.

21  
22 Varying degrees of complexity, size, technical needs, and inherent barriers to analyzing BMP  
23 costs for industrial equipment, processes, and plants, make a one-size-fits-all statewide  
24 assessment of costs to implement BMPs impossible. Therefore, this report outlines an  
25 approach that businesses may use to evaluate the costs and benefits of a particular BMP.  
26 Variability in business size, type of water use, and other related costs support this approach.

27  
28 **Geographical Variability:** Water, wastewater, and energy costs have significant variations  
29 across the State (Figure 5.2.1). How that water is used at a specific location, variations in plant  
30 design in similar types of facilities, and past conservation efforts all further affect the cost  
31 effectiveness calculations for any given BMP. In all parts of the State, however, water,  
32 wastewater, and energy rates are continually increasing, and they are becoming a larger  
33 component of businesses' bottom line. Figure A shows that national water and wastewater rates  
34 are increasing faster than the consumer price index and other utility rates. In fact, water and  
35 wastewater rates have risen even faster than fuel prices over the same period, according  
36 information from the US Department of Commerce. A number of factors are driving this trend,  
37 including limits on the availability of conventional fresh water resources, needed investment in  
38 aging water and wastewater infrastructure, increases in water quality and compliance costs, and  
39 climate impacts.

40

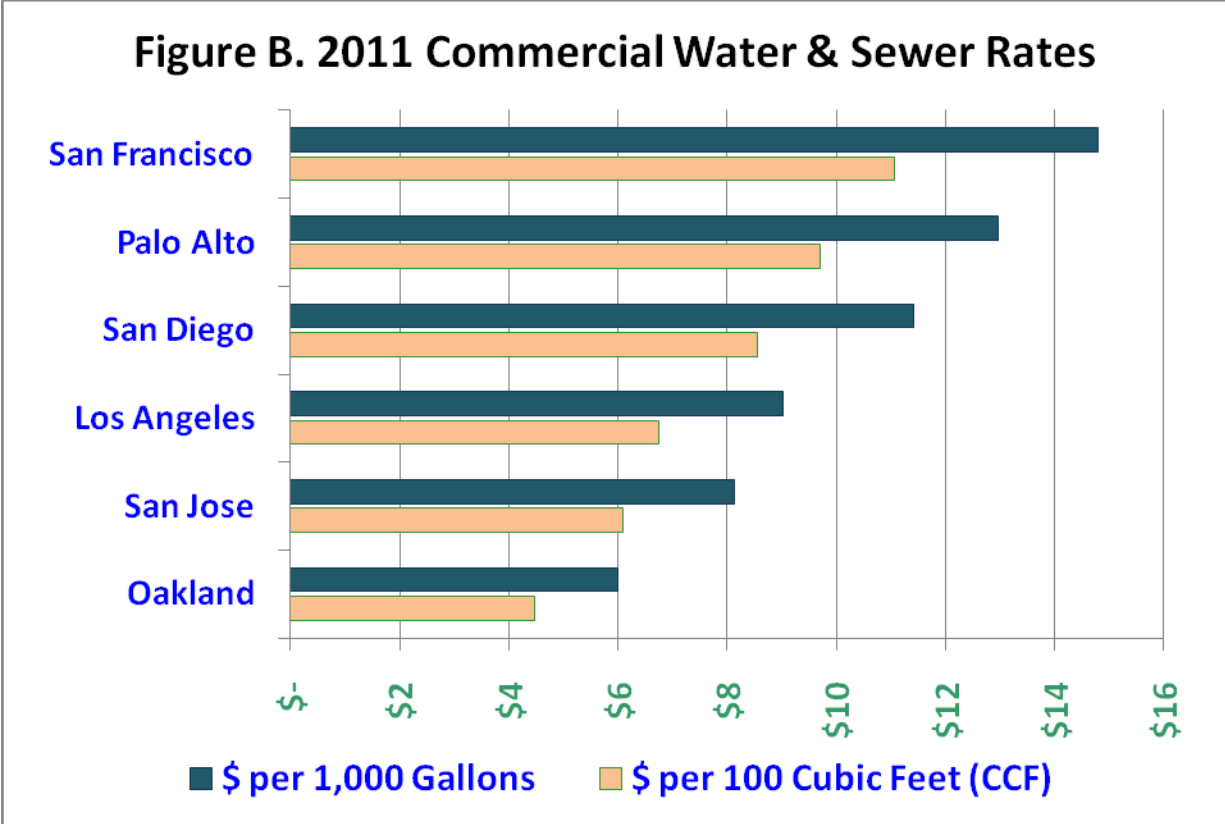
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Figure 5.2.1 Consumer Price Index for Utilities

As shown in Figure 5.2.1, rates also vary significantly from one utility to another in California, meaning that a measure that may be cost effective in one area may not be in another.



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**Overall Cost Effectiveness Approach:** There are many ways to look at the issues of cost, benefit, technical feasibility, and payback to the individual end user. Additionally, there are costs and benefits that accrue to the society at large. The purpose of this section is to provide an overview of how these two different objectives can be addressed. It provides example of how businesses water and wastewater utilities, and society might perceive issues related to costs and benefits.

This section further considers how to determine the true cost of water to a business or industry and how to compare that to the cost of a BMP to reduce the associated water costs. This analysis entails looking at the true cost of water, examining the costs of implementing the BMP, and focusing on the balance of costs to benefits. The true cost of water will consider all costs to the customer that are associated with use and disposal of the water as it flows through the system.

When determining whether a BMP is cost effective, the customer will need to assess the financial costs and benefits of implementing the BMP. There are a variety of financial metrics that can be used to determine whether a particular BMP makes economic sense. No single metric is perfect; rather each has strengths and weaknesses, and some combination of these indicators can be useful for financial planning.

A sample of applicable costs, benefits and factors typically included in an economic analysis includes:

- 1 a. Capital Costs of installing the BMP (if it includes equipment)
- 2 b. Changes in operation and maintenance costs including changes in water, wastewater,  
3 energy, waste disposal, pre-treatment, chemical, and labor costs
- 4 c. Expected usable life of the measure
- 5 d. Reduced Risk Factors.

6 In addition, all rebates, tax liabilities (or benefits), and other related incentives and costs must  
7 be taken into account. Specifics of individual BMP cost calculations and examples are  
8 discussed in Section 8. Calculating the Cost of Individual BMPs.

9

10



## Section 5C: Developing the Benefit/Cost Estimate

While there are several ways to complete benefit/cost (B/C) analyses, the basic concept is to determine if benefits to a specific industry or business outweigh the costs. When discussing benefit/cost analyses, some commonly terms are "payback," return on investment (ROI), and internal rate of return (IRR). These analyses provide guidance on a short time scale, helping to determine if a proposed modification is worth the investment. Longer-term analyses look most only at the costs and benefit, but also at lifecycle factors, such as net present value, inflation, and amortization.

### Payback Period

The payback period is the time required for an investment in efficiency to pay for itself. The simple payback is calculated by dividing the total costs (including installation, capital, permitting, and equipment costs) by the annual benefits, giving a simple payback in terms of years. Many firms set a simple payback criterion of two years or less unless the life of the device is shorter. Depending on the Business Plan, many companies use 3-4 year paybacks as cost effective, which is a return of 25-33% on investment. A two-year payback is generally considered to be extremely cost effective. If a business using a more efficient device does not own the building or the equipment, some issues with the economics of payback become more challenging. The payback period is a straightforward metric that is easy for most people to understand. It is the time required to recoup the cost of an investment. While the payback method is relatively easy to calculate, it does not account for the life of the device. Device A, for example, may have an incremental capital cost of \$100, annual water and energy savings of \$50, and a lifetime of three years. Device B, in comparison, may have the same incremental capital cost and annual water and energy savings, but have a lifetime of 20 years. Thus, while both devices may have a simple payback of two years, Device B will provide benefits for 17 years beyond that of Device A. Additionally, the payback does not include the rate of interest that an investor must pay (or forgo) when making the initial investment.

*Installed cost of BMP / (annual Savings of BMP to business) = payback in years)*

### Return on Investment (ROI)

The return on investment (ROI) is the percent of payback the BMP produces per year. In the case of a one-year payback, the ROI is 100%. If the payback is in 1.6 years as shown in the example below, the ROI equal to  $(\$100\%/1.6)$  or 62.6% a year. If energy, chemicals, labor, and other savings or costs are involved, they must be included in the denominator.

#### **EXAMPLE**

*In a school gymnasium, what is the Payback and Return on Investment (ROI) if a showerhead is replaced from 2.5 gallons per minute device to 2.0 gallons per minute device and heated with natural gas? What is the total cost of the water savings, if replacing all the showerheads?*

1

<i>Water cost</i>	<i>\$3.50 per CCF</i>
<i>Wastewater cost</i>	<i>\$4.00 per CCF</i>
<i>Natural gas cost</i>	<i>\$8.50 per MCF (0.85 cents per therm)</i>
<i>One MCF of gas</i>	<i>Equals one million British Thermal Units (BTUs)</i>
<i>Cold water temperature</i>	<i>60° F</i>
<i>Water for showering</i>	<i>100° F</i>
<i>Showerhead cost including labor</i>	<i>\$25</i>
<i>Average shower time</i>	<i>8 minutes</i>
<i>Shower frequency</i>	<i>an average of four times a day</i>
<i>Gym usage</i>	<i>180 days a year and has 5 shower heads</i>

2

<i>Water and wastewater cost</i>	<i>\$7.50 per CCF</i>
<i>Per thousand gallons</i>	<i>\$10.03</i> <i>(\$7.50 / 0.748 = \$10.03)</i>
<i>Per gallon</i>	<i>1.003 cents</i>
<i>Water used by the old shower</i>	<i>\$14.41 per yr for water alone (8 mins X 2.5 gals per mine X 4 times a day X 180 days a yr = 14,400 gals a yr)</i>

3

4 Assuming a water heater efficiency of 75%, and a change in temperature of 40°F (hot and cold  
5 water mixed). The energy used is 2.5 gallons per minute.

<i>Energy used to heat 14,400 gallons of water a year to 100° F</i>	<i>4.804 million BTUs</i> <i>(14,400 gals X 8.34 pounds per gal X 1 BTU/pound/degree F X 40° F)</i>
<i>Gas needed to heat the water</i>	<i>6.405 million BTUs</i>

	<i>(4.804 / 0.75)</i>
<i>At \$8.50 per MCF</i>	<i>\$54.44 per year to heat the water</i>
<i>Total water costs include energy costs plus water and wastewater costs</i>	<i>\$64.47 per year</i> <i>(\$10.03 + \$54.44)</i>
<i>Installing a new shower head</i>	<i>0.5 gallons per minute will be saved</i>
<i>The amount saved (water, wastewater and energy combined)</i>	<i>\$20.92</i>
<i>Payback</i>	<i>1.2 years</i> <i>(\$25.00/\$20.92)</i>
<i>The savings for five shower heads</i>	<i>\$104.59 per year</i> <i>(\$20.94 X 5)</i>

1

2 **Internal Rate of Return (IRR)**

3

4 The internal rate of return, or IRR, provides an indication of the efficiency of an investment. It is  
5 defined as the effective annual interest rate at which an investment accrues income. The IRR of  
6 the net spending column for a water conservation measure can be compared to the interest rate  
7 on borrowed funds or the rate of return that is possible from other investments. If IRR is higher  
8 than the agency's rate of return, then the investment is deemed to be worthwhile.<sup>1</sup> While the  
9 IRR is useful for determining whether a single project is worth investing in, it cannot be used to  
10 compare mutually exclusive projects. The IRR can only be used under certain conditions. With a  
11 complex series of cash flows that change signs more than once, there is more than one  
12 mathematically feasible solution. In other words, the information from an IRR is not always  
13 meaningful.

14 **Net Present Value Analysis Approach**

15

16 A business may also want to analyze the costs and benefits over the economic life of the  
17 device, particularly for large investments that may have longer payback periods. This analysis  
18 may be appropriate if the time for return on investments does not justify making the  
19 improvements in the short term and there is a long-term investment involved. A lifecycle  
20 analysis will take into consideration the costs and savings over the full life of the BMP being  
21 installed. In this type of analysis the business would consider the time value of money, savings

---

<sup>1</sup> Note that the model calculates the IRR based on the undiscounted net cash flows. Therefore the resulting rate of return should be compared to the agency's undiscounted rate of return.

1 through the life of the equipment, and the increasing costs of water, energy or sewage disposal  
2 over the life of the equipment. This analysis may also include labor, tax, and insurance savings.  
3 NPV is among the most common financial metrics used in capital budgeting. It sums all of the  
4 costs and benefits over the lifetime of the device and reports their value at the beginning of the  
5 project. The costs include initial start-up costs plus those needed to operate the conservation  
6 program, such as the cost of the rebate and program administration. While the costs typically  
7 accrue only during the duration of the conservation program, the benefits accrue over the life of  
8 the device. A positive NPV indicates that the benefits of the project exceed the costs over the  
9 life of the device. This approach has not been as commonly used by business as the ROI or  
10 payback approach, but may become more applicable in the future

### 11 **Increased Water Rates**

12 Water shortages and development of costly water supplies will result in increased water rates.  
13 Implementing water use efficiency measures will reduce the demand on the local water supply  
14 and the need to develop costly future water supplies, which may reduce the long-term costs of  
15 water to the business. Large water users are likely to feel the greatest impacts of increased  
16 water rates. Predicting water rates is not an exact science since water agencies have so many  
17 factors influencing rates, such as supply, conservation pricing, operational costs, capital costs,  
18 bonds, employee salaries and benefits to name a few. In addition, water is priced differently  
19 throughout the state, because water sources, infrastructure, and reliability vary. However, water  
20 and garbage rates are increasing by percentage faster than all other utilities, and as such,  
21 decreasing water demand will have a greater effect over time. These increases should be  
22 factored in to the lifetime cost analyses

23 The National Utility Service, *Inc. (NUS Consulting Group)* annual survey shows that between  
24 2004 and 2008, water and wastewater costs nationwide increased by an average of 6.5 percent  
25 a year, far more than consumer price index inflation. To take these increased water costs into  
26 account, all costs should be converted to present value.

27 In this situation, the cost of the retrofit will remain the same, but the actual savings will include  
28 expected increases in water and wastewater costs over the anticipated useful life of the BMP.  
29 Where energy, chemical, labor, tax, insurance and other savings are costs are involved, they  
30 would also have to be included. With many measures, the costs are incurred in year one while  
31 the benefits accrue in subsequent years. For this reason, the discount rate is used. Rising water  
32 and wastewater rates would be taken into account as escalation factors.

33 The general formula for calculating present value is:

$$34 \quad PV \text{ Costs} = \sum \text{Costs} / (1 + \text{discount rate})^t$$

### 35 **Consideration of Risk Factors by Businesses**

36  
37 Note: There was agreement that this concept will be included in the report, but no decision has  
38 been made as to whether it belongs in the cost section or in another section of the report.

1 When making a business decisions, an economical analysis forms the primary basis for making  
2 decisions. However, when considering whether to make an investment in water use efficiency,  
3 a business may also want to look at other factors that are not as simple to quantify. Businesses  
4 may consider the external risks on the business that would be associated with taking no action.  
5 These risks may include reduced reliability, potential for future mandates, costs, and  
6 reputational risks or benefits. Assessment of these risks will require close communication and  
7 cooperation between the business community and its local water supplier. While it is possible to  
8 quantify the risk, doing so would require complex analysis and modeling which may require  
9 excessive effort to complete.

## 10 **Reliability of Water Supply**

11 A business may want to consider the reliability of the local water supply in the region or  
12 community, the possible impacts of disruptions in the water supply, or a lack of adequate supply  
13 would have on the operations and the long term profitability of the company. This assessment  
14 would be based on the conditions of the local utility supplying water.

## 15 **Potential for Mandated Reductions**

16 The risk of mandated water supply reductions may be a consideration for any area with a history  
17 of water shortages. Water use efficiency measures can reduce the possibility of shortages and  
18 mandated reductions. In addition, businesses that have demonstrated that they have already  
19 achieved a high level of efficiency could make a strong case to avoid future mandated  
20 reductions.

## 21 **Reputational Risks and Benefits**

22 A business that has a large presence in a community will generally strive to maintain a positive  
23 reputation and good relations with the rest of the community. In communities that are  
24 experiencing water shortages, particularly where users are subject to restrictions, the ability to  
25 demonstrate efficient water use on the part of business and industry will help maintain a positive  
26 reputation in the community. In addition, many businesses have taken proactive approaches to  
27 being good environmental stewards to better market their company. Companies that have  
28 taken this approach can include water use efficiency as a priority in demonstrating their  
29 environmental stewardship.

## 30 **Replacement of Outdated Equipment**

31 As better technology becomes available CII businesses may decide to upgrade their water  
32 using equipment, fixtures, and machines when they reach their useful life as a cost effective  
33 measure. Older equipment by their design will use more water, energy, chemical, and  
34 wastewater than newly designed equipment. As a good business practice the CII business  
35 should evaluate the equipment and the maintenance and operational practices needed to  
36 achieve an industry standard of water use efficiency for the new equipment being purchased.

## 37 **Calculating the Cost of Individual BMPs**

38

39 An important consideration in calculating the costs of BMPs such as:

40 1. Water and wastewater savings

- 1 2. Cost of the measure
- 2 3. Expected usable life of the measure
- 3 4. Energy cost decrease or increase
- 4 5. Chemicals costs or savings
- 5 6. Waste disposal costs associated with water treatment or use
- 6 7. Labor costs or savings
- 7 8. Liability
- 8 9. Usable life of equipment or processes
- 9

10 Costs are typically calculated for each BMP within a comprehensive CII water conservation  
11 program.

12 **Developing the Benefit/Cost Estimate:**

13 Benefit/cost analyses entail such concepts as "payback," return on investment (ROI), net  
14 present value, Inflation, and amortization. The purpose of these calculations is to determine the  
15 benefits to a specific industry or business and divide those benefits by the total costs. A simple  
16 payback calculation provides an initial example. That calculation totals applicable benefits,  
17 reduced water, wastewater, energy, etc., then divides the total by the installed cost of the  
18 equipment. The result provides simple payback in years. Many firms want a simple payback of  
19 two years or less.

20 *Installed cost of BMP / Total Savings of BMP to business per year = payback in years*

21 Completing this calculation requires knowing the unit value of water. The following examples  
22 show how to calculate the unit value of heated water:

23 **Calculating the Unit Value of Water:** Obtain the unit cost of water, which is usually expressed  
24 in dollars per thousand gallons, or dollars per 100 cubic feet. Do the same for wastewater if it is  
25 charged based on the volume. Add the costs for water and wastewater to obtain the total cost  
26 of water. (If costs are expressed in 100's of cubic feet (CCF), convert it to gallons by multiplying  
27 by 0.748.)

28

29 **EXAMPLE 1:**

30

31 *Question – If a business used 52 CCF in a month, how many gallons did it consume?*

32

33 *Answer -  $52 \times 748 = 38,896$  gallons per month*

34

35 **EXAMPLE 2:**

36

37 *Question – If water costs \$7.50 per CCF, what is that cost in dollars per thousand*  
38 *gallons.*

39

40 *Answer -  $\$7.5 / 0.748 = \$10.03$  per thousand gallons*

1            *Total annual water and wastewater cost would then be equal to [(38,898 X 12)/1000] X*  
2            *\$10.03 = \$4,681.76 per year*

3            For heated water, determine the type of energy used to heat the water (gas, electric, solar, or  
4            other) and its cost per unit (cents per kilowatt hour, dollars per therm, dollars per MCF  
5            [thousand cubic feet] of natural gas, etc.) For calculation purposes assume water is heated  
6            from 55°F to 120°F, which is typical of water heated either for domestic use. High temperature  
7            use in a commercial dishwasher in Southern California typically requires a temperature rise from  
8            125 °F to 180°F.

9            If the gas is billed in therms, convert the cost to dollars per thousand cubic feet (MCF) of gas by  
10           multiplying the cost of the gas in therms by 10 to convert it to dollars per MCF.

11           One MCF of propane contains approximately one million BTUs, which is equivalent to  
12           approximately 11 gallons. A propane cost of \$2.00 per gallon is equivalent to natural gas  
13           costing \$22.00 per MCF.

14

15            **EXAMPLE 3:**

16

17            *Question – If natural gas costs \$0.80 per therm, what is the cost of raising the water’s*  
18            *temperature by 55°F?*

19

20            *Answer - \$0.80 X 10 = \$8.00 per MCF which is equal to approximately \$5.00 per*  
21            *thousand gallons.*

22            Additional costs, such as for softening or other treatments, must also be estimated.

23

24            **EXAMPLE 4:**

25

26            *Question – If water costs \$3.50 per CCF and wastewater cost \$4.00 per CCF, and the*  
27            *water is heated with electricity that costs 10 cents per kilowatt hour, what is the cost of*  
28            *heating the water by 55°F?*

29

30            *The water and wastewater cost \$7.50 per CCF (\$3.50 + \$4.00) or \$10.03 per thousand*  
31            *gallons (\$7.50 / 0.748 = \$10.03).*

32

33            *The cost of heating the water by 55°F is \$14.20 per thousand gallons.*

34

35            *Total water costs include energy plus water plus wastewater:*

36

37            *Total Cost = \$10.03 + \$14.20 = \$24.23 per thousand gallons or 2.423 cents per gallon.*

38

39            **Calculating Payback, Return on Investment and Net Present Value**

1 Replacing a 3.5-gallon per flush toilet with a 1.28-gallon per flush toilet saves 2.22 gallons per  
2 flush. The combined water and sewer cost for that toilet is \$6.50 per 100 cubic feet (CCF), or  
3 \$8.69 per thousand gallons, or 0.87 cents per gallon. Therefore, each flush saves 1.93 cents. If  
4 the toilet is flushed an average of 35 times per day and the building is open 255 days a year,  
5 installing the 1.28 gallons per flush toilet will save \$172.38 in water and sewer costs each year.  
6 If the total installed cost of the toilet (toilet and labor) is \$275.00, the payback is 1.6 years (\$275  
7 / \$172.38). The return on investment is the percent of payback the BMP produces per year. In  
8 this example, the ROI is 62.5% per year (100 / 1.6). Additional costs, such as energy,  
9 chemicals, or labor and insurance, must be included in the denominator.

10 The National Utility Service, *Inc. (NUS Consulting Group)* annual survey shows that between  
11 2004 and 2008, water and wastewater costs nationwide have increased by an average of 6.5  
12 percent per year, far more than consumer price index inflation. To take this increase into  
13 account, all costs should be converted to present value. In this situation, the cost of the retrofit  
14 will remain the same, but the actual savings will include expected increases in water and  
15 wastewater costs over the anticipated useful life of the BMP. Additional costs and savings,  
16 such as energy, chemical, labor, tax, insurance must also be included. The general formula for  
17 calculating present value is:

18 
$$PV \text{ Costs} = \sum \text{Costs}_t / (1 + \text{discount rate})^t$$

19 Estimates of costs and benefits can reflect complicated math, and each business or industry  
20 must decide how much detail they want in their payback. For most businesses, simple payback  
21 is sufficient to determine the cost effectiveness of a measure.

22 The above discussion also shows that determining a payback for any given measure is local in  
23 nature. Local water and energy rates, the type and volume of business, the type of equipment  
24 used, and previous measures can all come into play.

## 25 **Looking at Your Facility**

26 To conduct a study of the Best Management Practices that will be effective for a given business  
27 or industry, the facility should either conduct a water audit themselves or obtain the services of a  
28 professional consultant trained in this area. This Best Management Practice Guide provides  
29 commercial, industrial, and institutional water users with information they can use to reduce  
30 water and wastewater bills and to help reduce water use, but it is up to the entity to evaluate  
31 specific circumstances. Many facilities managers have found that they can begin the process  
32 by simply looking at water and wastewater bills and comparing their use to similar facilities that  
33 their company may operate. Really understanding water use and the value of increased water  
34 efficiency requires a more thorough analysis.

35 The audit looks at the current water use by the facility, including water use and types of water  
36 using equipment. The audit then asks seven important questions:

- 37 1. How much water is the facility using?
- 38 2. Where in the facility is the water being used?
- 39 3. When is the water being used?



- 1 4. How and for what is it being used?
- 2 5. Who controls its use?
- 3 6. Why is water needed here?
- 4 7. Are there other ways to do the same work that do not use water?

5  
6 Once these seven questions have been answered, the facility manager can evaluate ways for  
7 each individual operation to reduce use. The first step, of course, is to repair malfunctions and  
8 leaks. Following that, the best ways to reduce use entails and assessment of all of the available  
9 options. Generally, these options fall into one of five measures, starting with the lowest in cost:

- 10 1. Adjust existing equipment to use less water.
- 11 2. Modify existing equipment or install a water saving device.
- 12 3. Replace existing equipment with more efficient models or types.
- 13 4. Reuse and recycle water where possible.
- 14 5. Choose equipment or methods that eliminate water use.

15  
16 One of the main objectives of this guide is to provide the commercial, institutional, and industrial  
17 water user with information they can use to reduce water bills using cost-effective measures.  
18 One method of reducing potable and freshwater use, for example, is to use recycled water from  
19 a public utility. Another is to examine how water may be reused within a facility. This reuse can  
20 range from process water in an industry to the capture of rainwater or air conditioning  
21 condensate for use for irrigation or in a cooling tower. The following table may help the facility  
22 manager or engineer identify all water uses, the water quality needed for that operation, and the  
23 water streams from their operation to see if they may be candidates for reuse either as is or  
24 after additional treatment.

25

26

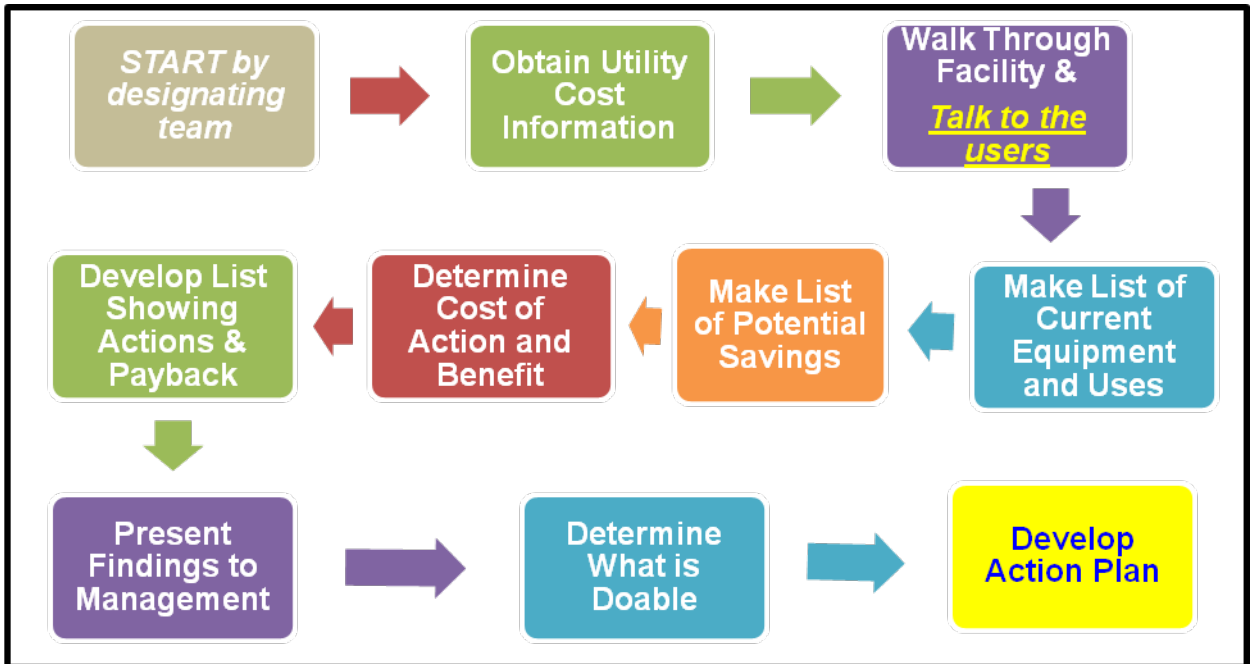
27

### **Figure C**

28

### **The Audit Process**

29



1  
2

3

1 **5D: Preliminary Working Draft - Estimating Savings**  
2 **By Application of BMPs**

3  
4 This section has not yet been reviewed by the members of the Task Force

5 First and foremost, many commercial, institutional, and industrial (CII) facilities in California are  
6 already practicing up-to-date water efficiency techniques. The selection and implementation of  
7 these BMPs is often determined by local economics and design. Others have real opportunities  
8 to reduce water use further in an economic manner. The State of California does not currently  
9 have the data necessary to establish the baseline of use in each CII sector. One of the major  
10 objectives of the section on metrics is to begin to gather the information needed to make this  
11 evaluation on a statewide basis.

12 This document contains numerous examples of water savings. They may found in the text of  
13 the BMPs themselves, as examples along with the text, and in **Appendix ??**, which contains a  
14 number of case studies to illustrate potential savings. In most cases, the information needed to  
15 estimate statewide savings must await the development of the baselines and metrics  
16 recommended in this report. However, there are two examples of statewide achievement that  
17 illustrate the potential benefits of such analyses. The first example is the California Department  
18 of Corrections and Rehabilitation, which has already realized a 21 percent reduction totaling  
19 over 2.4 billion gallons of water annually (7,365 acre-feet). The second is in the Water Recycle  
20 section: Based on a 2009 survey, 218 billion gallons of water are being recycled annually  
21 (670,000 acre-feet).

22 The BMPs and the examples and case studies describe many ways to reduce freshwater use,  
23 but these methods can be summarized into the following five categories:

24 **Adjust equipment and fix leaks** - Make adjustments and repairs to existing equipment and  
25 processes so that they operate more efficiently. For example, in the General Building Sanitation  
26 Section, there is an example of the Park 55 Wyndham Hotel in downtown San Francisco. The  
27 toilet retrofit there resulted in larger-than-expected savings based on "engineering" estimates  
28 because leaks and faulty equipment were fixed. In another example, Eagle Food in Sun Valley,  
29 California audited their facility and implemented the following measures:

- 30
- 31 • Restrict water flow at hose stands (Eagle Foods installed flow control valves to  
32 reduce water flow from 7.5 gallons per minute (gpm) to 3.5 gpm.)
  - 33 • Use water brooms instead of hoses to wash down for sanitary purposes
  - 34 • Install hose bib connectors to reduce leakage at water tanks.
  - 35 • Replace cracked hoses as needed to reduce leakage.

36 The first two measures were examples of modifying or installing more efficient equipment, and  
37 the last two measures reduced leaks. The combination of measures resulted in savings of  
38 nearly 230 gallon per day.

1 **Modify equipment or install water saving devices and controls** - Add devices, automated  
2 systems, or equipment to existing water using equipment and processes. For example, the Los  
3 Angeles County, Department of Parks and Recreation (LACDPR) installed weather-based  
4 controllers, rain sensors, and monitoring system at its El Cariso Park & Golf Course and  
5 Veterans Park resulting in a 27 percent reduction in water use of 64.5 million gallons per year  
6 (198 acre feet).

7  
8 Artistic Plating and Metal Finishing, Inc. of Anaheim, California installed electrodeless  
9 conductivity controllers on nine tanks on the plating line, reducing water use by 49% and  
10 chemical costs by 20%. The total cost was \$14,500, and it saves \$13,800 per year, a payback  
11 of 13 months.  
12

13 **Replace with more efficient equipment** - Replacing older inefficient water using equipment  
14 and fixtures with water saving types of equipment is one of the most recognized ways to reduce  
15 water use. For example, the General Building Sanitation Section notes a 2005 estimate of total  
16 potential statewide water savings that could result from the replacement of existing CII toilets  
17 with high-efficiency toilets. That analysis estimated the potential water savings as being  
18 between 26,000 and 38,000 acre-feet per year (AFY). Another 3,000 to 5,000 AFY could be  
19 saved through legislation, codes, and standards applied to new construction. In a similar  
20 manner, installing a clean-in-place system in a food processing plant can cut the water use by  
21 half for washing pipes and vessels.  
22

23 **Water reuse/recycle** - The many case examples of water recycling in California show the  
24 potential for using this source of fresh, non-potable water. On-site sources of water are also  
25 being used. Examples range from the low-impact stormwater management options used in San  
26 Diego County to rainwater harvesting and air conditioning condensate recovery in many places  
27 in the United States. The food processing industry provides many examples of the reuse of  
28 their effluent for crop production.  
29

30 **Change to waterless process** - There are a number of examples in the BMPs of replacing  
31 water-using equipment with equipment that does not use water. The section on  
32 Thermodynamics, for example, notes the use of air cooling and ground effect (geothermal) air  
33 conditioning systems to eliminate cooling tower water use entirely. Conventional cooling towers  
34 use approximately 2.5 gallons of water per ton hour of cooling, meaning that a large office  
35 building can use 20,000 to 30,000 gallons per day during the hottest part of the summer just for  
36 the cooling towers.

37 The use of dry vacuum pumps in laboratories and medical facilities offers another example. In  
38 recent years, most major radiology departments in hospitals have converted to digital imaging  
39 because of its superior medical diagnostic capabilities, resulting in the elimination of water for  
40 large plate X-ray film development and saving as much as 500,000 gallons of water per year per  
41 film developer.

42 The reader is urged to read the many examples in the text of this document and in the case  
43 studies found in the in the Appendix.

44

1

2

1 **6 Preliminary Working Draft - Appropriate Metrics**

2 This section has not yet been reviewed by the members of the Task Force.

3 When setting targets for urban water use efficiency, SB X7-7 directed urban water suppliers to  
4 use the metric of gallons per capita per day (GPCD). However, the Legislature recognized the  
5 difficulty that commercial, industrial, and institutional (CII) water users have correlating changes  
6 in water use due to factors such as population, economic growth, and technology changes.  
7 Accordingly, the Legislature allowed urban water suppliers to make adjustments to their targets  
8 or their compliance values to account for CII water use (Water Code sections 10608.24(d) and  
9 (e)). Therefore, SB X7-7 directed the CII Task Force to report to the Legislature on other  
10 “appropriate metrics for evaluating commercial, industrial, and institutional water use” (Water  
11 Code section 10608.43(a)).

12 According to the American Water Works Association, Water Conservation Division,  
13 Subcommittee Report on Water Conservation Measurement Metrics dated January 2010:

14 “A *metric* is a unit of measure (or a parameter being measured) that can be used to  
15 assess the rate of water use during a given period of time and at a given level of data  
16 aggregation (e.g., system-wide, sector-wide, customer level, or end-use level). Another  
17 term for a *metric* is *performance indicator*.”

18 This section will consider that definition in addressing the CII Task Force’s analysis and  
19 reporting responsibilities. Additionally, 4.4.1 of this section includes three specific  
20 recommendations for addressing data needs and the data collection process. Finally, most  
21 metrics have inherent limitations and to apply them across a wide range of businesses can lead  
22 to erroneous conclusions. At the industry or sector level most metrics provide a gross reference  
23 point that will be subject to a number of qualifications.

24 **Approaches to Data Collection and Assessment**

25 The purpose of the Appropriate Metrics Section is two-fold. The first, as noted above, is to  
26 assess how water is used in California’s CII sectors, from an accounting perspective. The  
27 second is to enable CII water customers and users to evaluate their individual water use such  
28 that cost-effective water-use efficiency tools, techniques, and processes can be utilized at the  
29 micro-level. As such, the metric may include the factor of volume of water use and another  
30 factor that correlates to the benefit obtained from that water use in the CII sectors, such as  
31 employment, quantities of manufactured output, or square foot of land or building space. Water  
32 use metrics can be applied at different consumption points and may be different for each  
33 approach. For instance, areas that have been identified for potential data gathering and  
34 reporting purposes thus far are:

- 35 1. Broad aggregated CII sectors (commercial, industrial, and institutional), at regional or  
36 statewide levels.
- 37 2. Specific CII subsector, such as petroleum refining, commercial laundries, or  
38 hospitals, at regional or statewide levels.

- 1           3. Water suppliers including retail and wholesale water agencies usually tracked at the  
2           sector level, but may be tracked at the subsector level as well.
- 3           4. Customer or water delivery to the site, usually tracked at the account level, but  
4           possibly tracked at the meter level.
- 5           5. Specific process or application of water use within a CII facility, such as cooling  
6           towers or vegetable washing. A subset of this level would be specific efficiency  
7           standards for designated technologies, such as toilets or laundries. Note: This latter  
8           approach is addressed in the standards and codes section.

9           SB X7-7 also calls for the Task Force to develop BMPs and to do an “assessment of the  
10          potential statewide water use efficiency improvement in the commercial, industrial, and  
11          institutional sectors that would result from implementation of these best management practices”  
12          (Water Code section 10608.43). This assessment implies a need for metrics at levels 4 or 5  
13          above. The last evaluation of CII metrics was performed by DWR in 1995. Currently, there is  
14          little or no updated data available statewide to be able to make a more accurate assessment  
15          and the corresponding development of metrics is challenging. Additionally, appropriate metrics  
16          need to be identified for projecting savings in the BMP process so that accurate cost  
17          effectiveness and aggregate savings calculations may be performed.

18          **Currently Used Metrics**

19          Various currently used metrics have been proposed that may be applicable to specific sectors or  
20          to aggregated sectors.

21          The success of any metric depends on the availability and accuracy of the data incorporated  
22          into that metric. Water utilities measure the water delivered to customers and are the primary  
23          source of water use data at the macro level. However, they often do not collect or report data at  
24          the level of detail needed to evaluate water use efficiency in the CII sectors. A major gap is  
25          data for self-supplied water, which is water that is developed and supplied by the user. In many  
26          cases this is locally available groundwater extracted at or near its point of use. A minority of  
27          Task Force members contends that compiling self-supplied water is not within the scope of the  
28          Task Force under SBX7-7 and should not be considered in this report. However, improved data  
29          collection on water use in the various sectors is required before further assessment of the  
30          potential for saving water can be made on a statewide basis. Some industries may have  
31          industry- or business-specific data available, which can be helpful in setting metrics or BMPs,  
32          and in evaluating trends at the micro level. It is the opinion of the Task Force that greater efforts  
33          should be made to develop strategies, approaches, and standards for water use data and metric  
34          development for the diverse CII water uses in California on the aggregate level.

Table 6.1 - Potential Metrics

<b>Metric</b>	<b>Advantages</b>	<b>Disadvantages</b>	<b>Data Availability</b>	<b>Time Term</b>	<b>Comments</b>
Acre foot (AF)	Used for large volumes	Not used for small volumes	Good	NA	Useful for water agencies
Cubic foot (CF)	Used for measuring capacity		Good	NA	Can be use for large scale flow analysis
Cubic foot per second (CFS)	Used for measuring flow rates		Good	NA	
Gallons	Used for measuring deliveries		Good	NA	Can be used for aggregate metrics
Hundred CF (HCF)	Used for measuring deliveries		Good	NA	May be used for retail account billing
Million gallons (MG)	Used for waste water volumes		Good	NA	Best to use MG per day annual average
Million gallons per day (MGD)	Used for waste water volumes		Good	Day	Best to use per day annual average
Per capita	Water production and population info. available	Information may not be matched to agency area	Good	Year	Includes all general population of water agency
Per employee	More relative than per capita	Employee info. may not be available	Poor	Year	Includes employees for account location
Per account	More relative than per capita	Differences in water use characteristics	Fair	Year	
Per equivalent account	More precise than per capita	Depends on sectoral water use characteristics	Fair	Year	
Per square foot of irrigated area	More precise than above categories for outdoor use	Depends on accurate land area measurement	Fair	Year	Climatic differences
Per square foot of building area	More precise indoor use	Depends on accurate building area measurement	Poor	Year	
Per square foot of heated building	More precise indoor use	Depends on accurate building area measurement	Poor	Year	Climatic differences
Per unit of manufactured item		Users may be reluctant to share information	Poor	Year	Difficult to apply across industries
Per dollar of value added		Users may be reluctant to share information	Poor	Year	Difficult to apply across industries



1 **Potential Metrics for Aggregate Sectors**

2 There are a number of options available for evaluating water use in each of the CII sectors.  
3 Specific recommended approaches for evaluating each of those three sectors are presented  
4 below.

5 **Commercial and Institutional Sectors**

6 The majority of water used in the Commercial and Institutional sectors can usually be attributed  
7 to one of four general categories: water using fixtures, water using appliances, irrigation devices  
8 and other outdoor uses (i.e. swimming pools,) or service process uses (i.e. carwashes.)

9 Therefore, potential metrics for those two sectors are similar enough that it is appropriate to  
10 consider the same evaluation options for both. Each of the options, as well as related statewide  
11 advantages and disadvantages, are discussed below. See Table 4-1 for additional information  
12 on additional potential metrics. Additionally, indoor and outdoor water use will vary between CII  
13 groups and those differences must be considered.

14 Gallons per capita

15 This option includes all of the general population of the water agency's service area in  
16 calculating the gallons per capita of consumption for CII sectors.

- 17 • Advantages - Water production and population information can be readily available and the  
18 calculation is relatively easy to perform.  
19 • Disadvantages – the population within the water agency's service area may not be related to  
20 CII use.  
21

22 Gallons per employee

23 This option considers all employees known to work at the site location for the accounts.

- 24 • Advantages – The calculation results are more likely be reflective of actual water use than  
25 the per capita option.  
26 • Disadvantages – Accurate and current employee information may not be reliably available.  
27

28 Gallons per square feet of (occupied) building space

29 This option considers the square footage of building space known to be in use by the CII  
30 customers at the time of the calculation.

- 31 • Advantages – This calculation is also likely to result in an outcome that is more closely  
32 related to actual water use than the per capita option.  
33 • Disadvantages - Current occupied building space in use information changes over time and  
34 current information is not likely to be readily available. Additionally, outdoor water use is not  
35 considered in the calculation.  
36

37 Gallons per dollars of economic output and/or gallons per unit of output

1 These options consider the economic value derived from the water used compared to the dollar  
2 value realized from the perspective of the number of units produced by the water supplier.

- 3 • Advantages – These calculations are likely to result in outcomes that correlate the value of  
4 the water supply to the resulting economic output
- 5 • Disadvantages – The value of goods produced can change over time distorting year to year  
6 comparisons. For a number of reasons not related to water consumption, the number of  
7 units produced may fluctuate and make comparisons inaccurate.

8  
9 *The above generic metrics however, are not universally applicable to all*  
10 *commercial and institutional sectors. It may be appropriate for DWR to work*  
11 *with individual sectors within the broader range of sectors to identify*  
12 *more appropriate metrics applicable to the specific concern. DWR and other*  
13 *implementing agencies should recognize and address this need for specific*  
14 *water use metrics as appropriate*

## 15 **Industrial Sector**

16 A portion of Industrial sector water use can normally be attributed to many of the same four  
17 general use categories as the Commercial and Institutional sectors. These uses can often be  
18 concentrated in plumbing fixtures (i.e. toilets, urinals, faucets,) and landscape irrigation.  
19 However, the major use type for the Industrial sector is normally for production water use. The  
20 types and amount of production water use can range as dramatically at the types and volumes  
21 of goods produced. Accordingly, it is recommended that two different approaches be taken for  
22 determining aggregate industrial sector water use.

23 In some cases metered deliveries of potable or recycled water used specifically for non-  
24 production purposes can be clearly tracked. Potential metrics for those supplies of potable water  
25 could be evaluated using the same options listed above for the Commercial and Institutional  
26 sectors. Finally, potable, recycled, or non-municipal water use for production purposes, which  
27 can be up to 95% of total water use, will need to be tracked and considered separately.

28 The generic metrics described above are not universally applicable to all industrial sub-  
29 sectors. In fact, industrial facilities may have other constraints, such as waste water and  
30 contaminant discharge regulations and requirements that make the generic metric listed above  
31 even more inappropriate for certain industrial sectors.

## 32 **Summary of Data Needs and Collection**

33 Most municipal water districts in the State have been tracking aggregate CII sector water use at  
34 least since the 1980s, and in many cases longer. However, the definitions of the various sectors  
35 can vary between water agencies because of non-uniform customer class descriptions.  
36 Additionally, the water agency's customer information system capabilities can limit the amount  
37 of disaggregated CII water use data availability and the consistency in reporting and water uses  
38 across water agencies. Both of these obstacles will need to be overcome to achieve reliable  
39 statewide data. Examples of how two California water agencies currently gather and use CII  
40 sector water use are detailed below.

1 East Bay Municipal Utility District (EBMUD) is one of the largest retail water agencies in the  
 2 State. For years it has tracked specific CII water use data by customer and then aggregated that  
 3 data by Business Classification Code. Table 4-2 below presents a summary of the data  
 4 collected.

5 Table 6-2

<b>Business Classification Code (BCC)</b>	<b>2005 Demand (1,000 gallons)</b>	<b>2005 Demand (GPD)</b>	<b>2005 Accounts in BCC</b>	<b>2005 Demand per Account (GPD)</b>
0100 - AGRICULTURE	82,135	225,027	113	1,986
0700 - VETERINARIAN SERVICES	23,684	64,888	95	681
1200 - MINING AND QUARRYING	11,064	30,312	<10	6,062
1500 - CONSTRUCTION	33,172	90,882	702	129
2010 - MEAT PRODUCTS - PROCESSING/PKG	38,650	105,890	31	3,416
2011 - SLAUGHTERHOUSE	-	-	-	-
2020 - DAIRY PRODUCT PROCESSING	66,823	183,077	16	11,209
2030 - FRUIT AND VEGETABLE CANNING	536	1,468	<10	210
2040 - GRAIN MILLS	12,264	33,600	<10	6,720
2050 - BAKERIES	54,680	149,808	77	1,943
2051 - BAKERIES - MFG BREAD ONLY	23,822	65,266	23	2,901
2060 - SUGAR PROCESSING	780,614	2,138,668	13	165,574
2070 - FATS AND OILS	16,311	44,688	<10	5,586

2077 - RENDERING TALLOW	-	-	-	-
2080 - BEVERAGE MANUFACTURE	398,505	1,091,795	17	64,223
2090 - SPECIALTY FOOD MANUFACTURING	28,891	79,153	31	2,519
2091 - SEAFOOD PROCESSING	1,335	3,658	<10	1,513
2300 - TEXTILE GOODS MANUFACTURING	10,209	27,970	62	455
2400 - LUMBER AND WOOD PRODUCTS MFG	4,426	12,126	31	390
2500 - FURNITURE	9,838	26,953	87	309
2600 - PULP AND PAPER PRODUCTS MFG	27,139	74,353	23	3,210
2700 - PRINTING, PUBLISHING	17,782	48,718	146	333
2810 - INORGANIC CHEMICALS MFG	85,689	234,764	20	11,787
2820 - SYNTHETIC MATERIALS MFG	23,803	65,214	41	1,594
2830 - DRUGS MANUFACTURING	139,573	382,392	35	10,900
2840 - CLEANING AND SANITATION PROD MFG	6,396	17,523	16	1,113
2850 - PAINT MANUFACTURING	7,954	21,792	12	1,816
2860 - ORGANIC CHEMICALS MANUFACTURING	163,312	447,430	<10	49,714
2870 - AGRICULTURE AND CHEMICALS MFG	715	1,959	<10	603
2891 - ADHESIVES AND GELATIN MFG	3,460	9,479	<10	1,896

2893 - INK AND PIGMENT MANUFACTURING	2,714	7,436	12	620
2900 - PETROLEUM PRODUCTS MANUFACTURING	4,937,509	13,527,422	36	377,509
3000 - RUBBER PRODUCTS	2,046	5,605	10	561
3110 - LEATHER TANNING	-	-	-	-
3200 - EARTHENWARE MANUFACTURING	150,400	412,055	64	6,455
3300 - PRIMARY METALS MANUFACTURING	61,803	169,323	65	2,602
3400 - METAL PRODUCTS FABRICATING	35,706	97,825	201	488
3410 - DRUMS AND BARRELS MFG	626	1,715	<10	858
3470 - METAL FINISHING	14,288	39,145	40	975
3500 - MACHINERY MANUFACTURING	5,120	14,027	41	345
3590 - MACHINE SHOP JOBGING/REPAIR	15,841	43,400	132	328
3600 - ELECTRICAL MACHINERY MFG	19,340	52,986	58	907
3700 - TRANSPORTATION EQUIPMENT MFG	180,554	494,668	22	22,831
3730 - SHIPBUILDING	18,239	49,970	15	3,388
3800 - PRECISION EQUIPMENT MFG	7,554	20,696	39	532
3900 - MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURING	26,685	73,110	91	805
4000 - RAILROAD TRANSPORTATION	9,580	26,247	21	1,250

4100 - LOCAL AND SUBURBAN TRANSIT	36,521	100,058	82	1,223
4200 - WAREHOUSING	376,527	1,031,581	1,315	785
4400 - WATER TRANSPORTATION	70,473	193,077	126	1,537
4500 - AIR TRANSPORTATION	138,524	379,518	12	31,408
4700 - TRANSPORTATION SERVICES	25,298	69,310	75	925
4800 - ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS	36,632	100,362	120	838
4900 - ELECTRIC, STEAM AND NATURAL GAS	29,689	81,340	66	1,229
4950 - SANITARY COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL	77,126	211,304	126	1,673
5000 - WHOLESALE TRADE	40,219	110,189	305	362
5300 - RETAIL TRADE, OTHER	854,411	2,340,852	4,153	564
5400 - FOOD SALES	272,173	745,679	888	840
5540 - GASOLINE AND OIL DEALERS	93,786	256,948	294	875
5811 - EATING PLACES, FAST FOOD	173,054	474,121	495	958
5812 - EATING PLACES, RESTAURANTS	616,794	1,689,847	1,331	1,270
5813 - DRINKING PLACES, BARS, CLUBS	50,476	138,290	199	694
6500 - CEMETERIES	90,358	247,556	20	12,588
6800 - OFFICES	1,524,915	4,177,849	4,256	982

7000 - HOTELS WITH FOOD	307,041	841,208	127	6,637
7001 - HOTELS WITHOUT FOOD SERVICE	318,717	873,197	243	3,587
7020 - BOARDING HOUSES	173,537	475,444	286	1,661
7200 - PERSONAL SERVICES	168,186	460,784	1,259	366
7210 - COMMERCIAL LAUNDRIES	75,451	206,715	63	3,264
7215 - COIN OPERATED LAUNDROMATS	299,780	821,315	231	3,554
7216 - CLEANING AND DYEING FABRICS	40,803	111,789	116	968
7218 - INDUSTRIAL LAUNDRIES	65,543	179,570	<10	69,511
7260 - CREMATORIES, FUNERAL HOMES	10,164	27,847	41	676
7300 - LABORATORIES	514,644	1,409,984	152	9,291
7342 - FUMIGATING	284	778	<10	130
7500 - AUTOMOBILE REPAIR SERVICES	134,065	367,301	1,139	323
7539 - BATTERY SERVICE	859	2,353	10	241
7542 - AUTO LAUNDRIES	85,051	233,016	108	2,153
7600 - MISCELLANEOUS REPAIR SERVICES	7,742	21,211	132	161
7699 - SEPTIC TANK CLEANING	7,321	20,058	<10	6,686
7900 - AMUSEMENT SERVICES	375,653	1,029,186	476	2,163

7940 - EQUESTRIAN ACTIVITIES	80,594	220,805	19	11,621
7950 - IRRIGATION USE ONLY	3,547,174	9,718,285	4,345	2,237
7990 - PARKS AND GARDENS	1,085,221	2,973,208	612	4,860
8000 - HEALTH SERVICES	642,367	1,759,910	1,184	1,487
8060 - HOSPITALS	399,900	1,095,616	132	8,295
8200 - SCHOOLS	1,636,542	4,483,677	1,172	3,824
8600 - NON-PROFIT SERVICES/ORGANIZATION	534,910	1,465,507	1,829	801
<b>CII Subtotal</b>	<b>22,579,312</b>	<b>61,861,129</b>	<b>29,974</b>	<b>1,596</b>

1 The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (Metropolitan) has relied on gallons of  
2 water used per employee (GPE) as a key variable in projecting future CII water use in its service  
3 area. The GPE approach assumes equal productivity across sectors and is distorted to the  
4 extent that this assumption does not hold. The GPE data is collected from a sampling of  
5 Metropolitan’s member agencies and used in the MWD MAIN econometric forecasting model,  
6 which has been a key component in Metropolitan’s water resources planning since the late  
7 1980s.

8 It must be stressed that in both these examples the metrics data is highly dependent on the  
9 initial reliability of the business type classification of the water user account, and it is important  
10 to stay vigilant to assure the accuracy of use code updates should the facility change business  
11 characteristics.

12 While there are examples of water agencies that do have good mechanisms in place to track CII  
13 water use, there has been no recent accurate statewide assessment of CII sector water use  
14 collection or analysis. There is even less availability of reliable data on non-municipal water  
15 deliveries to CII user and subsequent uses.

16 **Recommendations for Addressing Data Needs and Collection**



1 Four initial recommendations for addressing data needs and collection have been developed by  
2 the Task Force. It is anticipated that a procedure for additional data gathering will be needed to  
3 achieve a more sophisticated level of collection and analysis.

4 A comprehensive analysis of state-wide tracking of municipally supplied CII water must be  
5 completed. The current level of CII sector water supply deliveries of a reliable sample of retail  
6 water agencies must be analyzed and summarized. Additionally, any past CII water use  
7 sampling efforts should be reviewed and considered.

8 An analysis of CII water, self-supplied or obtained from non- municipal sources (e.g.  
9 groundwater, storm water, or other sources) must be completed to project the volume of water  
10 used and types of uses. This effort must consider opposition by some water users to data  
11 collection as they contend it is out of the scope of the Task Force's Legislative charge under  
12 SBX 7-7.

13 A process that will allow the State agencies involved to work with stakeholders to collect and  
14 analyze data from at least a sampling of municipal and non-municipal CII sector water sources  
15 and uses must be developed.

16 DWR should work with all stakeholders to develop the data needs and collection framework that  
17 allows for the orderly and cost-effective collection of needed data to achieve the needs and  
18 collection goals of the state.

### 19 **Alternative Approaches to Measuring, Monitoring, and Reporting on Water Use**

20 Some CII water users have developed and are using alternative approaches to measure,  
21 monitor, and report on their water use. Four of those alternative approaches are described  
22 below. Appropriate alternative approaches should be voluntarily selected by CII water users.

23 Indexing to accommodate variations across years and products - CII water use can fluctuate for  
24 a variety of reasons that are not related to level of water use efficiency. For instance, Industrial  
25 users may shift to producing a variety of different product over the course of a year or years.  
26 The water needs to these products may vary dramatically and cause production water demand  
27 to increase for periods of time and also experience increased average annual water use.  
28 Indexing water use to a baseline period or average years of water use may be most helpful in  
29 assessing water use efficiency progress.

30 Energy/water audits – Some CII customers have completed comprehensive energy and water  
31 use audits. These audits can result in detailed recommendations for improved efficiency in the  
32 use of both energy and water. These audits are a valuable resource that should be considered  
33 in measuring, monitoring, and reporting improvements in water use efficiency. Additionally, the  
34 motivations identified for the CII user to implement the water use efficiency changes should be  
35 considered.

36 Federal Executive Orders (EO) – Department of Defense installations are typically large  
37 institutional water users. EO 13423 required a 16% reduction in installation water use intensity  
38 by 2015. Meanwhile, EO 13514 augments those requirements and stipulates:

- 1 • A 26% reduction in potable use by 2020
- 2 • A 20% overall reduction in industrial, landscape irrigation, and agricultural water use by
- 3 2020
- 4 • Installations are to identify, promote, and implement water reuse strategies that reduce
- 5 potable water consumption
- 6

7 Finally, a military installation would be deemed water efficient if it demonstrates specific criteria.

8 Other water use metrics - CII water users should consider other appropriate water use metrics  
 9 that allow for the effective measurement of trends and changes in water use within their specific  
 10 sector. The CII sectors and facilities should evaluate and implement data collection and  
 11 analysis approaches and metrics that allow for the cost-effective gathering and analysis of data  
 12 to achieve measure water use trends and changes. An example is the California Green Lodging  
 13 Program that tracks progress in the hospitality sub-sector.

14 It is important to note that CII water use analysis and reporting will be done on a statewide  
 15 aggregated basis and the confidentiality of individual CII water users supplying data must be  
 16 assured. Additionally, flexibility and stakeholder involvement will be necessary to determine the  
 17 best approach.

18 **CII User Specific Metrics**

19 Most of the best management practices (BMPs) in this report are applicable to specific  
 20 processes or applications of water use and appropriate metrics to assess the effectiveness of  
 21 specific BMPs are included in sections of the report that address specific CII BMPs. Individual  
 22 water users are encouraged to develop metrics that can be used for specific CII subsectors.  
 23 Table 4-3 provides some useful examples of metrics currently used by a sample of international  
 24 CII users.

25

26 **Examples of Metrics Used by a Sample of Specific Corporations**

27 Available at Corporate Web Sites

28 Table 6-3

29

30 <u>Corporation</u>	31 <u>Metrics Used</u>
32 Beverage Industry 33 Environmental Roundtable	Water used in billion of liters, production in billions of liters, and water use ratio
34 Coca Cola Company	Liters of water to produce 1 liter of beverage
35 International Car Wash 36 Association	Gallons per vehicle

1		
2	Nestle	Cubic meters of water equated to cubic meters per ton of
3		product
4		
5	PepsiCo	Liters per unit of production
6		
7	SABMiller	Water to beer ratio measured in hectoliters
8		
9	Unilever	Water per cubic ton of production
10		

11 Finally, users should consider sub-metering to track more accurate disaggregated water  
 12 use where appropriate (See Section 7 for additional information.)

13 References:

- 14
- 15 [http://www.thecoca-colacompany.com/citizenship/water\\_main.html](http://www.thecoca-colacompany.com/citizenship/water_main.html)
- 16 [http://bieroundtable.com/water\\_stewardship.html](http://bieroundtable.com/water_stewardship.html)
- 17 [http://www.unilever.com/sustainability/environment/manufacturing/?WT.LHNAV=Eco-efficiency\\_in\\_manufacturing](http://www.unilever.com/sustainability/environment/manufacturing/?WT.LHNAV=Eco-efficiency_in_manufacturing)
- 18 <http://www.sabmiller.com/index.asp?pageid=913>
- 19 <http://www.nestle.com/CSV/WaterAndEnvironmentalSustainability/Water/Pages/PerformanceDirectOperations.aspx>
- 20 <http://www.carwash.org/industryinformation/WaterSavers/Pages/WaterSaversEnvironmentalReports.aspx>

21

1 **7A: Commercial and Institutional Sectors**  
2 **7A1 Commercial Food Service**

3 **Introduction**

4 General

5 According to information from the National Restaurant Association and the 2003 Census,  
6 California has more restaurants than any other state. Table 7.1 shows the ranking and  
7 restaurants per capita for each state based on that study. California, New York, Texas and  
8 Florida account for one third of all restaurants in the United States.

9

<b>Table 7.1 Top Five States by Number of Restaurants In 2003</b>		
<b>State</b>	<b>Number of Establishments</b>	<b>Restaurants per 1,000 Population</b>
California	87,225	2.41
New York	58,027	3.01
Texas	53,631	2.35
Florida	41,901	2.36
Pennsylvania	31,466	2.53
<b>National Totals</b>	<b>714,232</b>	<b>2.41</b>

10 Source: National Restaurant Association and 2003 U.S. Census information

11 ([http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List\\_of\\_US\\_states\\_by\\_number\\_of\\_restaurants\\_per\\_capita](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_US_states_by_number_of_restaurants_per_capita))

12 As Table 7.1 shows, California had approximately 12 percent of the restaurants in the United  
13 States in 2003. Based upon the above table, the seven-year increase in population, and other  
14 information, there may have been as many as 87,000 to 92,000 restaurants in the state in  
15 2010<sup>2</sup>.

16

17 The national distribution of restaurants by type, as shown in Figure 2, would apply to California.

18

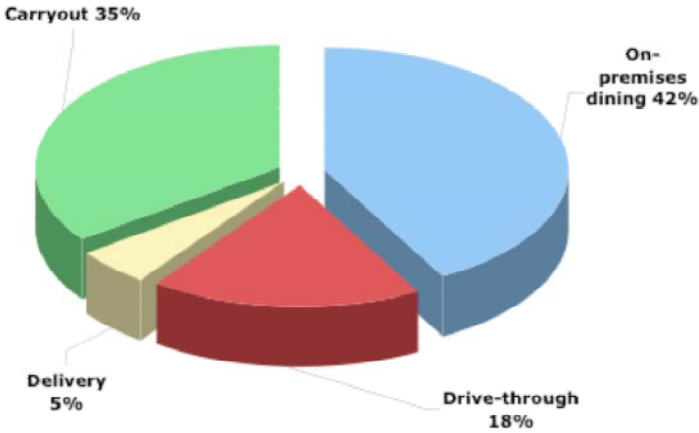
19

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<sup>2</sup> Does not account for closures due to 2010-2011 economic conditions

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**Figure 2. U.S. Distribution of Restaurant Customer Traffic - 2001**



Source: University of Georgia, Business Outreach Services, 2002

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In addition to the restaurant traffic shown in Figure 2, there are numerous institutional food service establishments, such as schools, prisons, municipal buildings, and military mess halls, most of which have commercial dishwashers. According to State of California data, the state is also home to 9,972 public schools, 3,782 private schools, over 200 universities and colleges, and several hundred jails and prisons. Military facilities include 21 Army, Navy, Marine, and Air Force installations, along with several dozen Coast Guard facilities. Many of the food service operations in these facilities are operated by the "managed services companies," but a large percent are self-operated. Add bars to this number, and the number of California's food service facilities easily exceeds 100,000, a large percentage of which contain commercial dishwashers<sup>3</sup>.

<sup>3</sup> Koeller and Company, 2010. *A Report on Potential Best Management Practices—Commercial Dishwashers*, for the California Urban Water Conservation Council. June.

1 Kitchens in commercial and institutional facilities utilize a variety of practices, technologies, and  
2 equipment to prepare food, manage food waste, and maintain sanitary and safe conditions. The  
3 amount of water used in these activities depends largely upon the type of technology applied  
4 and the volume of food produced, although personnel practices play a large role as well.

5 Water use characteristics and best management practices of warewashing and food preparation  
6 within the context of overall food service operations are covered in the following sections:

- 7 1. Scullery operations
- 8 2. Pre-rinse spray valves
- 9 3. Dishwashers (warewashers)
- 10 4. Ice machines
- 11 5. Combination ovens
- 12 6. Dipper wells
- 13 7. Steam cookers
- 14 8. Steam kettles
- 15 9. Wok stoves
- 16 10. Washing and sanitation

17  
18 Technical Feasibility

19 All of the practices, products and technologies described within this report section have been in  
20 existence for an extended period of time and found to be technically feasible. In each case,  
21 however, economic feasibility must be evaluated within the context of the physical condition and  
22 demands of the specific property or building being considered for food service operations.

23

24 **Scullery Operations**

25 Within the food service sector, it is important to understand how the warewashing (scullery)  
26 process begins and how it may impact total water use for a food service establishment. First,  
27 some smaller food service establishments and many fast food restaurants that serve on  
28 disposable ware do not utilize an automatic dishwasher. Instead, they depend upon the “three-  
29 compartment sink” to wash pots, pans and other cooking utensils. However, almost all other  
30 restaurants and food service establishments of any size do use commercial dishwashers.

31 Water use in the scullery operations can include:

- 32 1. Garbage disposal with grinders, pulpers and similar equipment<sup>4</sup>;
- 33 2. Waste transport in sluice troughs;
- 34 3. Pre-rinsing of dishes prior to washing;
- 35 4. Soaking of pots and pans in special equipment;
- 36 5. Washing pots and pans either by hand or in a dishwasher;

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<sup>4</sup> It should be noted that garbage grinders (disposers) are prohibited in some jurisdictions.

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6. Cleaning and sanitation of the scullery work area.



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One water-using area found in almost every restaurant is the three-compartment sink. Many use these sinks for washing pots and pans or "pre-cleaning" them prior to placing them in a dishwasher.

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22 The first scullery step in most restaurants and food service establishments is to scrape the dish,  
23 pot, pan, or tray into a garbage can. However, some facilities only remove the silverware and  
24 paper and cloth items and then use sluce troughs, which feed into a garbage disposer. Flow  
25 rates in these troughs can range from 2.0 gallons per minute (gpm) to over 15 gpm depending  
26 on how many nozzles flow into the trough to wash the food waste towards the disposal.

27

1 Garbage grinders (disposers) are also found in many restaurants.  
2 The purpose of a grinder is to break the food waste into small  
3 particles that are then mixed with water. This mixture is  
4 discharged to the sanitary sewer. The use of grinders increases  
5 the loading on wastewater treatment plants and, as such,  
6 wastewater utilities vary on their support of the use of these  
7 scullery appliances. Also, solids will build up more rapidly in a  
8 grease trap if the waste passes through the grease trap. Because  
9 of this build up, some cities have either banned disposers or  
10 placed excessive sewer charges on the operations using grinders.  
11 Grinders, however, *do* remove food waste from the solid waste  
12 disposal stream, an advantage in some cities. On the other hand,  
13 some jurisdictions are concerned with food waste being placed in  
14 dumpsters that may draw rodents and flies and add to solid waste  
15 disposal volume. They, therefore, encourage grinders. Others  
16 encourage composting of food scraps.

17  
18



19 Food waste pulpurs are used by some entities to collect the food scraps  
20 and extract water from the disposal process. They are located where a  
21 grinder would otherwise be located. They can also recover the  
22 extracted water so that it can be reused to pre-rinse dishes and act as a  
23 sluice trough where food wastes are dumped. When a recirculation  
24 system is used, pulpurs recirculate from 5.0 to 15 gallons per minute  
25 (gpm) of water through the system; fresh makeup water rates are  
26 typically below 2.0 gpm.  
27

28

29 Another system called a Salvajor works similarly to a pulper and  
30 can recirculate water for sluicing of food scraps, but it uses a  
31 strainer basket system to collect food waste for disposal as a solid  
32 waste.

33



34 An alternative to the mechanical systems discussed above is the  
35 simple scrap basket or strainer basket system. Strainer baskets  
36 can either be an under-the-sink type as the one pictured here or  
37 simply a basket with holes or slots in it placed in a sink. Food  
38 scraps are emptied into a garbage can for solid waste disposal or  
39 composting.  
40

41



1 The choice of waste disposal methods also impacts energy and water use in the scullery  
 2 operations. Table 7.2 summarizes the water, energy, and solid waste considerations for each  
 3 disposal method.

4

5

**Table 7.1.2. Summary of Four Waste Disposal Methods**

Parameter	Grinder	Salvajor	Pulper	Strainer Basket
Solids to Sewer	Yes	No	No	No
Recirculate	No	Yes	Yes	No
Strain Solids	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Compost Produced?	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Solid Waste Produced?	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Flow Restrictor?	Yes	No	No	N/A
Horsepower	1-10	0.75-7.5	3-10	0
Potable Water Use (gpm)	3-8	1-2	1-2	0
Sluice Trough (gpm)	2-15	2-15	2-15	0

6

7



8 Pre-rinse spray valves (PRSVs) are used to  
 9 rinse dishes prior to their being placed in the  
 10

1 dishwasher. Since 2005, the Federal energy policy act (EPAAct) has required that spray valves  
2 use no more than 1.6 gpm. New models have even lower flow rates<sup>5</sup>. The photos on the left  
3 show an old type spray valve using four gallons per minute while the picture on the right shows  
4 one using only 1.6 gallons per minute. Refer to Section 5.3.4.3 for more information on PRSVs.

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<sup>5</sup> Anecdotal information from the field indicates that, in some cases, PRSV flow rates below 1.3 gpm may result in longer cleaning times and user dissatisfaction. The U.S. EPA's WaterSense program will be releasing a draft specification for PRSVs that will likely set the maximum flow rate near 1.3 gpm. Before purchase of a PRSV designed to operate at less than 1.3 gpm, the food service operator should field trial the unit to ensure that it will operate satisfactorily, particularly if the facility experiences low water pressure.

1



2 Another water-using device found in some  
 3 larger facilities is a powered pot-soaking  
 4 tank. Pots and pans are placed in the tank  
 5 containing hot water with a special  
 6 detergent. Pumps circulate the water around  
 7 the tank softening cooked-on food deposits.  
 8 These tanks are normally filled at the  
 9 beginning of the day and dumped down the  
 10 drain at the end of the day. In especially  
 11 busy restaurants, the tank may need  
 12 dumping and filling more often.  
 13

14

15 As the above equipment examples show, washing and sanitizing dishware in commercial food  
 16 service involves much more than just a dishwasher. The amount of water used to clean and  
 17 sanitize involves the total water use of all of this equipment.

18 **Operation, Maintenance, and User Education**

19 For optimum garbage grinder efficiency, consider the following:

- 20 • Turn off the water during idle periods when the unit is not in use and when the facility is  
 21 closed.
- 22 • Scrape larger food scraps into a trash receptacle prior to rinsing food waste into the  
 23 disposal unit. Consider composting food waste if appropriate.
- 24 • Never pour grease into the garbage grinder unit, as this will lead to clogged drainlines.
- 25 • Do not place any hard objects into the unit. This can dull the blades, reducing the unit's  
 26 efficiency.
- 27 • Always run cold water through the garbage grinder unit during its use. Hot water may  
 28 damage the unit. Cold water helps to keep the unit cool.
- 29 • Regularly inspect and clean the unit to make sure the blades are sharp and the unit is  
 30 not clogged with debris.

31

32 **Retrofit Options**

33

34 To reduce the water use associated with a traditional garbage grinder, consider installing a  
 35 device that can sense the grinder motor's load and regulate the amount of water necessary to  
 36 complete the disposal task. These devices can reduce the idle flow rate when the garbage  
 37 disposal is not in use, from between 2.0 to 15 gpm to as low as 1.0 gpm, saving a significant

1 amount of water. Also, consider installing a timer to stop the flow of water to the grinder after 15  
2 minutes, requiring the user to periodically reactivate the system.<sup>6</sup>

3

#### 4 **Replacement Options**

5 When purchasing a new garbage grinder unit or looking to replace an existing unit, consider  
6 these options:

- 7 • Purchase a garbage grinder with a load sensor that regulates the amount of water  
8 conveyed through the unit based upon its use.
- 9 • Install a food pulper or food pulper/strainer combination system, which can recycle 75  
10 percent of the water used for the food disposal process.
- 11 • Replace mechanical food disposal systems with food strainers, which use little to no  
12 water.

13

#### 14 **Savings Potential**

15 A conventional garbage grinder connected to a sluice trough can use more than 650,000  
16 gallons per year and cost a facility more than \$4,500<sup>7</sup> in water and sewer bills. This water use  
17 can be significantly reduced either through a retrofit with a load sensor to regulate and reduce  
18 the amount of water used by the existing garbage grinder during idle mode or by replacing the  
19 unit with a food pulper or food strainer. To estimate facility-specific water savings and payback  
20 from retrofits and replacements, use the following information:

##### 21 Conventional Garbage Grinder Retrofit

22 Conventional garbage disposals can use a constant flow of 2 to 15 gpm when in use. Water  
23 use can be significantly reduced by retrofitting an existing conventional garbage grinder with a  
24 load sensor. Load sensors can reduce the flow rate through the garbage disposal to as little as  
25 1.0 gpm when the garbage disposal is not in use. The estimated water savings from the  
26 reduction in flow rate during idle use can be calculated as follows:

##### 27 *Current Water Use*

28 To estimate the current water use of an existing garbage disposal during idle periods, identify  
29 the following information and use Equation 1 below:

- 30 • Flow rate of water through the garbage disposal. This flow rate typically ranges from 2 to  
31 15 gpm.

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<sup>6</sup> East Bay Municipal Utility District. 2008. *Watersmart Guidebook—A Water-Use Efficiency Plan Review Guide for New Businesses*. Pages FOOD 9-11.

<sup>7</sup> Assumes a water and sewer rate of \$7.16 per 1,000 gallons; from Raftelis Financial Consulting. 2008. *Water and Wastewater Rate Survey*. American Water Works Association.

- Average daily idle period of the garbage grinder. Idle period is the time when the unit is turned on but not in use. While this time will vary by facility, some estimates indicate that garbage grinders are typically in a fully operating mode about 3 hours per day. For a commercial food service facility operating 12 hours a day, this would mean an idle period of 9 hours if the garbage disposal is kept on throughout the day.<sup>8</sup>
- Days of facility operation per year.

*Equation 1:*

$$\text{Water Use of a Garbage Disposal During Idle Use (gallons/year)} = \text{Flow Rate (gallons/minute)} \times \text{Daily Idle Period (minutes/day)} \times \text{Days of Facility Operation (days/year)}$$

*Water Use After Retrofit*

To estimate the water use from an existing garbage grinder that is retrofitted with a load sensor during idle period, use Equation 1, substituting the reduced idle flow rate. A load sensor can reduce the idle flow rate when the unit is not in use to as little as 1.0 gpm.

*Water Savings*

The expected water savings is determined by subtracting the water use after retrofit from the current water use.

*Payback*

To calculate the simple payback for retrofitting an existing conventional garbage grinder, identify the following information and use Equation 2 below:

- Equipment and installation cost of the retrofit load sensor.
- Water savings as calculated in Equation 1.
- Facility-specific cost of water and wastewater.

*Equation 2:*

$$\text{Payback (years)} = \frac{\text{Equipment and Installation Cost (\$)}}{\text{Water Savings (gallons/year)} \times \text{Cost of Water and Wastewater (\$/gallon)}}$$

*Conventional Garbage Grinder Replacement – Food Pulper*

<sup>8</sup> East Bay Municipal Utility District. 2008. *Watersmart Guidebook—A Water-Use Efficiency Plan Review Guide for New Businesses*. Pages FOOD 9-11. [www.ebmud.com/for-customers/conservation-rebates-and-services/commercial/watersmart-guidebook](http://www.ebmud.com/for-customers/conservation-rebates-and-services/commercial/watersmart-guidebook)

1 Conventional garbage grinders can be replaced with a food pulper. A food pulper can recycle  
2 and reuse up to 75 percent of the water used for the food disposal process, thus reducing the  
3 potable water required to operate the garbage disposal unit.

4 *Current Water Use*

5 To estimate the current water use of an existing garbage disposal, identify the following  
6 information and use Equation 3 below:

- 7 • Flow rate of water through the garbage disposal. This flow rate typically ranges from 2 to  
8 15 gpm.
- 9 • Average daily use time of the garbage disposal. While this time of use will vary by  
10 facility, some estimates indicate that garbage disposals are typically in full operation a  
11 total of 3 hours per day.
- 12 • Days of facility operation per year.

<p>14 <i>Equation 3:</i></p> <p>15 Water Use of a Garbage Disposal In Use (gallons/year) = Flow Rate (gallons/minute) X</p> <p>16 Daily Use Time (minutes/day) X Days of Facility Operation (days/year)</p>
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17

18 *Water Use After Replacement*

19 To estimate the water use of a replacement food pulper, use Equation 3, substituting the flow  
20 rate of fresh water through the food pulper. Fresh water flow rate through a food pulper is  
21 typically 2 gpm.<sup>9</sup>

22 *Water Savings*

23 The expected water savings is determined by subtracting the water use after replacement from  
24 the current water use.

25 *Payback*

26 To calculate the simple payback from replacing a conventional garbage grinder, identify the  
27 following information and use Equation 4 below:

- 28 • Equipment and installation cost of the replacement food pulper.
- 29 • Water savings as calculated using Equation 3.
- 30 • Facility-specific cost of water and wastewater.

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<sup>9</sup> East Bay Municipal Utility District. 2008. *Watersmart Guidebook—A Water-Use Efficiency Plan Review Guide for New Businesses*. Pages FOOD 9-11. [www.ebmud.com/for-customers/conservation-rebates-and-services/commercial/watersmart-guidebook](http://www.ebmud.com/for-customers/conservation-rebates-and-services/commercial/watersmart-guidebook)

1 *Equation 4:*

2 
$$\text{Payback (years)} = \text{Equipment and Installation Cost (\$)} / (\text{Water Savings (gallons/year)} \times \text{Cost of}$$

3 
$$\text{Water and Wastewater (\$/gallon)})$$

4

5 *Conventional Garbage Grinder Replacement – Food Strainer*

6 Conventional garbage disposals can be replaced with a food strainer. Since a food strainer  
7 does not use water, installing a food strainer to replace an existing garbage disposal can  
8 completely eliminate water use.

9 *Current Water Use*

10 To estimate the current water use of an existing garbage grinder, use Equation 3.

11 *Water Use After Replacement*

12 A food strainer can completely eliminate the use of water for the food disposal process.

13 *Water Savings*

14 In the event of complete replacement, water savings would be equal to the current water use.

15 *Payback*

16 To calculate the simple payback from replacing an existing conventional garbage disposal with  
17 a food strainer, use Equation 4.

18

19 **Additional Resources**

20 East Bay Municipal Utility District. 2008. *Watersmart Guidebook—A Water-Use Efficiency Plan Review Guide for New*  
21 *Businesses*. Pages FOOD 9-11. [www.ebmud.com/for-customers/conservation-rebates-and-](http://www.ebmud.com/for-customers/conservation-rebates-and-services/commercial/watersmart-guidebook)  
22 [services/commercial/watersmart-guidebook](http://www.ebmud.com/for-customers/conservation-rebates-and-services/commercial/watersmart-guidebook)

23 Koeller and Company, 2010. *A Report on Potential Best Management Practices—Commercial Dishwashers*, by Bill  
24 Hoffman, P.E., for the California Urban Water Conservation Council. June.

25 Raftelis Financial Consulting. 2008. *Water and Wastewater Rate Survey*. American Water Works Association.

26 Sydney Water, 2001. *Save Water, Money, and the Environment – Kitchens*.

27 <http://www.sydneywater.com.au/Publications/FactSheets/SavingWaterKitchens.pdf>

28 Sydney Water, 2006. *The Conserver: Water Cuts are on the Menu at McDonalds*.

29 <http://www.sydneywater.com.au/Publications/CaseStudies/HiltonConserver13.pdf>

30 Sydney Water, 2007. *The Conserver: No Water Wasted at the Mandarin*.

31 <http://www.sydneywater.com.au/Publications/CaseStudies/MandarinShoppingCentreConserver12.pdf>

32

33

# 1 Pre-Rinse Spray Valves

## 2 Overview

3 Dishwashing operations in a typical restaurant generally can consume over two-thirds of all of  
4 the water used by that establishment. In some cases, nearly 50 percent of the water used in  
5 dishwashing is consumed by a pre-rinse spray valve (PRSV)<sup>10</sup>, which is used to remove food  
6 residue from dishware, utensils, and pots and pans prior to placing them in the dishwasher for  
7 sanitation. Commercial PRSVs consist of spray nozzles that use water under pressure and are  
8 different from typical spray valves that are used for filling pots, or kettles, or for washing down  
9 countertops, floors, and other kitchen areas, all of which operate with higher flow rates<sup>11</sup>. Pot  
10 and kettle fillers, spray valves used on produce in grocery stores, and spray valves used in pet  
11 grooming facilities are not covered under this BMP.

12 PRSVs designed for commercial dishwashing are connected to a hose, which, in turn, is  
13 connected to the pressurized building water supply. These handheld devices consist of a spray  
14 nozzle, a squeeze lever that controls the water flow, and a dish guard bumper. They often  
15 include a spray handle clip, allowing the user to lock the lever at full spray for continual use,  
16 which can reduce hand irritation from repeated use. They can be installed at the end of a  
17 flexible stainless steel hose and may include a foot-operated, on-off lever. PRSVs are usually  
18 located at the input side of a dishwasher or over a sink and are used in conjunction with a faucet  
19 fixture fitting.

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<sup>10</sup> The Food Service Technology Center (Delagah, 2011) reports that recent field monitoring studies have shown a significantly higher percentage of water use at the dishwasher (75 percent of total hot water usage) as older dishwashers operate outside of their original design specification at the same time as older PRSVs are replaced with new efficient models, thereby altering the ratio of water use between dishwasher and PRSV.

<sup>11</sup> Pot and kettle fillers are primarily volume-dependent, and lowering the flow rate could unnecessarily impact user satisfaction by significantly increasing wait times.



1 The Energy Policy Act (EPAAct) of 2005 established the maximum allowable flow rate for all  
2 commercial PRSVs sold in the United States at 1.6 gallons per minute (gpm). Older models can  
3 use between 3.0 and 4.5 gpm. Since the EPAAct maximum was established, more efficient  
4 products have been developed with flow rates as low as 0.65 gpm, although the performance of  
5 PRSVs at flow rates below 1.0 gpm may be significantly affected by low pressure situations  
6 (<30 psi). Similarly, in very high-pressure installations (>80 psi), severe splatter may occur,  
7 leading to user dissatisfaction. A pressure-reduction device should be installed on the feed line  
8 in those cases.

9 On average, PRSVs are reported to experience a physical life of about five (5) years.

## 10 **Operation, Maintenance, and User Education**

11 Because most operational uses of PRSVs involve pre-rinsing with heated water, any reduction  
12 in flow rates and water usage has the potential to reduce energy consumption as well.  
13 Therefore, both water and energy benefits result from proper installation and use of PRSVs.

14 For optimum PRSV operation, system pressure should be tested to ensure that it is between 30  
15 and 80 pounds per square inch (psi). This pressure range will help to ensure that the PRSV will  
16 deliver the expected flow and performance. In addition, consider the following practices to  
17 maximize efficiency and performance:

- 18 • Ensure that the pre-rinse spray valve unit's hose height is appropriate for the user  
19 (neither too high nor too low). In the absence of an optimal installation height, users  
20 could choose to use other kitchen sprayers, which may have higher flow rates and  
21 wastewater.
- 22 • To decrease water use, train users to manually scrape as much food waste from dishes  
23 as possible before using the PRSV. (See the Scullery Operations section of this  
24 document.)
- 25 • If possible, pre-soak heavily soiled dishes in a basin of water to loosen food residue.
- 26 • Train users how to properly use the spray handle clip ('always-on' clamp), if available on  
27 the PRSV. Improper use of the clip could lead to unnecessary water waste. If a  
28 constant stream of water is not necessary, train users to manually depress the PRSV  
29 handle only when water is needed.
- 30 • Periodically inspect PRSVs for scale buildup on the faceplate orifices to ensure flow is  
31 not being restricted. Use cleaning products designed to dissolve scale. Do not attempt  
32 to bore or otherwise enlarge holes in the PRSV faceplate, as this may lead to increased  
33 water and energy use or cause cleaning performance problems. If scale cannot be  
34 removed, consider replacing the PRSV with a new model<sup>12</sup>.

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<sup>12</sup> Unless the unit is of substandard manufacture, is improperly installed, is abused, or is installed in a facility with very poor water quality, there is no reason to believe that a typical pre-rinse spray valve would last less than the expected five years.

- 1 • Periodically inspect PRSVs for leaks and broken or loose parts. If necessary and  
2 possible, tighten screws and fittings to stop leakage. If the product cannot be manually  
3 adjusted to perform properly, consider replacing the entire unit.
- 4 • Conduct routine inspections for leaks and train appropriate custodial and cleaning  
5 personnel and users to identify and report leaks.

6

## 7 **Retrofit Options**

8 Because PRSVs are relatively inexpensive, consider replacement rather than a retrofit or  
9 extensive repair. In general, avoid retrofitting existing, inefficient PRSVs with flow control  
10 inserts (which restrict water flow) to reduce the flow rate. These devices will generally fail to  
11 provide adequate rinse performance in some facilities, thereby increasing use time and total  
12 water used.

13

## 14 **Replacement Options**

15 When installing new PRSVs or replacing older, inefficient units, choose models with flow rates  
16 of 1.3 gpm or less. However, give consideration to building water pressure when selecting a  
17 PRSV. In some cases, it may be advisable to actually install and test a PRSV in your facility  
18 before making a purchase commitment.

19

## 20 **Savings Potential**

21 Sizable water savings can be achieved by replacing existing PRSVs. Because water use of  
22 PRSVs depends on facility operations, such as average throughput, water savings will vary by  
23 facility. To estimate facility-specific water savings and payback, use the following information:

### 24 PRSV Replacement

#### 25 *Current Water Use*

26 To estimate the current water use of a pre-rinse spray valve, identify the following information  
27 and use Equation 1 below:

- 28 • Flow rate of the existing pre-rinse spray valve. Pre-rinse spray valves installed after  
29 2005 may operate at 1.6 gpm or less, although older higher flow rate valves may still be  
30 in place. Pre-rinse spray valves installed before 2005 can have flow rates of up to 4.5  
31 gpm. In both cases, it is prudent to determine the flow rate by collecting the valve output  
32 in a containment vessel for a defined period of time and measuring the volume of the  
33 collected water.
- 34 • Average daily use time. This will vary by facility, but PRSVs are generally operating in  
35 the 'on' position for no more than 90 minutes per day.<sup>13</sup>
- 36 • Days of facility operation per year.

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<sup>13</sup> Pre-rinse spray valve use time data was collected from facilities that participated in EPA's Pre-Rinse Spray Valves Field Study in 2010.

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Equation 1

$$\text{Water Use of a Pre-Rinse Spray Valve (gallons/year)} = \text{Flow Rate (gallons/minute)} \times \text{Daily Use Time (minutes/day)} \times \text{Days of Facility Operation (days/year)}$$

*Water Use After Replacement*

To estimate the water use of a more efficient replacement pre-rinse spray valve, substitute the flow rate of the replacement pre-rinse spray valve into the above equation. Efficient pre-rinse spray valves use 1.3 gpm or less.

*Water Savings*

Determine the expected water savings by subtracting the water use after replacement from the current water use.

*Payback*

To calculate the simple payback from replacing an existing PRSV, identify the following information and use the equation below:

- Equipment and installation cost of the replacement pre-rinse spray valve. Pre-rinse spray valves typically cost less than \$100. Installation cost is negligible.
- Water savings as calculated above.
- Facility-specific cost of water and wastewater.

Equation 2

$$\text{Payback (years)} = \frac{\text{Equipment and Installation Cost (\$)}}{\text{Water Savings (gallons/year)} \times \text{Cost of Water and Wastewater (\$/gallon)}}$$

By replacing a pre-rinse spray valve with a lower flow model, facilities may also save a significant amount of energy due to the reduction in hot water use. This energy savings will further reduce the payback time and increase replacement cost-effectiveness.

**Water Savings - California Potential**

As of 2009, the California State Board of Equalization had issued sales tax permits to 91,000 restaurants and similar food establishments in the state<sup>14</sup>. This figure does not include food service operations within a larger commercial or industrial entity (such as company cafeterias or food service operations within hospitals or schools, for example), firms whose business is to manufacture and/or prepare food for sale by others<sup>15</sup>, and other similar operations. On the

<sup>14</sup> California State Board of Equalization, *Taxable Sales in California (Sales & Use Tax), 2009 Fourth Quarter*, no date.  
<sup>15</sup> Food product processors and manufacturers, catering firms, etc.

1 other hand, this figure does include very small restaurants that do not use a pre-rinse spray  
2 valve.

3 With very limited information on the current number of installed pre-rinse spray valves in  
4 California, the above inventory information was coupled with the experience gained through the  
5 California Urban Water Conservation Council's (CUWCC) Rinse 'n' Save Program (for statewide  
6 PRSV replacement) to arrive at an estimate of approximately 120,000 installed hot water valves,  
7 with a range of between 100,000 and 130,000.

8 Through implementation of the CUWCC's Program and subsequent natural PRSV replacement,  
9 the estimated statewide saturation rate (as of 2007) of water efficient valves is about 70 percent.

10 We estimate the potential water-savings benefit of replacing the remaining 30 percent of the  
11 120,000 hot water PRSVs in California to be as follows:

12  $30\% \times 120,000 \text{ valves} \times 0.874 \text{ acre-feet average savings per}$   
13  $\text{average valve} = 31,000 \text{ acre-feet total, or approximately 6,000}$   
14  $\text{acre-feet per year}$

## 15 **Additional Resources**

16 Alliance for Water Efficiency. Commercial Food Service Introduction.  
17 [www.allianceforwaterefficiency.org/Commercial\\_Food\\_Service\\_Introduction.aspx](http://www.allianceforwaterefficiency.org/Commercial_Food_Service_Introduction.aspx) California State Board of  
18 Equalization, *Taxable Sales in California (Sales & Use Tax), 2009 Fourth Quarter*, no date.

19 Federal Energy Management Program. Buying Low-Flow Pre-Rinse Spray Valves.  
20 [www1.eere.energy.gov/femp/technologies/eep\\_low-flow\\_valves.html](http://www1.eere.energy.gov/femp/technologies/eep_low-flow_valves.html)

21 Food Service Technology Center. Pre-Rinse Spray Valves. [www.fishnick.com/equipment/sprayvalves/](http://www.fishnick.com/equipment/sprayvalves/)

22 Koeller and Company, 2004. *Evaluation of Potential Best Management Practices—Pre-Rinse Spray Valves for the*  
23 *Food Service Industry*, for the California Urban Water Conservation Council. August.

24 Sydney Water, 2001. *Save Water, Money, and the Environment – Kitchens*.

25 <http://www.sydneywater.com.au/Publications/FactSheets/SavingWaterKitchens.pdf>

26 Sydney Water, 2006. The Conserver: *Water Cuts are on the Menu at McDonalds*.  
27 <http://www.sydneywater.com.au/Publications/CaseStudies/HiltonConserver13.pdf>

28 Sydney Water, 2007. The Conserver: *No Water Wasted at the Mandarin*.  
29 <http://www.sydneywater.com.au/Publications/CaseStudies/MandarinShoppingCentreConserver12.pdf>

30

31

# 1 **Commercial Dishwashers (Warewashers)**

## 2 **Overview**

3 Dishwashing is one of the largest water users in commercial food service operations. These  
4 installed systems (dishwashers and pre-rinse spray valves) clean and sanitize plates, glasses,  
5 bowls, utensils, and other food service ware.<sup>16</sup>

6 NSF International, a certifying body that provides a directory of commercial dishwashers,  
7 currently lists approximately 900 individual machine models in today's marketplace.

8 Dishwashers (warewashers) are found in diverse settings ranging from conventional restaurants  
9 to health care and other institutional food service facilities, as well as to catering and similar  
10 food preparation operations. Equipment has been designed for specific purposes such as  
11 general dish, pot and pan, and glass washing.

12 Dishwashers in many commercial food service operations are owned by a leasing company and  
13 provided to the food service operator. Whereas ownership of the machine is held by the lessor,  
14 the water and energy costs associated with operating the equipment are borne by the operator.  
15 As such, the lessor's incentive for purchasing and installing the most water- and energy-efficient  
16 equipment does not always exist. In the case of single-rack door machines, for example, it is  
17 estimated that 75 percent of these machines are leased, usually for a five-year period<sup>17</sup>.  
18 Similarly, the larger dishwashers in the largest establishments are leased equipment as well and  
19 the same diminished incentives for efficiency exist there as well.

20

## 21 **Types of Dishwashing Equipment**

22 Commercial dishwasher design can vary greatly by application, depending on the how many  
23 employees, visitors, and/or customers are served by the commercial kitchen (i.e., the amount of  
24 facility throughput). Commercial dishwasher technologies are typically differentiated in three  
25 ways: sanitizing method, basic design, and water reuse potential.

26

27 The equipment described here includes both standard dishwashing machines and those  
28 designed for washing trays, glassware only, and pots and pans. To understand the  
29 technologies available, three equipment variants are described.

30 Fill-and-dump machines: dump water after each wash (as opposed to the type that house  
31 holding tanks and supply make-up water through the rinse cycle). For those with holding  
32 tanks, the number of tanks can vary from one to three. These holding tanks allow  
33 dishwashers to recycle water from one load to the next and reduce energy use by reducing  
34 the need for water heating.

35

36 The second variant relates to how dishes are sanitized.

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<sup>16</sup>Alliance for Water Efficiency. Commercial Dishwashing Introduction.

[www.allianceforwaterefficiency.org/commercial\\_dishwash\\_intro.aspx?terms=commercial+dishwasher](http://www.allianceforwaterefficiency.org/commercial_dishwash_intro.aspx?terms=commercial+dishwasher)

<sup>17</sup>Cardwell, 2011. Contra Costa Water District, personal communication, December 19.

1 The most commonly found sanitizer in small restaurants is the chemical type machine, also  
2 known as the low-temperature machine. This type typically uses a chlorine-based disinfectant  
3 to sanitize the dishes. While these chemicals can often damage plastic and flat ware, the lower  
4 temperatures are desired for items that have low heat tolerance.

5 The other type of sanitizer is the high temperature machine. The high-temperature machine  
6 uses water at 180° F (82° C) or higher for sanitation and may employ a booster heater to  
7 achieve these high water temperatures. These machines do not require the addition of chlorine-  
8 containing chemicals and do not damage flatware or plastic dishes.

9 The third variant has to do with the basic design of the washer. Four fairly distinct types of  
10 equipment exist:

- 11 • Under-counter types are commonly  
12 in bars where only glassware is  
13 washed or in small restaurants  
14 fewer than 60 persons per day. They  
15 generally use heat to sanitize and are  
16 closest to residential dishwashers in  
17 and cost.



found  
serving  
the  
design

- 19 • Door- or hood-types are primarily  
20 in restaurants that serve fewer than  
21 customers a day. Racks holding  
22 dishes<sup>18</sup> are either hand loaded into  
23 machine or loaded with an automatic  
24 system. The cost for these types of  
25 machines generally ranges between  
26 \$10,000 and \$20,000, plus  
27 installation<sup>19</sup>.

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<sup>18</sup> Generally of 20-in. by 20-in. size, roughly the size of those commonly found in most residential dishwashers.

<sup>19</sup> Delegh, Amin, 2011. Food Service Technology Center. Personal communication, December 2.



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11 The C-Line or conveyor-type machine pulls the rack of dishes through the washer  
12 and pushes the clean rack out the other side. Larger restaurants serving between  
13 150 and 300 people a day commonly use this type. Machine cost is  
14 approximately \$60,000, plus installation<sup>20</sup>.

- 15  
16 • Flight-type machine is designed for  
17 service to many hundreds or even  
18 thousands of people per day. They are  
19 typically found in large institutional  
20 facilities, hospitals, and large hotels  
21 with banquet facilities. These  
22 machines have a continuously moving  
23 belt with pegs or fingers onto which the  
24 dishes are placed. Machine cost is  
25 generally \$90,000 or more, depending upon design and size<sup>21</sup>. Installation is  
26 extra.



27  
28 The most efficient commercial dishwashers reuse water from one wash load to the next, using  
29 one or more holding tanks. This design not only reduces water use, but also reduces the  
30 amount of energy required to heat additional water. Alternatively, fill-and-dump commercial  
31 dishwashers discard water after each load, making this type of commercial dishwasher  
32 inherently less efficient.

33 There are no federal standards limiting the water or energy consumption of commercial  
34 dishwashers. However, the Energy Star program qualifies dishwashers for its voluntary labeling  
35 program<sup>22</sup>, including under-counter, door, and conveyor (multi- and single-stage tank) type  
36 machines. Flight type machines are not currently rated. Energy Star-qualified commercial

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<sup>20</sup> Ibid.

<sup>21</sup> Ibid.

<sup>22</sup> [www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=comm\\_dishwashers.pr\\_crit\\_comm\\_dishwashers](http://www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=comm_dishwashers.pr_crit_comm_dishwashers)

1 dishwashers can reduce both energy and water use by up to 25 percent, according to the U.S.  
2 EPA.

3

#### 4 **Water Use Characteristics**

5 The primary use of water by commercial dishwashers is for washing, rinsing, and sanitizing  
6 dishes. The amount of water used for this process varies with the type, model and method of  
7 sanitation. In some cases, however, potable water can also be used for drain water tempering  
8 where code requirements set a maximum temperature of 140 °F (60°C) for drain water.

#### 9 Drain Water Tempering

10 Drain water tempering kits work by opening a potable water valve whenever the water being  
11 discharged from a dishwashing machine exceeds the code maximum. For example the Uniform  
12 Plumbing Code, 2009, paragraph 810.1 reads as follows<sup>23</sup>:

13 *“No steam pipe shall be directly connected to any part of a plumbing or drainage system, nor*  
14 *shall any water having a temperature above 140°F (60°C) be discharged under pressure directly*  
15 *into any part of a drainage system.”*

16 The following information is from the Hobart web page describing their information on water  
17 tempering<sup>24</sup>.

18 **Requirement:** *If water at or above 140 degrees Fahrenheit will be drained in cooking equipment*  
19 *with steamers and warewashers, a drain-water-tempering kit must be installed in the equipment*  
20 *to ensure the water does not soften the plastic piping.*

21 **Avoid the violation:** *Prior to ordering cooking equipment, find out if draining water temperatures*  
22 *will be at or will exceed 140 degrees Fahrenheit. It is easier and more cost efficient to install the*  
23 *drain-water-tempering kit during the installation process rather than to add the kit after the*  
24 *equipment has been installed. If the water temperature is unknown, it is recommended that a*  
25 *measurement be taken. Though the final rinse water temperature on a conveyor dishwasher is*  
26 *180 degrees Fahrenheit, it cools rapidly when sprayed through the final rinse nozzle and*  
27 *therefore might not exceed 140 degrees Fahrenheit by the time it enters the drain.*

28 Drain water tempering devices should not be installed unless absolutely necessary, since they  
29 usually lead to excessive water waste. Check with code officials and the dishwasher  
30 manufacturer before installing such devices.

#### 31 Reaching Limits

32 The U.S. EPA Energy Star<sup>®</sup> criterion represents the lower end of water use and, in fact, may  
33 have already approached what is technologically feasible for the commercial dishwasher. For  
34 example, consider the multi-tank conveyor maximum water use threshold level of 0.54 gallons  
35 per rack. A rack holds 14 plates, which comes to about a half cup of water per plate to  
36 thoroughly wash, rinse and heat the plate to the sanitation temperature.

#### 37 Water Use Information

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<sup>23</sup> International Association of Plumbing & Mechanical Officials, 2009. 2009 Uniform Plumbing Code, an American National Standard, IAPMO/ANSI UPC 1 -2009

<sup>24</sup> <http://www.hobartcorp.com/consultants/SegmentTrends/K12Schools/FoodEquipmentCodes>



1 *Under-counter, door- and conveyor-type machines*

2 The amount of water used to wash a rack of dishes for under-counter, door, and conveyor  
 3 machines varies with the model of machine and the type of sanitizing process used. Similar  
 4 factors impact flight-type dishwashers, but since racks are not used in these machines, the  
 5 parameter for comparison is gallons per dish washed. NSF International publishes dishwasher  
 6 data for all available models<sup>25</sup>.

7 NSF information was used to establish the U.S. EPA Energy Star<sup>®</sup> criteria. The NSF database  
 8 is updated regularly as manufacturers develop new product. That information can be used to  
 9 calculate water use per rack for all except flight machines. Table 7.1.4.1 displays the U.S. EPA  
 10 Energy Star<sup>®</sup> commercial dishwasher criteria for those dishwasher types that it currently  
 11 specifies.

**Table 7.1.4.1. Energy Star<sup>®</sup> Efficiency Requirements for  
Commercial Dishwashers**

Dishwasher Type	High Temperature		Low Temperature	
	<u>Machine Requirements</u>		<u>Machine Requirements</u>	
	Idle Energy Rate*	Water Use**	Idle Energy Rate*	Water Use**
Under-Counter	<= 0.9kW	= 1.00 gal/rack	<= 0.50kW	= 1.70 gal/rack
Stationary Single Tank**	<= 1.0 kW	<=0.90 gal/rack	<= 0.6 kW	<=1.18 gal/rack
Single Tank Conveyor	<= 2.0 kW	<= 0.70 gal/rack	<= 1.6 kW	<= 0.79 gal/rack
Multi Tank Conveyor	<= 2.6 kW	<= 0.54 gal/rack	<= 2.0 kW	<= 0.54 gal/rack

\*Idle energy rate measured with door closed and representative of the energy used by the tank heater only.

\*\* Includes pot, pan, and utensil machines.

12

13 Energy Star<sup>®</sup> qualified dishwashers are reported to use at least 41 percent less energy than the  
 14 Federal minimum standard for energy consumption and much less water than conventional  
 15 models. Other data has been developed for this study for conveyor and flight type dishwashers  
 16 using the NSF International December 2009 data.

17 *Flight-type dishwashers*

18 Energy Star<sup>®</sup> criteria have not yet been developed for flight-type machines, although it is  
 19 reported that plans exist to do so. Tables 4 and 5 summarize water use characteristics for both

<sup>25</sup> That data can be found at: <http://www.nsf.org/Certified/food/Listings.asp?Standard=003>

1 single-tank and multi-tank flight-type commercial dishwashers. Three parameters to rank  
 2 efficiency were developed based on NSF International data. These were the:

- 3 • gallons used per square foot of the flight conveyor belt surface moving through the
- 4 machine,
- 5 • gallons used per dish using the NSF International equations to estimate and
- 6 • gallons used per rack equivalent based on the standard 20-inch by 20-inch rack.

7 Gallons-per-dish is the most common parameter used by the industry to compare flight-type  
 8 machines; as such, all data was sorted on that parameter. Tables 7.1.4.2 and 7.1.4.3 show the  
 9 lowest quartile level, which roughly corresponds to where Energy Star® initially sets most of  
 10 their qualification thresholds. It is important to note that very efficient flight-type models do exist.

11  
 12

**Table 7.1.4.2. Single Tank Hot Water Flight-Type Water Use**

**Characteristics for 17 models**

	Gal. / sq ft	Gal. / Dish	Gal. / Rack Equivalent
Maximum	0.61	0.031	1.70
Average	0.30	0.0185	0.83
Median	0.14	0.013	0.40
Lowest Quartile	0.11	0.009	0.30
Lowest	0.07	0.007	0.21

13

**Table 7.1.4.3. Multi-Tank Hot Water Flight-Type Water Use**

**Characteristics for 83 models**

	Gal. / sq ft	Gal. / Dish	Gal. / Rack Equivalent
Maximum	0.45	0.041	1.26
Average	0.21	0.020	0.58
Median	0.19	0.017	0.52
Lowest Quartile	0.07	0.010	0.20

Lowest	0.05	0.005	0.13
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1

2 Summary of water use – all machine types

3 Table 7.1.3.4 summarizes water use information from the various sources. To determine what  
4 would constitute very wasteful equipment, the 75th percentile figure for water use was chosen  
5 as the efficiency threshold. The table identifies what represents the current state of the market  
6 and provides insight as to the efficiency of the approximately 65,900 commercial dishwashers  
7 currently in use in California.

8 For the purposes of this analysis, the medial data for 2006 (or 2009 if the 2006 data is not  
9 available) was used to represent the water use for the base case estimates of total water used  
10 by commercial dishwashers in California. The 2010 Energy Star median number of qualified  
11 equipment was used as the water saving case.

12

13

**Table 7.1.3.4. Examples of Commercial Dishwasher Use**

75th percentile - 75% of machines are lower

Median - half of machines are lower

<b>Hot Water Type Dishwashing Machines</b>							
	Units	75th percentile 2006	75th percentile 2009	Median for 2009 Machines	Median for 2006 Machines	Energy Star® Threshold	Energy Star® 2010 Median
Under Counter	Gal/rack	1.75			1.20	1.00	0.79
Door Type	Gal/rack	1.33			1.18	0.95	0.79
Single Tank Conveyor	Gal/rack	1.12	0.95	0.70	0.94	0.70	0.51
Multi-Tank Conveyor	Gal/rack		1.10	0.77		0.54	0.39
Single Tank Flight	Gal/plate		0.031	0.015			
Multi Tank Flight	Gal/plate		0.032	0.017			
<b>Chemical Type Dishwashing Machines</b>							
	Units	75th percentile 2006	75th percentile 2009	Median for 2009 Machines	Median for 2006 Machines	Energy Star® Threshold	Energy Star® 2010 Median
Under Counter	Gal/rack	1.87			1.75	1.70	1.18
Door Type	Gal/rack	1.98			1.22	1.18	1.09
Single Tank Conveyor	Gal/rack	1.22	1.08	0.79	0.95	0.79	0.49

Multi Tank Conveyor	Gal/rack		0.58	0.53		0.54	0.49
Multi Tank Flight	Gal/plate		0.012	0.12			

Note: Shaded areas indicate that data was not available.

Sources: NSF International for dishwashers for 2006 and 2009, Energy Star, and CEE Commercial Kitchens Study.

1

2 Dumping of Wash Tanks

3 All dishwashers hold water in a reservoir called a wash tank. These tanks are necessary to  
4 allow the recirculating pumps to operate and to store water between washes. The volume of  
5 these wash tanks can range from under two gallons for an under-counter machine to up to 65  
6 gallons for large flight-type systems. According to manufacturer specifications, door-type  
7 machines are supposed to be dumped every two hours of operation while others are dumped to  
8 drain after each meal. When the dishwasher is started again at the beginning of the next  
9 workday, the tanks must be refilled and reheated. If the average volume of these tanks is 15 to  
10 20 gallons, they are dumped from one to six times per day, and there are an estimated 65,900  
11 machines in California, this amounts to estimated water waste in the range of 2,000 to 5,000  
12 acre feet per year.

1 **Operation, Maintenance, and User Education**

2 For optimum commercial dishwasher efficiency, follow these operating tips:

- 3 • Only run dishwashers when they are full. Each dishwasher rack should be filled to  
4 maximum capacity.
- 5 • Educate staff to scrape dishes prior to loading the dishwasher (see Scullery).
- 6 • Replace any damaged dishwasher racks.
- 7 • Ensure that the final rinse pressure and water temperature are within the manufacturer’s  
8 recommendations.
- 9 • Operate the dishwasher close to or at the minimum flow rate recommended by the  
10 manufacturer. Set the rinse cycle time to the manufacturer’s minimum recommended  
11 setting and periodically verify that the machine continues to operate with that rinse cycle  
12 time.
- 13 • Turn off machines at night when not in use.
- 14 • Install steam doors to reduce evaporation.
- 15 • Ensure that manual fill valves close completely after the wash tank is filled.
- 16 • Fix and repair any leaks. Inspect valves and rinse nozzles for proper operation and  
17 repair worn nozzles.

18  
19 For conveyor-type machines, further steps can be taken to ensure optimum efficiency:

- 20 • Install and/or maintain wash curtains. Wash curtains are able to retain heat within the  
21 machine.
- 22 • Ensure the rinse bypass drain is properly adjusted so that the wash tank is adequately  
23 replenished during operation.
- 24 • Operate conveyor-type machines in auto-mode to save energy by running the conveyor  
25 motor only when needed.

26  
27 **Retrofit Options**

28 Retrofit options are available for conveyor-type dishwasher units. When retrofitting an existing  
29 conveyor-type dishwasher, consider installing rack sensors that allow water flow only when  
30 racks or dishes are present, saving water by initiating the cleaning cycle less frequently.

31

1 **Replacement Options**

2 When purchasing or leasing a new commercial dishwasher or replacing an existing commercial  
3 dishwasher, look for Energy Star qualified models<sup>26</sup>, which save water, energy, and reduce  
4 overall operating costs. For flight-type dishwashers, which are not subject to Energy Star  
5 product criteria, choose equipment with a flow rate of less than 170 gallons per hour.<sup>27</sup> Avoid fill-  
6 and-dump machines, which use the most water.

7 It is important to consider the typical kitchen throughput and select an appropriately sized  
8 commercial dishwasher. A commercial dishwasher that is larger than necessary may waste  
9 water if the machine is not loaded to capacity.

10

11 **Savings Potential**

12 Energy Star qualified commercial dishwashers use 25 percent less water than conventional  
13 models, on average. Use Energy Star’s Life Cycle Cost Estimate tool<sup>28</sup> to estimate facility-  
14 specific water, energy, and cost savings achieved when replacing an existing commercial  
15 dishwasher with a model with the Energy Star label.

16 Depending upon the type of machine, a wide range of water and energy savings may be  
17 achieved. For example, potential savings achieved by replacing a conventional multi-tank,  
18 conveyor-type, high-temperature dishwasher with an Energy Star qualified model are shown in  
19 Table 7x.

20

21 **Table 7x. Example of Potential Savings from Energy Star Qualified Dishwashers**

	<b>Energy Star</b>		
	<b>Conventional Unit Use</b>	<b>Qualified Unit Use</b>	<b>Savings</b>
<b>Electricity (kWh/year)</b>	238,000	117,000	121,060
<b>Water (gallons/year)</b>	38,000	26,000	12,000

22

23 *Potential Future Water Savings for California*

<sup>26</sup> [www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=comm\\_dishwashers.pr\\_crit\\_comm\\_dishwashers](http://www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=comm_dishwashers.pr_crit_comm_dishwashers)

<sup>27</sup> Koeller and Company, 2010. *A Report on Potential Best Management Practices—Commercial Dishwashers*, by Bill Hoffman, P.E., for the California Urban Water Conservation Council. June.

<sup>28</sup> U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Energy Star Program. Energy Star Life Cycle Cost Estimate for Qualified Commercial Dishwasher(s).

[www.energystar.gov/ia/business/bulk\\_purchasing/bpsavings\\_calc/CalculatorCommercialDishwasher.xls](http://www.energystar.gov/ia/business/bulk_purchasing/bpsavings_calc/CalculatorCommercialDishwasher.xls)

- 1 Table 7x shows the median values for all machines currently in the marketplace, the median  
 2 value for those that are listed by Energy Star®, and the potential savings.

<b>Table 7x. Estimated Water Savings per Rack or Plate (gallons)</b>				
<b>Hot Water Type Dishwashing Machines</b>				
Type	Market Median	Energy Star® Median	Savings	Measurement
Under- Counter	1.20	0.79	0.410	Gallons per rack
Door	1.18	0.79	0.390	Gallons per rack
Single Tank Conveyor	0.94	0.51	0.430	Gallons per rack
Multi-Tank Conveyor	0.77	0.39	0.380	Gallons per rack
Single Tank Flight	0.015	.010	0.005	Gallons per plate
Multi-Tank Flight	0.017	.009	0.008	Gallons per plate
<b>Chemical Type Dishwashing Machines</b>				
Type	Market Median	Energy Star® Median	Savings	Measurement
Under- Counter	1.75	1.18	0.570	Gallons per rack
Door	1.22	1.09	0.130	Gallons per rack
Single Tank Conveyor	0.95	0.49	0.460	Gallons per rack
Multi-Tank Conveyor	0.53	0.49	0.040	Gallons per rack
Multi Tank Flight	0.012	0.009 equivalent	0.003	Gallons per plate

- 3  
 4 Estimating the average number of racks or plates washed per hour or per day is a guess at  
 5 best. An analysis was performed with assumed volumes of washer throughput. The Restaurant  
 6 Report website<sup>29</sup> provides the maximum racks per hour for various types of dishwashing  
 7 equipment. It further assumed that the actual number of racks washed is only 50 percent of the  
 8 maximum and that the machines are in operation for 5.0 hours per day. Table 7x summarizes  
 9 the results of this analysis.

<sup>29</sup> [www.restaurantreport.com/departments/restaurant-dishwasher-buying-guide.html](http://www.restaurantreport.com/departments/restaurant-dishwasher-buying-guide.html)



1

Meals/hour	Dishwasher type	Max racks per hour	Assumed Actual racks per hour	Racks per day based on 5.5 hours of operation
Up to 100	Under-counter	35	17.5	88
100-500	Door	125	62.5	313
500-2000	Conveyor	425	225	1,125
2000+	Flight**	11,450 plates per hour	5,000*** Plates per hour	25,000 Plates per day

\* Based on <http://www.restaurantreport.com/departments/restaurant-dishwasher-buying-guide.html>

\*\* Flight systems measured in plates per hour.

\*\*\* The average flight machine can process up to 11,450 plates per hour, but 5,000 is used as a more reasonable estimate of through-put for this analysis.

2

3 Using the estimated numbers of machines in California shown in Table 4, the estimated number  
 4 or racks or plates washed per day, and the savings per rack or plate, the total annual savings  
 5 was calculated. The estimated savings were collapsed into four dishwasher types: under-  
 6 counter, door, conveyor and flight. Table 7x summarizes these savings.

7

Dishwasher Type	Estimated Number in California	Saving per Operation* (gallons)	Operations * per day	Market Medial (acre-feet per year)	Energy Star® Median (acre-feet per year)	Annual Savings (acre-feet per year)
Under-counter	7,900	0.49	88	1,149	767	382
Door-Type	42,800	0.26	313	18,007	14,106	3,905
Conveyor-Type	11,900	0.328	1,125	11,959	7,048	4,895

Flight Type*	3,300	0.005	25,000	1,355	863	493
<b>TOTAL</b>				32,470	22,783	<b>9,674</b>

\* For flight machines one operation is one dish washed. For all others, it is one rack washed.

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The table shows that current machines use a little over 32,000 acre-feet of water per year for washing dishes. Another 4,000 acre-feet are used when the machines are dumped to exchange water. Therefore, total use is in the order of 36,000 acre-feet per year.

The results show that by operating *only* with the median Energy Star qualified machines, California can save about 10,000 acre-feet of water annually.

### **Additional Resources**

Alliance for Water Efficiency. Commercial Dishwashing Introduction.  
[www.allianceforwaterefficiency.org/commercial\\_dishwash\\_intro.aspx?terms=commercial+dishwashers+introduction](http://www.allianceforwaterefficiency.org/commercial_dishwash_intro.aspx?terms=commercial+dishwashers+introduction)

Consortium for Energy Efficiency. June 26, 2008. *High Efficiency Specifications for Commercial Dishwashers*.  
[www.cee1.org/com/com-kit/files/DishwasherSpecification.pdf](http://www.cee1.org/com/com-kit/files/DishwasherSpecification.pdf)

Delagah, Amin, 2011. Food Service Technology Center, personal communication, December 1.

East Bay Municipal Utility District. 2008. *Watersmart Guidebook—A Water-Use Efficiency Plan Review Guide for New Businesses*. [www.ebmud.com/for-customers/conservation-rebates-and-services/commercial/watersmart-guidebook](http://www.ebmud.com/for-customers/conservation-rebates-and-services/commercial/watersmart-guidebook)

Food Service Technology Center. Dishwashing Machines. [www.fishnick.com/savewater/appliances/dishmachines/](http://www.fishnick.com/savewater/appliances/dishmachines/)

Koeller and Company, 2010. *A Report on Potential Best Management Practices—Commercial Dishwashers*, for the California Urban Water Conservation Council. June.

Sydney Water, 2001. *Save Water, Money, and the Environment – Kitchens*.  
<http://www.sydneywater.com.au/Publications/FactSheets/SavingWaterKitchens.pdf>

Sydney Water, 2006. *The Conserver: Water Cuts are on the Menu at McDonalds*.  
<http://www.sydneywater.com.au/Publications/CaseStudies/HiltonConserver13.pdf>

Sydney Water, 2007. *The Conserver: No Water Wasted at the Mandarin*.  
<http://www.sydneywater.com.au/Publications/CaseStudies/MandarinShoppingCentreConserver12.pdf>

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s Energy Star Program. Commercial Dishwashers.  
[www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?fuseaction=find\\_a\\_product.showProductGroup&pgw\\_code=COH](http://www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?fuseaction=find_a_product.showProductGroup&pgw_code=COH)

# 1 Commercial Ice Machines

2

## 3 Overview

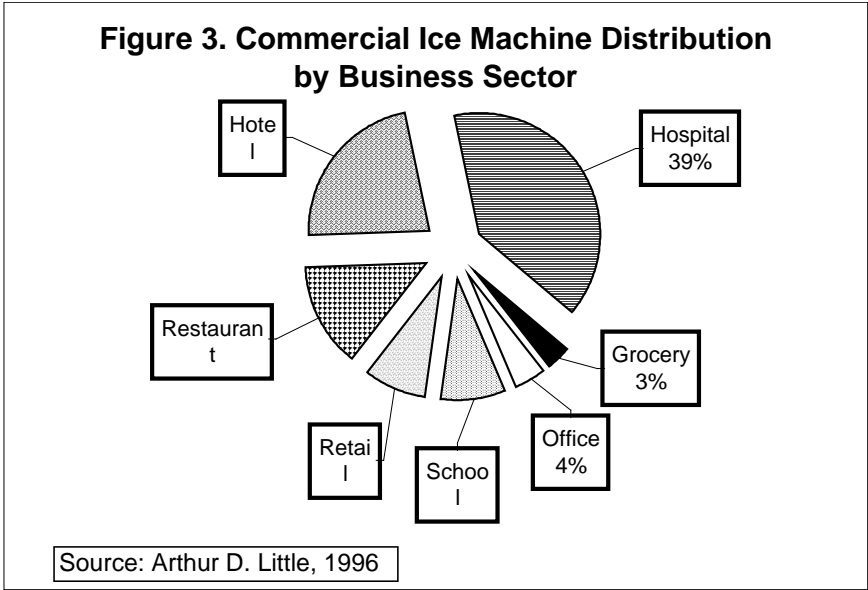
4 The use of ice for drinks, preserving and cooling food, and various other commercial purposes  
5 is common today, but it was not always so. Before the development of the commercial ice  
6 machine industry, ice was produced at large central ice plants and delivered to the commercial  
7 user in the form of either blocks or crushed ice. The crushed and block ice market is still a  
8 viable industry, but commercial ice machines have replaced delivered ice in routine commercial  
9 activities. This section summarizes the operational characteristics of commercial ice machines  
10 and examines the potential for both water and energy savings from a California-based  
11 perspective. To do this, it examines five items:

- 12 1. Types of ice-making technologies and equipment
- 13 2. Ice machine market dynamics
- 14 3. Regulations and incentives
- 15 4. Energy and water use characteristics
- 16 5. Potential future water savings

17

18 The market for ice-making machines tends to increase in proportion to population. The hospital,  
19 food service and hotel industries purchase approximately 75 percent of all ice machines  
20 nationally, but ice machines are also found in other businesses and institutions (Figure 3)

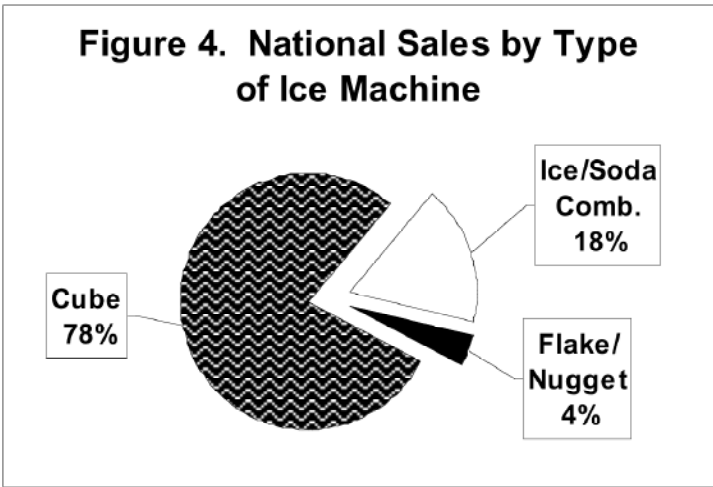
21 According to information from the Pacific Gas & Electric Company (PG&E) Food Service  
22 Technology Center (FSTC) (Zabrowski, 2007), about 20 percent of the installed inventory of ice  
23 machines in California are water-cooled; the balance are air-cooled. According to the Air  
24 Conditioning and Refrigeration Institute (ARI), once-through water cooling of ice machines uses  
25 from 75 to 200 gallons of cooling water for every 100 pounds of ice made.



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4 In 2003, total nationwide ice machine sales were approximately 360,000 units, of which about  
 5 78 percent were cube machines; the others were flake and nugget machines or combination  
 6 machines such as soda machines (Figure 4). According to a 2004 PG&E study, there are about  
 7 1.2 million ice machines in the United States, with about 174,000 are in California, or about 9  
 8 percent of the total<sup>30</sup>. Allowing for population growth, we estimate that California currently has  
 9 an installed base of about 180,000 machines.

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<sup>30</sup> This figure was based on older studies performed in 1996 by Arthur D. Little.

1 In recent years there has been an increase in sales of nugget-type ice machines for soft drink  
 2 use, since this ice absorbs some of the drink flavor and is chewable. However, according to  
 3 information from PG&E FSTC (Zabrowski, May 2008), the percent increase is small. The  
 4 importance of this trend is that nugget ice machines tend to be both more energy and water  
 5 efficient.

6 The amount of ice consumed by various individual operations varies greatly, but ice machine  
 7 manufacturers have developed estimates for each of those applications. Table 7x summarizes  
 8 this information.

Table 7x. Approximate Ice Use by Activity or Product		
Type of Use	Unit	Ice Use per Activity
Restaurant <i>(Either stand alone or at a hotel)</i>	Per Meal	1.5 lb. per person served
	Cocktail Bar	3 lb. per person served
	Salad Bar	40 lb. per day per cubic ft.
Cafeteria	Per Person	1 lb per person served
Hospital	Per Patient	10 lb per patient per day
Hotel	Per Guest	5 lb per guest per day
Catering	Per Person	1 lb per person served
Cold Soft Drinks & Tea	10-12 oz.	6-8 oz. per drink
	20 oz.	8-10 oz. per drink
	32 oz.	16 oz. per drink

9 Source: Information based on Ice-O-Matic and Cornelius Web sites.

10

11 **Technologies**

12 Commercial ice machines use refrigeration units to freeze water into ice. They have become a  
 13 mainstay in all types of settings including restaurants, commercial kitchens, fast food  
 14 establishments, convenience stores, grocery stores, schools, hotels/motels, hospitals, and  
 15 laboratories. Ice machines typically use water for two purposes: cooling the refrigeration unit  
 16 and making ice. There are mechanisms to address the efficiency of both aspects.

17 Because the ice-making process generates a significant amount of heat, either water or air is  
 18 used to remove this waste heat from the ice machine's refrigeration unit. In the most basic  
 19 configuration, water-cooled ice machines pass water through the machine once to cool it, and  
 20 then dispose of the single-pass water down the drain. Water-cooled systems can use less water  
 21 by recirculating the cooling water through either a heat exchanger connected to a chilled water

1 loop or a cooling tower to lower the temperature, returning the water to the machine for reuse.  
2 To eliminate using water to cool the refrigeration unit altogether, air can be used to cool the unit  
3 instead. Air-cooled ice machines use motor-driven fans or centrifugal blowers to move air  
4 through the refrigeration unit to remove heat.<sup>31</sup>

5 There are three primary types of ice machines: *ice-making head units* (water- or air-cooled),  
6 *self-contained units* (water- or air-cooled), and *remote condensing units* (air-cooled). Ice-making  
7 head units have the ice-making mechanism and the condenser unit in a single package, and the  
8 storage bins are sold separately. Self-contained units have the ice-making mechanism,  
9 condenser unit, and a built-in storage bin in an integral cabinet. These units are typically small,  
10 under-counter units that produce a smaller volume of ice. Remote condensing units are models  
11 with the ice-making mechanism and the condenser unit in separate section. They transfer the  
12 heat generated by the ice-making process outside the building.

13 An ice machine's capacity is measured by the number of pounds of ice it can produce per day.  
14 Water-cooled ice machines with single-pass cooling consume between 100 and 300 gallons of  
15 water per 100 pounds of ice produced, while air-cooled ice machines consume less than 50  
16 gallons of water per 100 pounds of ice produced.<sup>32</sup> While air-cooled machines are usually more  
17 water-efficient, water-cooled machines are usually more energy-efficient. Some air-cooled units,  
18 however, are able to match or exceed the energy efficiency of water-cooled units while also  
19 providing substantial water efficiency.<sup>33</sup>

20 Regardless of how the machine is cooled, all of the machines use water to produce ice. If a  
21 machine were perfectly water-efficient and wasted no water when producing ice, the machine  
22 would use approximately 12 gallons of water to produce 100 pounds of ice.<sup>34</sup> However, in order  
23 to create ice of acceptable quality, some water is used and sent down the drain during the  
24 process. As ice is formed in the freezing trays, minerals in the water collect on the equipment  
25 and must be rinsed occasionally. Depending on the water quality, some machines require more  
26 frequent rinse cycles than needed, thus wasting water. Reducing the frequency of rinse cycles  
27 can provide an opportunity for savings.

28 In addition, some ice machines are designed to produce clearer and smoother ice using a  
29 repeated freezing and partial thawing process. Ice produced using this method has fewer air  
30 bubbles and is more crystalline, but producing ice to this quality uses more water.<sup>35</sup>

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<sup>31</sup> U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Energy Star Program. Commercial Ice Machines.  
<[www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?fuseaction=find\\_a\\_product.showProductGroup&pgw\\_code=CIM](http://www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?fuseaction=find_a_product.showProductGroup&pgw_code=CIM)>.

<sup>32</sup> Bohlig, Charles M. East Bay Municipal Utility District. February 2006. Presentation on Water Efficiency in Commercial Food Service.

<sup>33</sup> Alliance for Water Efficiency. Ice Machines Introduction.  
<[www.allianceforwaterefficiency.org/Ice\\_Machines.aspx](http://www.allianceforwaterefficiency.org/Ice_Machines.aspx)>.

<sup>34</sup> *ibid*

<sup>35</sup> *ibid*

1 Water used directly for the ice-making process ranges from 15 gallons to more than 50 gallons  
2 per 100 pounds of ice,<sup>36</sup> depending on the amount of water used to rinse the machine. For flake  
3 machines, this range includes the unfrozen water.

4 Ice machines can produce several kinds of ice:

- 5 • *Cube ice* (clear, regularly shaped ice weighing up to 1.5 ounces per piece and  
6 containing minimal amounts of liquid water);
- 7 • *Flake ice* (chips or flakes of ice containing up to 20 percent liquid water by weight);
- 8 • *Crushed ice* (small, irregular pieces made by crushing bigger pieces of ice); or
- 9 • *Nugget ice* (small portions of ice created by extruding and freezing the slushy flake ice  
10 into a nugget).<sup>37</sup>

11 Cubed ice machines are the most prominent in the market, accounting for approximately 80  
12 percent of sales in the United States.<sup>38</sup> Most cubed ice machines use more water than flake ice  
13 machines because they run more water over the freezing ice to remove sediment and minerals  
14 that form as the water freezes. In general, the higher the quality of ice, the more water is  
15 needed for the ice-making process.

16



17

18

Crushed Ice Machine

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<sup>36</sup> Koeller and Company, 2008. *A Report on Potential Best Management Practices – Commercial Ice Machines*. Prepared for the California Urban Water Conservation Council. Page 6. June.

<sup>37</sup> Pacific Gas and Electric Company. *Information Brief, Commercial Ice Machines*.

[www.pge.com/includes/docs/pdfs/mybusiness/energysavingsrebates/incentivesbyindustry/hospitality/icemachinetech.pdf](http://www.pge.com/includes/docs/pdfs/mybusiness/energysavingsrebates/incentivesbyindustry/hospitality/icemachinetech.pdf).

<sup>38</sup> *ibid*

1



2

3

4

Cubed Ice Machine

5 The Department of Energy sets standards for ice machines<sup>39</sup>. In order to recognize energy- and  
6 water-efficient ice machines, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA's) Energy Star<sup>®</sup>  
7 program issued a specification<sup>40</sup> for commercial air-cooled cube ice machines that meet more  
8 stringent energy use and potable water use limits. On average, commercial ice machines that  
9 have earned the Energy Star label are 15 percent more energy efficient and 10 percent more  
10 water efficient than standard air-cooled models. Currently, only cube ice machines qualify to  
11 earn that label, although Energy Star plans to include flake machines in future specifications.

12

### 13 **Operation, Maintenance, and User Education**

14 Consider the following tips to ensure energy- and water-efficient ice machine use:

- 15 • Periodically clean the ice machine to remove lime and scale; sanitize it to kill bacteria  
16 and fungi. For self-cleaning/sanitizing machines, run the self-cleaning option. For  
17 machines without a self-cleaning mode, shut down the machine, empty the bin of ice,  
18 add cleaning/sanitizing solution to the machine, switch it to cleaning mode, then switch it

---

<sup>39</sup> See

[http://www1.eere.energy.gov/buildings/appliance\\_standards/commercial/automatic\\_ice\\_making\\_equipment.html](http://www1.eere.energy.gov/buildings/appliance_standards/commercial/automatic_ice_making_equipment.html)

<sup>40</sup> [http://www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=comm\\_ice\\_machines.pr\\_crit\\_comm\\_ice\\_machines](http://www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=comm_ice_machines.pr_crit_comm_ice_machines)



1 to ice production mode. Although water is wasted in the process, it is very important to  
2 create and discard several batches of ice to remove residual cleaning solution for health  
3 and safety considerations.

- 4 • Keep the ice machine's coils clean to ensure the heat exchange process is running as  
5 efficiently as possible.
- 6 • Keep the lid closed to trap cool air inside the ice machine so it does not have to work  
7 harder to maintain the appropriate temperature inside.
- 8 • Install a timer to shift ice production to nighttime or off-peak hours, cutting down on the  
9 facility's peak energy demand.
- 10 • Considering local water quality and site requirements, work with the machine's  
11 manufacturer to ensure that the machine's rinse cycle is set to the lowest possible  
12 frequency that still provides sufficient ice quality. If available, use the ice machine's  
13 ability to initiate rinse cycles based on sensor readings of minerals.
- 14 • Follow the manufacturer-provided use and care instructions for the specific model ice  
15 machine used at the facility.
- 16 • Train users to report leaking or otherwise improperly operating ice machines to the  
17 appropriate personnel.

18

### 19 **Retrofit Options**

20 If the machine is cooled using single-pass water, modify the machine to operate on a closed  
21 loop that recirculates the cooling water through a cooling tower or heat exchanger, if possible. If  
22 eliminating single-pass cooling is not feasible, consider reusing the cooling water for another  
23 application within the facility. See the *Alternative Water Sources BMP* for more information.

24

### 25 **Replacement Options**

26 When replacing the ice machine or installing a new one, ensure that the new model is sized  
27 appropriately to fit the facility's need. If the machine produces too large of a yield, water will be  
28 wasted by producing unneeded ice. Also choose an ice machine that is appropriate for the  
29 quality of ice needed. Producing ice of higher quality than required will use water unnecessarily.  
30 Consider selecting flake or nugget ice machines, which use less water and energy than cube ice  
31 machines.<sup>41</sup> Choose only Energy Star qualified models<sup>42</sup>. Also consider only air -cooled ice machines  
32 that meet the [efficiency specifications outlined by the Consortium for Energy Efficiency \(CEE\)](#)<sup>43</sup>.

### 33 **Savings Potential**

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<sup>41</sup> East Bay Municipal Utility District. 2008. *Watersmart Guidebook—A Water-Use Efficiency Plan Review Guide for New Businesses*. <[www.ebmud.com/for-customers/conservation-rebates-and-services/commercial/watersmart-guidebook](http://www.ebmud.com/for-customers/conservation-rebates-and-services/commercial/watersmart-guidebook)>.

<sup>42</sup> [www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?fuseaction=find\\_a\\_product.showProductGroup&pgw\\_code=CIM](http://www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?fuseaction=find_a_product.showProductGroup&pgw_code=CIM)

<sup>43</sup> [www.cee1.org/com/com-kit/com-kit-equip.php3](http://www.cee1.org/com/com-kit/com-kit-equip.php3)

1 A facility will see varying levels of water savings, depending on whether it is replacing an  
2 existing air-cooled ice machine or an existing water-cooled model. To estimate facility-specific  
3 water savings and payback, use the following information.

4  
5 Air-Cooled Ice Machine Replacement

6 On average, Energy Star qualified air-cooled cube ice machines are 15 percent more energy-  
7 efficient and 10 percent more water-efficient than standard air-cooled models. Total savings  
8 depend on the type of machine selected. Switching to a 137-pound capacity Energy Star  
9 qualified air-cooled ice-making head unit from an equivalent conventional unit, for example, can  
10 result in water savings of 1,000 gallons per year. Energy savings of 1,600 kWh per year can  
11 also be expected, resulting in net cost savings of about \$170 per year.<sup>44</sup>

12 Use Energy Star's [Commercial Kitchen Equipment Savings Calculator](#)<sup>45</sup> to estimate facility-  
13 specific water, energy, and cost savings for replacing an existing ice machine with an Energy  
14 Star qualified model. The Calculator estimates savings for the Energy Star suite of commercial  
15 kitchen products, but it can also be used to calculate individual savings from replacing an  
16 existing ice machine.

17 Water-Cooled Ice Machine Replacement

18 A facility will see the most water savings from replacing a water-cooled ice machine with an  
19 Energy Star qualified air-cooled model. Only cube ice machines currently qualify to earn the  
20 Energy Star label.

21  
22 *Current Water Use*

23  
24 To estimate the current water use from a water-cooled ice machine, identify the following  
25 information and use Equation 1 below:

- 26
- Ice machine's harvest rate, or how many pounds of ice it produces per day.
  - The ice machine's maximum water use. This figure can be derived from EPA's 2005 requirements.
  - Days of facility operation per year.
- 27  
28  
29  
30

31 *Equation 1:*

32 Water Use of a Water-Cooled Ice Machine (gallons/year) = Harvest Rate (lbs ice/day) X  
33 Water Use (gallons/100 lbs of ice) X Days of Facility Operation (days/year)

34  
35 *Water Use After Replacement*

---

<sup>44</sup> U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Energy Star Program. Energy Star Life Cycle Cost Estimate for Qualified Commercial Ice Machine(s).

<sup>45</sup> [www.energystar.gov/ia/business/bulk\\_purchasing/bpsavings\\_calc/commercial\\_kitchen\\_equipment\\_calculator.xls](http://www.energystar.gov/ia/business/bulk_purchasing/bpsavings_calc/commercial_kitchen_equipment_calculator.xls)

1 To estimate the water use of a replacement Energy Star qualified air-cooled model, use  
2 Equation 1, substituting the harvest rate (if it will change) and the new water use per hundred  
3 pounds of ice.  
4

5 *Water Savings*

6 Determine the expected water savings by subtracting the water use after replacement from the  
7 current water use.

8 *Payback*

9 To calculate the simple payback from replacing a water-cooled ice machine, identify the  
10 following information and use Equation 2 below:

- 11 • Equipment and installation cost of the replacement Energy Star qualified air-cooled
- 12 model. New ice machines may range in cost between \$2,000 and \$4,000.
- 13 • Water savings as calculated using Equation 1.
- 14 • Facility-specific cost of water and wastewater.  
15

16 *Equation 2:*

17 
$$\text{Payback (years)} = \frac{\text{Equipment and Installation Cost (\$)}}{\text{Water Savings (gallons/year) X Cost of}} \\ \text{18 Water and Wastewater (\$/gallon)}$$

19 *California Water Savings Potential*

20 Water savings (direct and indirect) can be derived from three sources. The first is the  
21 elimination of once-through cooling, which yields direct, significant savings. The second is  
22 moving to CEE Tier 3 water use levels for future ice-making machines, including the promotion  
23 of the more efficient flake and nugget machines, all of which yield direct savings of water. The  
24 third is the indirect water savings realized through reduced energy generation.

25 The following analysis is based on an estimated 180,000 ice machines currently installed in  
26 California, of which 36,000 are estimated to be water-cooled. For the purpose of this analysis,  
27 these water-cooled machines are assumed (1) to use 150 gallons of cooling water for every 100  
28 pounds of ice made and (2) that the average daily production from all units is 600 pounds per  
29 day per unit. Two water use rates for ice making are assumed, 25 gallons per 100 pounds of  
30 ice and 20 gallons per 100 pounds of ice, with a net savings of 5 gallons per 100 pounds of ice.  
31 This assumption reflects Tier 2 (the Energy Star Standard) and Tier 3 standards, respectively,  
32 which, together, cover the majority of the market available today.

33 The potential statewide savings in water and energy use by the equipment itself (direct savings)  
34 and through the reduction in embedded energy use (indirect savings) are both shown in Table  
35 7x. For assumptions related to the estimated savings, refer to CUWCC Potential Best  
36 Management Practices report on ice machines<sup>46</sup>.

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<sup>46</sup> Koeller and Company, 2008. *A Report on Potential Best Management Practices – Commercial Ice Machines*. Prepared for the California Urban Water Conservation Council. Page 6. June.

**Table 7x. Summary of Total Potential Annual Water and Energy Savings in California**

*(by moving to a CEE Tier 3 mandate, which does not permit water-cooled machines)*

<b>Savings at Ice Machine (Direct Savings)</b>				
Type	Number of installed machines	Water (acre-feet/year)	Energy (millions of kWh/year)	Notes
Water-cooled machine savings	36,000	36,300	-47	
Air-cooled machine savings	144,000		252	
All machines	180,000	6,000		
<b>Total at machine</b>		<b>42,300</b>	<b>205</b>	
<b>Embedded Savings (Indirect Savings)</b>				
Type	Number of installed machines	Water (acre-feet/year)	Energy (millions of kWh/year)	Notes
Water-cooled machine savings	36,000		82*	*Savings of embedded energy in reduced cooling water
All machines	180,000		14	
<b>Total embedded</b>		<b>230**</b>	<b>96</b>	**Water savings resulting from reduced energy production
<b>Net Savings – Direct &amp; Indirect</b>		<b>42,530</b>	<b>301</b>	Includes Embedded Savings

- 1
- 2 In summary, Table 5 shows that by eliminating once-through water cooling, about 36,000 acre-
- 3 feet of water can be saved each year; the net energy savings would be about 300 million

1 kilowatt hours per year when embedded energy is taken into account. Adding the savings  
2 realized by moving to Tier 3 or to flake and nugget machines will increase the projected  
3 statewide water savings to a total of about 42,300 acre-feet per year<sup>47</sup>.

#### 4 **Additional Resources**

5 Alliance for Water Efficiency. Commercial Food Service Introduction.

6 <[www.allianceforwaterefficiency.org/Commercial\\_Food\\_Service\\_Introduction.aspx](http://www.allianceforwaterefficiency.org/Commercial_Food_Service_Introduction.aspx)>.

7 Alliance for Water Efficiency. Ice Machines Introduction. <[www.allianceforwaterefficiency.org/Ice\\_Machines.aspx](http://www.allianceforwaterefficiency.org/Ice_Machines.aspx)>.

8 California Urban Water Conservation Council. Resource Center, Commercial Food Services, Ice-Makers.

9 <[www.cuwcc.org/products/commercial-ice-makers.aspx](http://www.cuwcc.org/products/commercial-ice-makers.aspx)>.

10 Consortium for Energy Efficiency. January 1, 2006. *High-Efficiency Specifications for Commercial Ice Machines*.

11 <<http://www.cee1.org/com/com-kit/com-kit-equip.php3>>.

12 East Bay Municipal Utility District. 2008. *Watersmart Guidebook—A Water-Use Efficiency Plan Review Guide for New*

13 *Businesses*. < [http://www.ebmud.com/for-customers/conservation-rebates-and-services/commercial/watersmart-](http://www.ebmud.com/for-customers/conservation-rebates-and-services/commercial/watersmart-guidebook)  
14 [guidebook](http://www.ebmud.com/for-customers/conservation-rebates-and-services/commercial/watersmart-guidebook)>.

15 Federal Energy Management Program. How to Buy an Energy Efficient Commercial Ice Machine.

16 <[www1.eere.energy.gov/femp/procurement/eep\\_ice\\_makers.html](http://www1.eere.energy.gov/femp/procurement/eep_ice_makers.html)>.

17 Food Service Technology Center. Ice Machines. <[www.fishnick.com/savewater/appliances/icemachines/](http://www.fishnick.com/savewater/appliances/icemachines/)>.

18 Koeller and Company, 2008. *A Report on Potential Best Management Practices—Commercial Ice Machines*, for the  
19 California Urban Water Conservation Council. June.

20 Pacific Gas and Electric Company. *Information Brief, Commercial Ice Machines*.

21 <[www.pge.com/includes/docs/pdfs/mybusiness/energysavingsrebates/incentivesbyindustry/hospitality/icemachinetec](http://www.pge.com/includes/docs/pdfs/mybusiness/energysavingsrebates/incentivesbyindustry/hospitality/icemachinetec)  
22 [h.pdf](http://www.pge.com/includes/docs/pdfs/mybusiness/energysavingsrebates/incentivesbyindustry/hospitality/icemachinetec)>.

23 Sydney Water, 2001. *Save Water, Money, and the Environment – Kitchens*.

24 <http://www.sydneywater.com.au/Publications/FactSheets/SavingWaterKitchens.pdf>

25 Sydney Water, 2006. *The Conserver: Water Cuts are on the Menu at McDonalds*.

26 <http://www.sydneywater.com.au/Publications/CaseStudies/HiltonConserver13.pdf>

27 Sydney Water, 2007. *The Conserver: No Water Wasted at the Mandarin*.

28 <http://www.sydneywater.com.au/Publications/CaseStudies/MandarinShoppingCentreConserver12.pdf>

29 U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's ENERGY STAR Program. Commercial Ice Machines.

30 <[www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?fuseaction=find\\_a\\_product.showProductGroup&pgw\\_code=CIM](http://www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?fuseaction=find_a_product.showProductGroup&pgw_code=CIM)>

31

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<sup>47</sup> This does not take into account the net savings in other *operating costs* (borne by the end user) by eliminating once-through cooling. Typically, over the lifetime of the machine, operating costs to the end user for air-cooled equipment are about half that of the equivalent water-cooled equipment.

# 1 **Combination Ovens**

## 2 **Overview**

3

4 Combination ovens help keep food from drying out while baking or roasting. They combine  
5 three modes of cooking into one oven: steam mode, circulated hot air (dry heat) mode, or a  
6 combination of both (combi-mode). The steam mode is used for rapid cooking of food items  
7 such as vegetables and shellfish. The circulated hot air mode operates in the same manner as a  
8 typical convection oven and is traditionally used for roasting meats or baking. The combi-mode  
9 is used to reheat, roast, bake, or oven-fry foods. Steam and combi-modes require generation of  
10 steam, an energy and water-intensive process.

11

12 Both gas and electric models are available in several configurations. One uses a boiler that  
13 produces steam, which is injected into the oven chamber. Others achieve high humidity with  
14 sprays, and some models have closed systems that recondense steam to achieve higher  
15 energy and water savings. The cooking capacity of a typical oven is significant. One six-pan  
16 model can cook as many as 32 chickens at a time<sup>48</sup>.

17 The amount of water used by a combination oven primarily is dictated by whether it is boiler-  
18 based or connectionless (without a central boiler connection). Typical boiler-based combination  
19 ovens are connected to a boiler system that supplies the steam. These systems waste large  
20 amounts of water because they require a continuous stream of tempering water to cool the  
21 condensed steam before it is disposed down the drain. They may also supply steam regardless  
22 of whether the oven is in operation. In contrast, a connectionless combination oven has a self-  
23 contained water and heat source to create the steam required for the cooking process. This  
24 eliminates the use of a separate, central boiler system. Connectionless combination ovens are  
25 typically drained and refilled each day and do not require a drain of condensate or the frequent  
26 addition of cooling water.

27 A ten-pan boiler combination oven under heavy use can consume 30 to 40 gallons of water per  
28 hour, while boilerless misting ovens use only 10 to 15 gallons per hour, resulting in an annual  
29 savings greater than 110,000 gallons<sup>49</sup>. Inefficient combination ovens can consume 360 to 480  
30 gallons of water per day, while efficient models can reduce that usage to only 120 to 180 gallons  
31 per day.

32

---

<sup>48</sup> Sorensen, Greg, 2006. *Rational Model SCC 62G Combination Oven Performance Test*. Food Service Technology Center. Fisher-Nickel, Inc., July.

<sup>49</sup> Reed, Clark, 2005. *Saving Water Counts in Energy Efficiency*. Energy Star. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, October.

1 **Operation, Maintenance, and User Education**

2

3 For optimum combination oven efficiency, consider the following:

- 4 • Use the oven’s programming capabilities to control the use of the different cooking  
5 modes in order to minimize water and energy use. Where feasible, use the steam and  
6 combi-modes sparingly because these modes consume more water and significantly  
7 increase energy use. Maximize the use of the circulated hot air mode.
- 8 • Turn the oven off or down during non-peak periods or when not in use.
- 9 • Keep the oven doors completely closed.
- 10 • Maximize the amount of food cooked per use by ensuring that the oven is loaded to its  
11 full capacity.
- 12 • Replace door gaskets when necessary and keep door hinges tight, to provide a firm seal  
13 to retain heat or steam.

14

15 **Retrofit Options**

16 If a boiler-based combi-oven is used, a condensate return system can be installed to direct the  
17 condensate back into the central boiler system for reuse. This process will improve both water  
18 and energy efficiency, as the condensate can be used as boiler makeup water. Packaged  
19 condensate return systems can be purchased from most steam equipment suppliers; plumb  
20 them directly into an existing system. Insulate condensate return lines to further improve  
21 efficiency.

22 There are currently no retrofit options available on the market to increase the efficiency of  
23 connectionless combination ovens.

24

25 **Replacement Options**

26 When purchasing a new combination oven or replacing an existing one, look for models that are  
27 boilerless or connectionless and that use no more than 15 gallons of water per hour<sup>50</sup> or 3.5  
28 gallons per pan per hour.<sup>51</sup> Combination ovens come in varying sizes, depending upon the  
29 amount and types of food to be cooked. Consult the manufacturer to choose a combination  
30 oven that is appropriately sized for the cooking needs of the food service operation. A larger-  
31 than-necessary combination oven can waste water and energy to heat unused compartment  
32 space.

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<sup>50</sup> East Bay Municipal Utility District, 2008. *Watersmart Guidebook—A Water-Use Efficiency Plan Review Guide for New Businesses*. Page 43. <[www.ebmud.com/for-customers/conservation-rebates-and-services/commercial/watersmart-guidebook](http://www.ebmud.com/for-customers/conservation-rebates-and-services/commercial/watersmart-guidebook)>.

<sup>51</sup> Food Service Technology Center. *Combination Ovens*. <[www.fishnick.com/savewater/appliances/combinationovens/](http://www.fishnick.com/savewater/appliances/combinationovens/)>.

1 Finally, all purchased combination ovens should be listed among the qualified products on the  
2 Fisher Nickel list for energy rebates in California<sup>52</sup>

3

#### 4 **Savings Potential**

5 Boiler-based combination ovens can use as much as 30 to 40 gallons of water per hour.<sup>53</sup>

6 Switching to a boilerless unit can reduce that water use to 15 gallons of water per hour or less.<sup>54</sup>

7 According to the East Bay Municipal Utility District, replacing a boiler-based combination oven  
8 with a connectionless model can save nearly \$3,000 in water and energy bills each year, which  
9 could provide payback for the cost of the new equipment in approximately 5 years.<sup>55</sup>

10

#### 11 *Current Water Use*

12 To estimate the current water use of an existing combination oven, identify the following  
13 information and use Equation 1 below:

- 14 • Hourly water use in gallons per hour. A typical boiler-based combination oven may use  
15 as much as 30 to 40 gallons per hour.
- 16 • Average daily usage time. Varies by facility.
- 17 • Days of facility operation per year.

18

19

*Equation 1:*

20

Water Use of a Combination Oven (gallons/year) = Hourly Water Use (gallons/hour) X Daily Usage Time  
21 (hours/day) X Days of Facility Operation (days/year)

22

<sup>52</sup> [www.fishnick.com/saveenergy/rebates/combis.pdf](http://www.fishnick.com/saveenergy/rebates/combis.pdf)

<sup>53</sup> U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Energy Star Program. *Best Practices—How to Achieve the Most Efficient Use of Water in Commercial Food Service Facilities.*

<[www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=healthcare.fisher\\_nickel\\_feb\\_2005](http://www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=healthcare.fisher_nickel_feb_2005)>.

<sup>54</sup> *ibid*

<sup>55</sup> Assumes that heat is electric. Payback may be longer for gas supplied heat. East Bay Municipal Utility District, 2008. *Turning up the Heat on Commercial Kitchen Water Savings*, March. [www.energystar.gov/ia/partners/downloads/meetings/water\\_Richard\\_Harris.pdf](http://www.energystar.gov/ia/partners/downloads/meetings/water_Richard_Harris.pdf)



1 *Water Use After Retrofit or Replacement*

2 To estimate the water use of a system retrofit or replacement combination oven, use Equation  
3 1, substituting the hourly water use for the retrofitted system or replacement combination oven.  
4 Boilerless combination ovens can use 15 gallons per hour or less.

5 *Water Savings*

6 Determine the expected water savings by subtracting the water use after retrofit or replacement  
7 from the current water use.

8 *Payback*

9 To calculate the simple payback from retrofitting or replacing an existing combination oven,  
10 identify the following information and use Equation 2 below:

- 11 • Equipment and installation cost of the retrofit or replacement combination oven. A  
12 combination oven may cost approximately \$15,000.<sup>56</sup>
  - 13 • Water savings as calculated using Equation 1.
  - 14 • Facility-specific cost of water and wastewater.
- 15

16 *Equation 2:*

17 Payback (years) = Equipment and Installation Cost (\$) / [(Water Savings (gallons/year) X Cost of Water  
18 and Wastewater (\$/gallon)]

19  
20 By switching to a boilerless combination oven, facilities may also save a significant amount of  
21 energy by reducing the water use and steam generation associated with the use of the  
22 combination oven. These energy savings will further reduce the payback time and increase  
23 replacement cost effectiveness.

24

25 **Additional Resources**

26 Alliance for Water Efficiency. Combination Ovens Introduction.

27 [www.allianceforwaterefficiency.org/1Column.aspx?id=650&terms=combination+ovens](http://www.allianceforwaterefficiency.org/1Column.aspx?id=650&terms=combination+ovens)

28 East Bay Municipal Utility District. March 5, 2008. Turning up the Heat on Commercial Kitchen Water Savings.

29 [www.energystar.gov/ia/partners/downloads/meetings/water\\_Richard\\_Harris.pdf](http://www.energystar.gov/ia/partners/downloads/meetings/water_Richard_Harris.pdf)

30 East Bay Municipal Utility District. 2008. *Watersmart Guidebook—A Water-Use Efficiency Plan Review Guide for New*  
31 *Businesses*. [www.ebmud.com/for-customers/conservation-rebates-and-services/commercial/watersmart-guidebook](http://www.ebmud.com/for-customers/conservation-rebates-and-services/commercial/watersmart-guidebook)

32 Food Service Technology Center. Combination Ovens. [www.fishnick.com/savewater/appliances/comboationovens/](http://www.fishnick.com/savewater/appliances/comboationovens/)

33 Sydney Water, 2001. *Save Water, Money, and the Environment – Kitchens*.

34 [www.sydneywater.com.au/Publications/FactSheets/SavingWaterKitchens.pdf](http://www.sydneywater.com.au/Publications/FactSheets/SavingWaterKitchens.pdf)

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<sup>56</sup> Ibid.

1 Sydney Water, 2007. The Conserver: *No Water Wasted at the Mandarin*.  
2 [www.sydneywater.com.au/Publications/CaseStudies/MandarinShoppingCentreConserver12.pdf](http://www.sydneywater.com.au/Publications/CaseStudies/MandarinShoppingCentreConserver12.pdf)  
3 U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s Energy Star Program. Best Practices—How to Achieve the Most  
4 Efficient Use of Water in Commercial Food Service Facilities.  
5 [www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=healthcare.fisher\\_nickel\\_feb\\_2005](http://www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=healthcare.fisher_nickel_feb_2005)

6

## 7 **Dipper Wells**

### 8 **Overview**

9 Dipper wells are used for applications such as rinsing ice cream scoops, spoons and other  
10 utensils on the serving line between uses. Most dipper wells have a single spigot and a valve  
11 that controls the flow of either hot or cold water into a receiving well. Most serving lines have  
12 dipper wells running constantly during service hours to provide a continuous exchange of the  
13 water in the well to reduce the potential for bacterial growth.

14

15 Generally, dipper wells have flow rates between 0.5 and 1.0 gallon per minute (gpm).<sup>57</sup> Larger  
16 wells, however, have higher flow rates.

17 Food service locations should ensure that the requirements of the U.S. Department of Health  
18 and Human Services Food Code are met, specifically sections 3-304.11 and 3-304.12, when  
19 considering changes to facility operations that may involve installing, retrofitting, or replacing a  
20 dipper well.

21

### 22 **Operation, Maintenance, and User Education**

23 For optimum dipper well efficiency, consider the following:

- 24 • Turn off water when service periods are slow and the dipper well is not in use. Turn off  
25 the water to the well at the end of each day as well. Clean the dipper well prior to  
26 restarting the water in order to remove any bacterial build up.
- 27 • Keep the flow rate of the dipper well valve at its minimum level. Some municipalities  
28 recommend no more than 0.3 gpm.<sup>58</sup>
- 29 • Consider rinsing utensils with an existing faucet only as needed rather than using a  
30 dipper well.
- 31 • Use cold or warm water instead of hot water in dipper wells where appropriate for rinsing  
32 utensils.

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<sup>57</sup> East Bay Municipal Utility District. 2008. *Watersmart Guidebook—A Water-Use Efficiency Plan Review Guide for New Businesses*. Pages FOOD8-FOOD9.

<sup>58</sup> Arizona Water. *Implementing a Water Management Plan Checklist for Facility Managers*. Page 8.

1

2 **Retrofit Options**

3 To reduce the water use associated with a dipper well, consider installing an in-line flow  
4 restrictor to reduce the flow rate from 0.5 or 1.0 gpm to 0.3 gpm.

5

6 **Replacement Options**

7 When looking to replace dipper wells, consider these options:

- 8 • Install a metering faucet for utensil rinsing.
- 9 • If the facility has a large volume of utensils, sufficient to run full dishwasher loads,  
10 consider installing an [Energy Star®-qualified commercial under-counter](#)  
11 [dishwasher](#)<sup>59</sup> instead of using a dipper well.

12

13 **Potential Savings**

14 During the course of a 12-hour operating day at a typical ice cream shop, dipper wells can  
15 consume 300 to 700 gallons of water, or 130,000 to 260,000 gallons per year. Water savings  
16 can be achieved by retrofitting the dipper well faucet to reduce the flow rate *or* by replacing a  
17 dipper well faucet with a metered faucet or an Energy Star qualified commercial under-counter  
18 dishwasher. Installing a flow-restricting device to reduce the water flow of a dipper well can  
19 result in water savings between 50,000 and 180,000 gallons per dipper well per year.

20 Dipper Well Retrofit with In-Line Flow Restrictor

21 *Current Water Use*

22 To estimate the water use of an existing dipper well, identify the following information and use  
23 Equation 1 below:

- 24 • Flow rate of the existing dipper well. Most dipper wells have flow rates between 0.5 and  
25 1.0 gpm.<sup>60</sup> Measuring the actual flow rate is a fairly simple task that can be  
26 accomplished in a very short time.
- 27 • Average operating hours per day of the facility.
- 28 • Days of facility operation per year.

29

30

Equation 1:

31

32

$\text{Water Use of a Dipper Well (gallons/year)} = \text{Flow Rate (gpm)} \times \text{Daily Use Time (minutes/day)} \times \text{Days of Operation per Year (days/year)}$
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<sup>59</sup> www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?fuseaction=find\_a\_product.showProductGroup&pgw\_code=COH

<sup>60</sup> East Bay Municipal Utility District. 2008. *Watersmart Guidebook—A Water-Use Efficiency Plan Review Guide for New Businesses*. Pages FOOD8-FOOD9.

1 *Water Use After Retrofit*

2 To estimate the water use after retrofitting an existing dipper well with an in-line flow restrictor,  
3 use Equation 1, substituting the flow rate of the retrofit in-line flow restrictor for the flow rate of  
4 the existing dipper well. An efficient retrofit in-line flow restrictor should provide a maximum flow  
5 rate of 0.3 gpm.

6

7 *Water Savings*

8 Determine the expected water savings by subtracting the water use after retrofit from the current  
9 water use.

10 *Payback*

11 To calculate the simple payback from retrofitting an existing dipper well, identify the following  
12 information and use Equation 3 below:

- 13 • Equipment and installation cost of the retrofit in-line flow restrictor.
- 14 • Water savings as calculated in Equation 1.
- 15 • Facility-specific cost of water and wastewater.

16

17 Equation 2:

18 
$$\text{Payback (years)} = \frac{\text{Equipment and Installation Cost (\$)}}{(\text{Water Savings (gallons/year)} \times \text{Cost of Water and Wastewater (\$/gallon)})}$$
  
19

20

21 Dipper Well Replacement with Metering Faucet

22

23 Though retrofitting an existing dipper well with a flow restrictor is likely the most cost-effective  
24 choice for a facility, significant water savings may also be achieved by replacing a dipper well  
25 faucet with a metering faucet.

26 *Current Water Use*

27 To estimate the current water use of an existing dipper well, use Equation 1.

28 *Water Use After Replacement with Metered Faucet*

29 To estimate the water use after replacing an existing dipper well with a push-button, metered  
30 faucet identify the following information and use Equation 3 below:

- 31 • Flow rate of the metering faucet [in gallons per cycle (gpc)].
- 32 • Average cycles used per hour.
- 33 • Average operating hours per day of the facility.
- 34 • Days of facility operation per year.

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*Equation 3:*

$$\text{Water Use of a Metering Faucet (gallons/year)} = \text{Flow Rate per Cycle (gallons/cycle)} \times \text{Use per Hour (cycles/hour)} \times \text{Daily Use Time (hours/day)} \times \text{Days of Operation per Year (days/year)}$$

*Water Savings*

Determine the expected water savings by subtracting the water use after faucet replacement from the current water use.

*Payback*

To calculate the simple payback from replacing an existing dipper well with a push-button, metered faucet, use Equation 2, substituting the cost of replacing the existing faucet with a new metering faucet for the cost of the in-line flow restrictor.

Dipper Well Replacement with Energy Star Qualified Commercial Dishwasher

Though retrofitting an existing dipper well with a flow restrictor is likely the most cost-effective choice for a facility, significant water savings may also be achieved by replacing a dipper well with an Energy Star qualified commercial under-counter dishwasher *and* altering the practices of those individuals responsible for utensils.

*Current Water Use*

To estimate the current water use of an existing dipper well, use Equation 1.

*Water Use After Replacement with Energy Star Dishwasher*

To estimate the water use after replacing an existing dipper well with an Energy Star qualified commercial under counter dishwasher, identify the following information and use Equation 4 below:

- Water use per rack washed. A high-temperature, Energy Star qualified commercial under-counter dishwasher uses 1.0 gallons per rack or less. A low-temperature model uses 1.7 gallons per rack or less.<sup>61</sup>
- Average estimate of racks washed per day.
- Days of facility operation per year.

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<sup>61</sup> U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Energy Star program. Commercial Dishwashers Key Product Criteria. [www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=comm\\_dishwashers.pr\\_crit\\_comm\\_dishwashers](http://www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=comm_dishwashers.pr_crit_comm_dishwashers)

Equation 4:

$$\text{Water Use of an Energy Star Qualified Commercial Under-Counter Dishwasher (gallons/year)} = \text{Water Use per Rack (gallons/rack)} \times \text{Racks Washed per Day (racks/day)} \times \text{Days of Operation per Year (days/year)}$$

*Water Savings*

Determine the expected water savings by subtracting the water use after dishwasher installation from the current water use.

*Payback*

To calculate the simple payback from replacing an existing dipper well with an Energy Star qualified commercial under counter dishwasher, use Equation 2, substituting the cost of installing an Energy Star qualified dishwasher for the cost of the in-line flow restrictor. Purchasing and installing a new Energy Star qualified commercial under-counter dishwasher can cost approximately \$6,000.<sup>62</sup>

**Additional Resources**

Arizona Water. *Implementing a Water Management Plan Checklist for Facility Managers*. Page 8. [www.azwater.gov/AzDWR/StatewidePlanning/Conservation2/Documents/documents/ImplementingaWaterManagementPlanChecklistforManagers.pdf](http://www.azwater.gov/AzDWR/StatewidePlanning/Conservation2/Documents/documents/ImplementingaWaterManagementPlanChecklistforManagers.pdf)

East Bay Municipal Utility District. 2008. *Watersmart Guidebook—A Water-Use Efficiency Plan Review Guide for New Businesses*. Pages FOOD8-FOOD9. [www.ebmud.com/for-customers/conservation-rebates-and-services/commercial/watersmart-guidebook](http://www.ebmud.com/for-customers/conservation-rebates-and-services/commercial/watersmart-guidebook)

Fisher Nickel Inc. 2005. *Best Practices – How to Achieve the Most Efficient Use of Water in Commercial Food Service Facilities*. Page 11. [www.energystar.gov/ia/business/healthcare/fisher\\_nickel\\_feb\\_2005.pdf](http://www.energystar.gov/ia/business/healthcare/fisher_nickel_feb_2005.pdf)

Las Vegas Review-Journal. 2010. UNLV Professor Targets ‘Wasteful’ Dipper Wells. [www.lvrj.com/news/47195482.html](http://www.lvrj.com/news/47195482.html)

Sydney Water, 2001. *Save Water, Money, and the Environment – Kitchens*.

<http://www.sydneywater.com.au/Publications/FactSheets/SavingWaterKitchens.pdf>

Sydney Water, 2006. *The Conserver: Water Cuts are on the Menu at McDonalds*.

<http://www.sydneywater.com.au/Publications/CaseStudies/HiltonConserver13.pdf>

Sydney Water, 2007. *The Conserver: No Water Wasted at the Mandarin*.

<http://www.sydneywater.com.au/Publications/CaseStudies/MandarinShoppingCentreConserver12.pdf>

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Energy Star program. *Commercial Dishwashers Key Product Criteria*.

[www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=comm\\_dishwashers.pr\\_crit\\_comm\\_dishwashers](http://www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=comm_dishwashers.pr_crit_comm_dishwashers)

<sup>62</sup> U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Energy Star program. *Energy Star Life Cycle Cost Estimate for Energy Star Qualified Commercial Dishwasher(s)*. [www.energystar.gov/ia/business/bulk\\_purchasing/bpsavings\\_calc/CalculatorCommercialDishwasher.xls](http://www.energystar.gov/ia/business/bulk_purchasing/bpsavings_calc/CalculatorCommercialDishwasher.xls)

- 1 U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Energy Star program. Energy Star Life Cycle Cost Estimate for Energy Star
- 2 Qualified Commercial Dishwasher(s).
- 3 [www.energystar.gov/ia/business/bulk\\_purchasing/bpsavings\\_calc/CalculatorCommercialDishwasher.xls](http://www.energystar.gov/ia/business/bulk_purchasing/bpsavings_calc/CalculatorCommercialDishwasher.xls)

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# 1 **Steam Cookers**

## 2 **Overview**

3 Steam cookers, also known as food steamers, are commercial kitchen appliances used to  
4 prepare foods in a sealed vessel that limits the escape of air or liquids below a pre-set pressure.  
5 There are two types of steam cookers: boiler-based and boilerless (without a central boiler  
6 connection).

### 7 **Boiler-based steamers**

8 Boiler-based steam cookers are connected to a central boiler, which delivers steam to the  
9 heating compartment. Steam that does not condense on the food escapes as a mixture of  
10 steam and condensate through a drain or venting. In addition, some water is continuously bled  
11 off from the steam cooker to help reduce and manage scale build up. Most manufacturers  
12 indicate that water supplied to the steam cooker should be under 50 parts per million (ppm) of  
13 total dissolved solids (TDS), otherwise bleed off must be increased. Boiler-based steam cookers  
14 also use large amounts of water to further condense the steam and to cool (temper) the  
15 condensate water to around 140°F before it enters the sewer system. Most boiler-based steam  
16 cookers offer a standby setting that maintains the boiler in a ready-to-use state. In many  
17 instances, the condensate cooling (tempering) water will continue to flow even when the steam  
18 cooker is in standby mode, particularly if the condensate cooling water is controlled by a valve  
19 that must be manually turned on and off. Some boiler-based steam cookers, but not all, do  
20 allow for the condensate cooling water to be turned off while the steamer is in standby mode.  
21 Steamers that are timer-controlled will automatically switch into standby mode at the end of the  
22 set cook time, minimizing the amount of water wasted while the unit is not in use.

23

### 24 **Boilerless (connectionless) steamers**

25 Boilerless steam cookers can be either completely unconnected to any water supply or can be  
26 connected to a water supply just to keep the water reservoir full. Unconnected (connectionless)  
27 boilerless steam cookers have an individual reservoir where water is heated below the steam  
28 trays to create the steam. These types of steam cookers are manually drained and refilled and  
29 do not require a dedicated drain for condensate or the addition of cooling (tempering) water. A  
30 small amount of steam is vented through the top of the steam cooker, but what is not vented or  
31 condensed on the food returns as condensate to the reservoir. Connected boilerless steam  
32 cookers have a float valve that maintains the water level in the reservoir, but unlike the boiler-  
33 based steam cookers, there is no continuous flow of water. The connected boilerless steam  
34 cookers are usually as efficient as the connectionless models.

35 To address efficiency and advances in commercial steam cookers, Energy Star has developed  
36 voluntary criteria to qualify energy- and water-efficient steam cookers to earn the Energy Star  
37 label<sup>63</sup>.

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<sup>63</sup> [http://www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?fuseaction=find\\_a\\_product.showProductGroup&pgw\\_code=COC](http://www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?fuseaction=find_a_product.showProductGroup&pgw_code=COC)



## 1 **Operation, Maintenance, and User Education**

2 For optimum steam cooker efficiency, consider the following:

- 3 • Use batch production as opposed to staged loading of food pans (i.e., do not repeatedly
- 4 open the door to load and unload food pans).
- 5 • Where possible, fill the steam cooker to capacity instead of cooking one pan in a multi-
- 6 pan steamer.
- 7 • Keep the doors closed while the steamer is operating.
- 8 • Use only as many steamer compartments as needed.
- 9 • Use a timer to ensure that the steam cooker returns to standby mode after use.
- 10 • Turn the steam cooker off during long periods of non-use. This will reduce water and
- 11 energy use associated with keeping the steam cooker in stand-by mode.
- 12 • Repair any leaks. Remove any deposit buildup from the boiler on boiler-based models.

13

## 14 **Retrofit Options**

15 When using a boiler-type steam cooker, a condensate return system may be installed to direct  
16 the condensate back into the central boiler system for reuse. This process will improve both  
17 water and energy efficiency, because the condensate can be used as boiler makeup water.  
18 Packaged condensate return systems can be purchased from most steam equipment suppliers;  
19 plumb them directly into an existing system. Insulating condensate return lines will further  
20 improve their efficiency.

21 There are currently no retrofit options available on the market to increase the water efficiency of  
22 boilerless steam cookers.

## 23 **Replacement Options**

24 Steam cookers come in several sizes with varying numbers of boiler pans. Choose a steam  
25 cooker that is of the appropriate size for the food service needs of the facility. A larger than  
26 necessary steam cooker may waste water and use excessive energy to heat unused  
27 compartment space.

28 When purchasing a new steam cooker or replacing an existing one, choose models that are  
29 Energy Star qualified<sup>64</sup>. Energy Star steam cookers meet cooking efficiency and maximum idle  
30 rate requirements and can typically save about 90 percent of the water used by a traditional  
31 steam cooker.

32 It should be noted that the cost differential between connectionless and boiler-based steamers  
33 is small. However, boiler-based steamers must have both water and sewer hookups and an  
34 RPZ backflow preventer, which can add several thousand dollars to the total installed cost of the  
35 steamer. In addition, the backflow preventer must be tested annually.

## 36 **Savings Potential**

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<sup>64</sup> [www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?fuseaction=find\\_a\\_product.showProductGroup&pgw\\_code=COC](http://www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?fuseaction=find_a_product.showProductGroup&pgw_code=COC)

1 Energy Star qualified steam cookers can achieve a 90 percent reduction in water use and use  
2 half as much energy as standard steam cookers.<sup>65</sup> Traditional boiler-based steam cookers may  
3 use as much as 40 gallons of water per hour. Switching to an Energy Star qualified steam  
4 cooker can reduce that water use to 3.0 gallons of water per hour or less. Assuming the steam  
5 cooker is used and operating 6.5 hours per day, 360 days per year<sup>66</sup>, an Energy Star qualified  
6 steam cooker may save as much as 86,000 gallons and 3,000 kilowatt-hour (kWh) per year<sup>67</sup>.

7  
8 Several methods and tools can be used to calculate facility-specific water, energy, and cost  
9 savings for replacing an existing boiler-based steam cooker with an Energy Star qualified  
10 model. In addition to the equations below, you can use one of the Food Service Technology  
11 Center’s life cycle and energy cost calculators<sup>68</sup>

12 *Current Water Use*

13 To estimate the current water use of a steam cooker, identify the following information and use  
14 Equation 1 below:

- 15 • Flow rate of the existing steam cooker.
- 16 • Average daily use time.
- 17 • Days of food service operation per year.

18  
19 **Equation 1:**  
20 Water Use of Steam Cooker (gallons/year) = Flow Rate per Hour (gallons/cycle) X Daily Use Time  
21 (hours/day) X Days of Operation per Year (days/year)

22  
23  
24 *Water Use After Retrofit or Replacement with Energy Star Qualified Steam Cooker*

25 To estimate the water use after retrofitting a boiler-based system or replacing an existing steam  
26 cooker, use Equation 1, substituting the flow rate of the new recirculating configuration or the  
27 Energy Star qualified steam cooker for the flow rate of the existing steam cooker.  
28

29 **Equation 2:**  
30 Water Use of Retrofitted System or Energy Star Qualified Steam Cooker (gallons/year) = Flow Rate per  
31 Hour (gallons/cycle) X Daily Use Time (hours/day) X Days of Operation per Year (days/year)

<sup>65</sup>ibid.  
<sup>66</sup> East Bay Municipal Utility District. 2008. “Turning up the Heat on Commercial Kitchen Water Savings”.  
[www.energystar.gov/ia/partners/downloads/meetings/water\\_Richard\\_Harris.pdf](http://www.energystar.gov/ia/partners/downloads/meetings/water_Richard_Harris.pdf)  
<sup>67</sup> U.S. EPA., Energy Star Life Cycle Cost Estimate for Qualified Electric Steam Cookers.  
<[www.energystar.gov/ia/business/bulk\\_purchasing/bpsavings\\_calc/Calc\\_Commercial\\_Steam\\_Cooker.xls](http://www.energystar.gov/ia/business/bulk_purchasing/bpsavings_calc/Calc_Commercial_Steam_Cooker.xls)>.  
<sup>68</sup> [www.fishnick.com/saveenergy/tools/calculators/](http://www.fishnick.com/saveenergy/tools/calculators/)

1 *Water Savings*

2 Determine the expected water savings by subtracting the water use after steam cooker retrofit  
3 or replacement from the current cooker water use.

4 *Potential Future Water Savings for California*

5 A 2005 report by the Food Service Technology Center<sup>69</sup> estimated that approximately 25,000  
6 compartment food steamers were installed in the state of California. As of 2005, the FSTC went  
7 on to estimate that the boilerless (connectionless) equipment only represented less than 5  
8 percent of that total, the remainder being boiler-based units. The FSTC concluded that about  
9 60 percent of the installed base were viable candidates for replacement with the very efficient  
10 units, or about 15,000 steamers<sup>70</sup>, and, if replaced, could yield an estimated 3,750 acre-feet of  
11 annual water savings.

12 *Payback*

13 To calculate the simple payback from retrofitting or replacing an existing steam cooker, identify  
14 the following information and use Equation 3 below:

- 15 • Purchase and installation cost of the retrofit or replacement steam cooker.
- 16 • Water savings as calculated in Equation 2.
- 17 • Facility-specific cost of water and wastewater.

18

<p>19 Equation 3:</p> <p>20 <math display="block">\text{Payback (years)} = \frac{\text{Equipment and Installation Cost (\\$)}}{(\text{Water Savings (gallons/year)} \times \text{Cost of Water and Wastewater (\\$/gallon)})}</math></p> <p>21</p>
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22

23 **CASE STUDY – IRVINE RANCH WATER DISTRICT**

24 In 2006, the Irvine Ranch Water District (IRWD) initiated a Restaurant Retrofit Package  
25 Program to install water conservation devices in restaurants that have been in operation at least  
26 five years. The targeted devices were connectionless food steamers and pre-rinse spray valves  
27 (1.6 gallons per minute). The goal of the program was to install 50 of each device in restaurants  
28 throughout the IRWD service area. IRWD was awarded an Enhanced Conservation Program  
29 grant from the Metropolitan Water District in December 2006. IRWD added to this funding and

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<sup>69</sup> Fisher-Nickel, Inc. and Koeller and Company, 2005. Evaluating the Water Savings Potential of Commercial “Connectionless” Food Steamers, Final Report, June. This report describes the very comprehensive field study of actual steamer installations and their water and energy consumption. Funded by Pacific Gas & Electric, East Bay Municipal Utilities District, and the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, the field work tracked water and energy consumption at 12 different food service operations in northern and southern California.

<sup>70</sup> It should be noted that not all boiler-based units could be replaced, due the need in some establishments for high production capacity, something the boilerless steamers are not yet equipped to provide.

1 leveraged existing Southern California Edison (SCE) energy rebates for food steamers to drive  
2 down the customer cost.

3 IRWD staff inspected customer's existing steamers to determine program eligibility. The new  
4 steamer and pre-rinse spray valves were installed by an installation company contracted with  
5 AccuTemp. The customer was invoiced for the installation cost and disposal costs for their old  
6 inefficient steamer, which totaled approximately \$750 per retrofit. IRWD was invoiced by  
7 AccuTemp for the total price of each retrofit. IRWD then invoiced MWD for reimbursement from  
8 the grant funds. Upon installation verification, the program participant signed over release of  
9 the SCE rebate to IRWD, which was then submitted to SCE for reimbursement. The program  
10 had a total of three customers participate, installing a combined total of five steamers.

11 Lifetime water savings per installed steamer amounted to 2.47 acre feet over the 10 year  
12 lifetime of the equipment. Therefore, the five steamers installed through the program saved a  
13 total of 12.35 AF over the 10 years.

14

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## 16 **Additional Resources**

17 Alliance for Water Efficiency. *Food Steamers Introduction*.

18 [www.allianceforwaterefficiency.org/1Column.aspx?id=642&terms=steam](http://www.allianceforwaterefficiency.org/1Column.aspx?id=642&terms=steam)

19 East Bay Municipal Utility District. *Watersmart Guidebook—A Water-Use Efficiency Plan Review Guide for New*  
20 *Businesses*. 2008. [www.ebmud.com/for-customers/conservation-rebates-and-services/commercial/watersmart-](http://www.ebmud.com/for-customers/conservation-rebates-and-services/commercial/watersmart-guidebook)  
21 [guidebook](http://www.ebmud.com/for-customers/conservation-rebates-and-services/commercial/watersmart-guidebook)

22 Fisher-Nickel, Inc. and Koeller and Company, 2005. Evaluating the Water Savings Potential of Commercial  
23 "Connectionless" Food Steamers, Final Report, June.

24 Food Service Technology Center. *Steamers*. [www.fishnick.com/savewater/appliances/steamers/](http://www.fishnick.com/savewater/appliances/steamers/)

25 Sydney Water, 2001. *Save Water, Money, and the Environment – Kitchens*.

26 <http://www.sydneywater.com.au/Publications/FactSheets/SavingWaterKitchens.pdf>

27 Sydney Water, 2006. *The Conserver: Water Cuts are on the Menu at McDonalds*.

28 <http://www.sydneywater.com.au/Publications/CaseStudies/HiltonConserver13.pdf>

29 Sydney Water, 2007. *The Conserver: No Water Wasted at the Mandarin*.

30 <http://www.sydneywater.com.au/Publications/CaseStudies/MandarinShoppingCentreConserver12.pdf>

31 U.S. EPA's Energy Star Program. *Commercial Steam Cookers*.

32 [www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?fuseaction=find\\_a\\_product.showProductGroup&pgw\\_code=COC#buying](http://www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?fuseaction=find_a_product.showProductGroup&pgw_code=COC#buying)

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# 1 Steam Kettles

## 2 Overview

3 Steam kettles are often selected for use in large food service facilities because, as with steam  
4 tables, temperatures can be more easily controlled, thereby preventing scorching the food.  
5 However, they should be installed only where large-volume food preparation justifies the water  
6 and energy use.

7 Steam kettles are either boiler-based or self-contained cooking appliances that use circulating  
8 steam to perform tasks similar to traditional stockpots, including boiling pasta and simmering  
9 sauces. Steam kettles may be preferable to traditional stockpots due to their rapid, uniform  
10 cooking and ease of control.

11 Steam kettles have a double wall that covers at least half of the height of the sides of the kettle.  
12 Steam is circulated within this double wall, or “jacket,” and it then condenses to transfer heat to  
13 the food product by means of conduction. Steam kettles range in size from 0.5 gallon to more  
14 than 200 gallons each.<sup>71</sup> Steam kettles may also be designed with tilting capability, strainers,  
15 and covers.

16 Boiler-based steam kettles rely on an external central boiler to deliver steam. These types of  
17 steam kettles are commonly found in industrial facilities with centrally located boilers. Boiler-  
18 based steam kettles require a regular “blow down” to remove condensate on the steam supply  
19 line and can consume more than 100,000 gallons of water per year. Returning condensate to  
20 the boiler as makeup water can reduce this water consumption.<sup>72</sup>

21 Self-contained steam kettles rely on their own heat source to generate steam under pressure  
22 (Figure 7X). Self-contained steam kettles use less water and energy than boiler-based steam  
23 kettles, because they do not require significant blow down water. Boiler water must be dumped  
24 at the end of the day to prevent mineral build up. They also require de-liming on a regular basis  
25 and regular manual venting and refilling.<sup>73</sup>

26

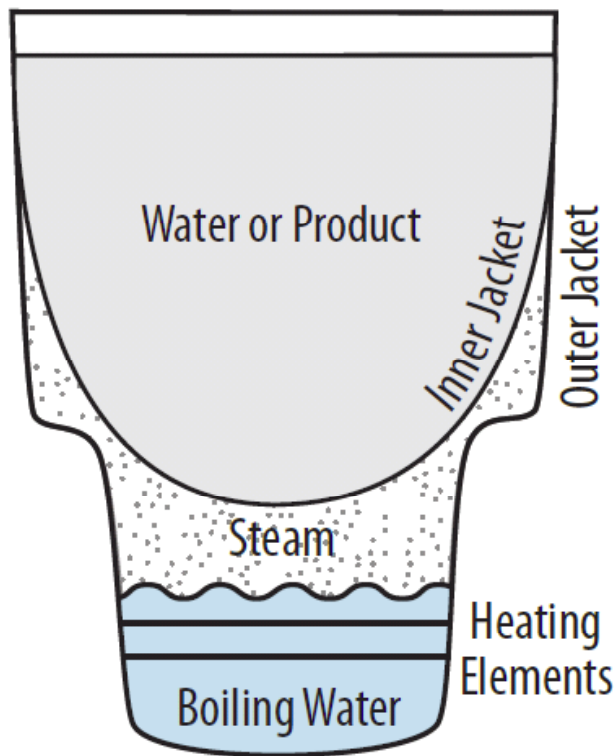
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<sup>71</sup> Cornell University New York State Agricultural Experiment Station. 2007. Steam Kettles in Food Processing: Small Scale Food Entrepreneur. [www.nysaes.cornell.edu/necfe/pubs/pdf/FactSheets/FS\\_SteamKettles.pdf](http://www.nysaes.cornell.edu/necfe/pubs/pdf/FactSheets/FS_SteamKettles.pdf)

<sup>72</sup> East Bay Municipal Utility District. 2008. *Watersmart Guidebook—A Water-Use Efficiency Plan Review Guide for New Businesses*. Page FOOD6.

<sup>73</sup> Cornell University New York State Agricultural Experiment Station. 2007. Steam Kettles in Food Processing: Small Scale Food Entrepreneur. [www.nysaes.cornell.edu/necfe/pubs/pdf/FactSheets/FS\\_SteamKettles.pdf](http://www.nysaes.cornell.edu/necfe/pubs/pdf/FactSheets/FS_SteamKettles.pdf)

Figure X. Self-Contained Steam Kettle



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3 The American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM International) developed a performance  
4 test for direct steam and self-contained gas or electric steam kettles. *ASTM F1785-97*,  
5 Standard Test Method for Performance of Steam Kettles, measures the energy consumption  
6 and cooking performance of steam kettles. This test method can be used to choose an  
7 appropriately sized kettle based on the operation's food output and can maximize kettle  
8 efficiency.

9

#### 10 **Operation, Maintenance, and User Education**

11 For optimum steam kettle efficiency, consider the following:

- 12 • Regularly monitor self-contained steam kettle water levels and maintain control  
13 components to ensure efficient operation.
- 14 • Turn the steam kettle down or off between uses.
- 15 • Secure the steam kettle lid whenever possible to reduce the amount of energy required  
16 for simmering and boiling.
- 17 • If using a boiler-based steam kettle, ensure that the central boiler system is maintained  
18 properly in accordance with the *Boiler and Steam Systems BMP*.

1

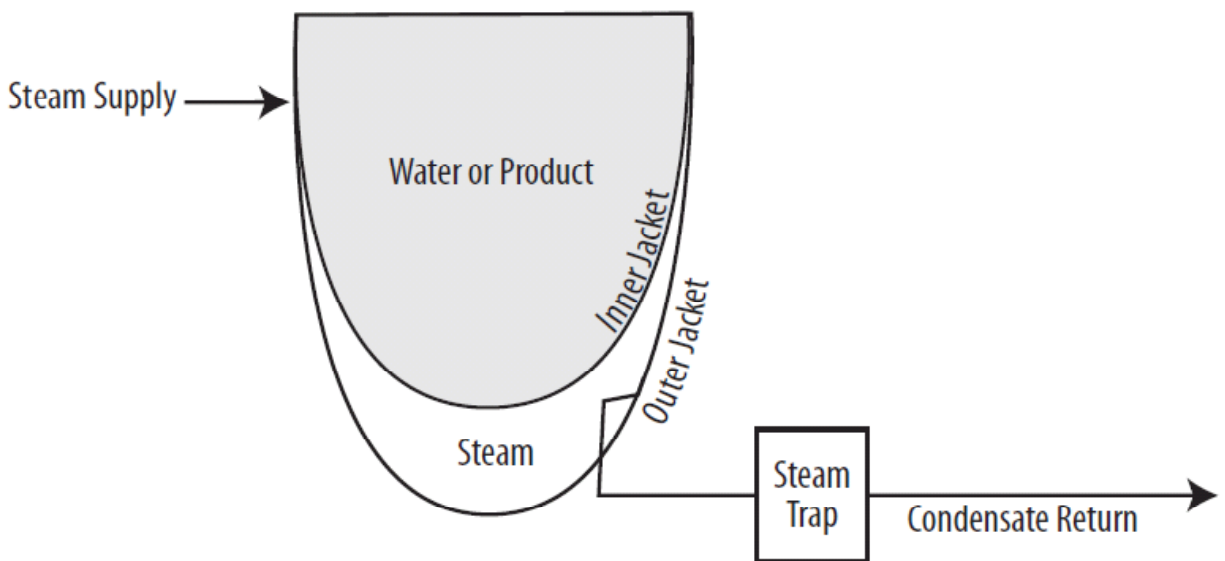
## 2 **Retrofit Options**

3 The major water-saving potential for boiler-based steam kettles is for the condensate to be  
4 retained and returned to the boiler.

5 A condensate return system can be installed to direct the condensate back into the central  
6 boiler system for reuse (Figure X). This process will improve both water and energy efficiency,  
7 because the condensate can be used as boiler makeup water. Packaged condensate return  
8 systems can be purchased from most steam equipment suppliers; plumb them directly into an  
9 existing system. Condensate return systems cost about \$3,000. There are additional costs for  
10 piping and other installation requirements. Insulating condensate return lines will further  
11 improve efficiency.

12

Figure X. Boiler-Type Steam Kettle



13

14

15 There are currently no retrofit options available on the market to increase the efficiency of self-  
16 contained steam kettles.

## 17 **Replacement Options**

18 When purchasing a new steam kettle or replacing an old one, consider the steaming needs of  
19 the kitchen. For smaller steaming needs, consider self-contained steam kettles without an  
20 external boiler, which use less water and energy than boiler-based steam kettles. If daily  
21 operations require a boiler-based steam kettle, consider a model with a condensate return

1 system. Choose a steam kettle with a properly sized steam trap to prevent inadvertent dumping  
2 of condensate.

### 3 **Savings Potential**

4 Retrofitting or replacing existing steam kettles can yield operational water savings. For a boiler-  
5 based steam kettle, water savings achieved by returning the condensate to the boiler can be  
6 substantial. However, actual water savings are difficult to approximate because the water use  
7 of a steam kettle varies based upon its size and the pressure of the steam. According to the  
8 East Bay Municipal Utility District, condensate return systems cost approximately \$3,000 and  
9 have an estimated product life of 10 years.<sup>74</sup>

#### 10 *Current Water Use*

11 To estimate the water use of a steam kettle, identify the following information and use Equation  
12 1 below:

- 13 • Flow rate of the existing steam kettle calculated using the capacity of the kettle (gal) and  
14 the pressure of the steam (psi)
- 15 • Average daily use time in the food service operation.
- 16 • Days of food service operation per year.

17

18 *Equation 1:*

19 Water Use of Boiler-Based Steam Cooker (gallons/year) = Flow Rate per Hour (gallons/cycle) X Daily  
20 Use Time (hours/day) X Days of Operation per Year (days/year)

21

#### 22 *Water Use After Retrofit or Replacement*

23 To estimate the water use after retrofitting or replacing an existing steam kettle, use Equation 1,  
24 substituting the flow rate of the new configuration or new system for the flow rate of the existing  
25 steam kettle.

#### 26 *Water Savings*

27 Determine the expected water savings by subtracting the water use after steam kettle retrofit or  
28 replacement from the current kettle water use.

#### 29 *Payback*

30 To calculate the simple payback from replacing an existing steam kettle, identify the following  
31 information and use Equation 2 below:

- 32 • Purchase and installation cost of the replacement steam kettle.
- 33 • Water savings as calculated above..

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<sup>74</sup> East Bay Municipal Utility District. 2008. *Watersmart Guidebook—A Water-Use Efficiency Plan Review Guide for New Businesses*. Page FOOD6.



- 1 • Facility-specific cost of water and wastewater.

2

3

Equation 2:

4

$$\text{Payback (years)} = \frac{\text{Equipment and Installation Cost (\$)}}{\text{(Water Savings (gallons/year) X Cost of Water and Wastewater (\$/gallon))}}$$

5

6

## 7 **Additional Resources**

8 Cornell University New York State Agricultural Experiment Station. 2007. Steam Kettles in Food Processing: Small  
9 Scale Food Entrepreneur. [www.nysaes.cornell.edu/necfe/pubs/pdf/FactSheets/FS\\_SteamKettles.pdf](http://www.nysaes.cornell.edu/necfe/pubs/pdf/FactSheets/FS_SteamKettles.pdf)

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11 *Businesses*. [www.ebmud.com/for-customers/conservation-rebates-and-services/commercial/watersmart-guidebook](http://www.ebmud.com/for-customers/conservation-rebates-and-services/commercial/watersmart-guidebook)

12 Food Service Technology Center. 2009. Steam Kettles.  
13 <http://www.fishnick.com/equipment/appliancetypes/steamkettles>

14 Robert M. Kerr Food & Agricultural Products Center. Food Technology Fact Sheet – Steam Kettle Hookup.  
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16 Sydney Water, 2001. *Save Water, Money, and the Environment – Kitchens*.

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18 Sydney Water, 2007. *The Conserver: No Water Wasted at the Mandarin*.  
19 <http://www.sydneywater.com.au/Publications/CaseStudies/MandarinShoppingCentreConserver12.pdf>

20 U.S. Department of Energy, Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy, Federal Energy Management Program. 2009.  
21 Best Management Practice: Commercial Kitchen Equipment.  
22 [www1.eere.energy.gov/femp/program/waterefficiency\\_bmp11.html](http://www1.eere.energy.gov/femp/program/waterefficiency_bmp11.html)

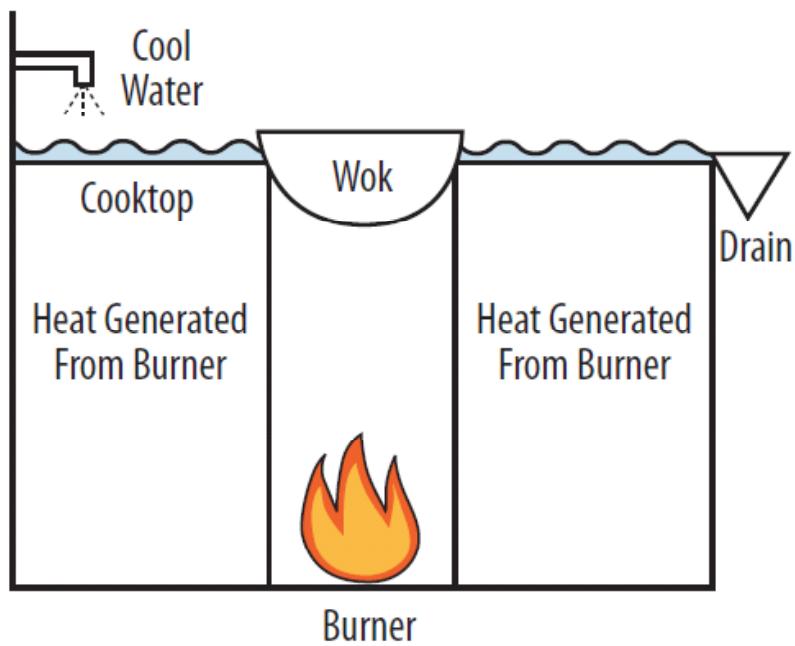
23

1 **Wok Stoves**

2 **Overview**

3 A wok stove is a Chinese pit-style stove that has a wok (or multiple woks) recessed into the  
4 stove top, allowing heat to be fully directed onto the bottom of the wok. Conventional wok stoves  
5 use water for both cooling and cleaning.<sup>75</sup> In a conventional wok stove, the burner chimney and  
6 ring are affixed to the top of the stove; as a result, heat is trapped under the cook top. Water jets  
7 are installed to enable cooling water to flow at approximately 1.0 gpm per burner across the  
8 cook top to absorb the heat. **Figure 7X** illustrates the design of a water-cooled wok stove.

Figure X. Water-Cooled Wok Stove



9  
10  
11  
12

<sup>75</sup> Sydney Water. Wok Stoves. [www.sydneywater.com.au/Publications/Factsheets/Wok\\_stove\\_fact\\_sheet.pdf](http://www.sydneywater.com.au/Publications/Factsheets/Wok_stove_fact_sheet.pdf)

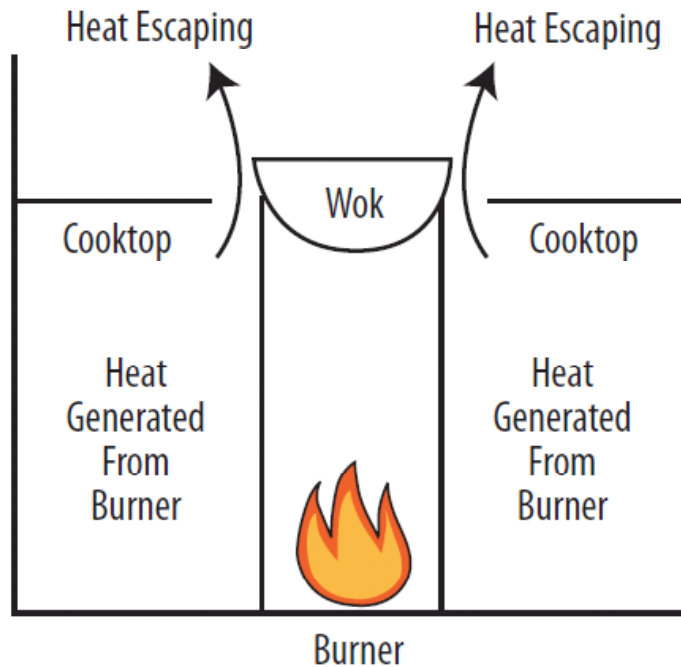


Wok Stoves

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Waterless wok stoves, a relatively new technology, are cooled with air, and thus do not require the use of cooling water. These wok stoves function by creating an air gap between the burner chimney and ring and the top of the stove so that the heat can be released directly from beneath the cook top and vented to the kitchen exhaust (Figure X). Waterless wok stoves can further reduce water use if they are outfitted with a rinsing spout that shuts off the water supply when it is not needed for wok cleaning.

Figure X .One Type of Air-Cooled Wok Stove



1

2

3 Another new wok stove technology connects to the building chilled water loop or uses a point-  
4 of-use chiller. These systems provide chilled water to the wok stove to reduce the temperature  
5 of the cook top. This type of wok stove has an internal backup water-using system in the event  
6 that the recirculated chilled water is not available.

7 Some conventional wok stoves are outfitted with a reservoir to provide water used for cooking,  
8 which is typically left running even when it is full. Waterless wok stoves may have a mechanism  
9 to limit both the flow rate and duration of flow to this reservoir.<sup>76</sup>

10 By replacing conventional wok stoves with waterless models and/or reducing the flow rate and  
11 duration of rinse and reservoir spouts, facilities could save 90 percent of the water required for  
12 cooking and cleaning.

13

#### 14 **Operation, Maintenance, and User Education**

15 For optimum wok stove efficiency, consider the following:

<sup>76</sup> Alliance for Water Efficiency. 2010. Waterless Wok Introduction.  
[www.allianceforwaterefficiency.org/1Column.aspx?id=700](http://www.allianceforwaterefficiency.org/1Column.aspx?id=700)

- 1 • Encourage cooking staff to turn off rinse and reservoir spouts when not in use.
- 2 • Inspect and ensure that the shutoff valves for the rinse and reservoir spouts are in
- 3 working order.
- 4 • Shut off the cooling water when the wok stove is not in use, especially at the end of each
- 5 day.
- 6 • Routinely check cooling water lines for leaks and corrosion.

7

## 8 **Retrofit Options**

9 If retrofitting an existing conventional wok stove, check to see if rinse spouts can be replaced  
10 with spouts that automatically shut off or that can switch off when pushed back away from the  
11 wok.

## 12 **Replacement Options**

13 When purchasing a new wok stove or looking to replace an existing conventional wok stove,  
14 look for models that are considered waterless, which will be air-cooled instead of water-cooled.  
15 Waterless wok stoves may use about 2 percent more energy than a conventional wok stove,<sup>77</sup>  
16 but they can save more than 90 percent of the water used. Also, look for waterless models that  
17 have automatic shutoff rinse and reservoir spouts and/or knee-operated timer taps to limit both  
18 the flow rate and duration of the flow.

## 19 **Savings Potential**

20 During the course of a 12-hour day, a conventional wok stove with one burner can use more  
21 than 700 gallons of water. In addition to the water used for cooling, the woks must also be  
22 rinsed between uses, which can require 500 to 800 gallons of water per day, particularly if the  
23 rinsing spout is left constantly running. Studies have shown that daily average water use of a  
24 conventional wok stove is 1,400 to 2,000 gallons per day.<sup>78</sup> The savings could add up to more  
25 than \$3,500 in avoided water and sewer costs each year, which could provide payback for the  
26 cost of the new equipment in as few as one to two years.<sup>79</sup>

27 Water savings can be achieved through two mechanisms: eliminating the use of cooling water  
28 by switching from a water-cooled to an air-cooled waterless wok stove *or* by reducing the flow  
29 rate and duration of use of rinse and reservoir spouts. To estimate facility-specific water savings  
30 and payback, use the following information:

## 31 Wok Stove Retrofit

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<sup>77</sup> International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials. 2010. Green Newsletter. 2010's Top-5 New and Innovative Water Efficient Products. <[http://forms.iapmo.org/newsletter/green/2010/05/2010\\_Top5.asp](http://forms.iapmo.org/newsletter/green/2010/05/2010_Top5.asp)>

<sup>78</sup> Sydney Water. Wok Stoves. <[www.sydneywater.com.au/Publications/Factsheets/Wok\\_stove\\_fact\\_sheet.pdf](http://www.sydneywater.com.au/Publications/Factsheets/Wok_stove_fact_sheet.pdf)>.

<sup>79</sup> Estimate *assumes* an annual savings of approximately 500,000 gallons; from Sydney Water. Wok Stoves. [www.sydneywater.com.au/Publications/Factsheets/Wok\\_stove\\_fact\\_sheet.pdf](http://www.sydneywater.com.au/Publications/Factsheets/Wok_stove_fact_sheet.pdf). Also assumes a water and sewer rate of \$7.16 per 1,000 gallons; from Raftelis Financial Consulting. 2008. *Water and Wastewater Rate Survey*. American Water Works Association.

1 Woks must be rinsed between uses and reservoir spouts are often filled to provide water used  
2 in cooking. These rinse and reservoir spouts can require 500 to 800 gallons of water per day,  
3 particularly if they are left continuously running. Reducing the flow rate of rinse and reservoir  
4 spouts and the duration of their use can significantly reduce this water use. Use the following  
5 information to estimate water savings and payback potential that may be achieved with this type  
6 of retrofit:

7 *Current Water Use*

8 To estimate the current water use of the existing wok stove rinse and reservoir spouts, identify  
9 the following information and use Equation 1 below:

- 10 • Flow rate of each rinse and reservoir spout.
  - 11 • Average daily use time of rinse and reservoir spouts.
  - 12 • Days of food service operation per year.
- 13

14 *Equation 1:*

$$\text{Water Use of a Wok Stove Rinse and Reservoir Spout (gallons/year)} = \text{Flow Rate (gpm)} \times \text{Daily Use Time (minutes/day)} \times \text{Days of Facility Operation (days/year)}$$

17

18 *Water Use After Retrofit*

19 To estimate the water use of more efficient rinse and reservoir spouts, use Equation 1,  
20 substituting the flow rate of the retrofit rinse and reservoir spouts.

21 *Water Savings*

22 Determine the expected water savings by subtracting the water use after retrofit of the spouts  
23 from the current water use.

24 *Payback*

25 To calculate the simple payback from retrofitting an existing wok stove with more efficient rinse  
26 and reservoir spouts, identify the following information and use Equation 2 below:

- 27 • Equipment and installation cost of the retrofit rinse and reservoir spouts.
- 28 • Water savings as calculated using Equation 1.
- 29 • Facility-specific cost of water and wastewater.

30 *Equation 2:*

$$\text{Payback (years)} = \text{Equipment and Installation Cost (\$)} / (\text{Water Savings (gallons/year)} \times \text{Cost of Water and Wastewater (\$/gallon)})$$

32

1 Wok Stove Replacement

2 During the course of a 12-hour day, a conventional water-cooled wok stove can use more than  
3 700 gallons of water. Switching to a waterless wok or one that uses recirculated chilled water  
4 can eliminate the use of single-pass cooling water, thereby reducing the wok stove's total water  
5 use by as much as 90 percent, resulting in savings of over 250,000 gallons per year. Waterless  
6 wok stoves cost approximately \$10,000 to \$12,000, excluding installation. As such, it is unlikely  
7 that a conventional food service operation can recoup the initial cost of the equipment in an  
8 acceptable period of time. Use the following information to estimate water savings and payback  
9 potential that may be achieved by replacing a conventional wok stove with a waterless wok  
10 stove or one that uses recirculated chilled water:

11 *Current Water Use*

12 To estimate the water used for cooling of a waterless wok stove, identify the following  
13 information and use Equation 3 below:

- 14 • Flow rate of the cooling water. This flow rate is typically 1 gpm.
  - 15 • Average daily use time.
  - 16 • Days of food service operation per year.
- 17

18 *Equation 3:*

19 Water Use of Wok Stove Cooling Water (gallons/year) = Flow Rate (gallons/minute) X Daily Use Time  
20 (minutes/day) X Days of Facility Operation (days/year)

21

22 *Water Savings*

23 Determine the expected water savings by subtracting the water use after replacement with a  
24 waterless wok from the current water use.

25

26 *Payback*

27 To calculate the simple payback from replacing an existing conventional wok stove with a  
28 waterless unit, identify the following and use Equation 2 above:

- 29 • Equipment and installation cost of the replacement waterless wok stove or one that uses  
30 recirculated chilled water. Units that use chilled water cost between over \$10,000,  
31 excluding installation. Verify costs before deciding to replace and existing conventional  
32 wok stove.
  - 33 • Water savings as calculated using above.
  - 34 • Facility-specific cost of water and wastewater.
- 35

1 **Additional Resources**

2 Alliance for Water Efficiency. 2010. Waterless Wok Introduction.

3 [www.allianceforwaterefficiency.org/1Column.aspx?id=700](http://www.allianceforwaterefficiency.org/1Column.aspx?id=700)

4

5 City West Water Limited. Woking the Way to Water Savings.

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7 Food Service Technology Center, 2010. *Wok Water Saver Performance Test*, FSTC Report 50130940, for Pacific  
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10 *Innovative Water Efficient Products*. [http://forms.iapmo.org/newsletter/green/2010/05/2010\\_Top5.asp](http://forms.iapmo.org/newsletter/green/2010/05/2010_Top5.asp)

11 Sydney Water, 2005. *Save Water, Money, and the Environment – Wok Stoves*.

12 <http://www.sydneywater.com.au/Publications/FactSheets/SavingWaterKitchens.pdf>

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14 <http://www.sydneywater.com.au/Publications/FactSheets/SavingWaterKitchens.pdf>

15

16

17



# 1 **Washing and sanitation**

## 2 **Overview**

3 Washing floors in food-service establishments can use large quantities of water. The common  
4 practice has been to mop the kitchen floor with soapy water, then use a high-pressure hose with  
5 hot water to rinse the soapy water into the floor drain. This process uses large amounts of  
6 water, as well as energy to heat the water, and has a tendency to splash dirty water onto clean  
7 equipment. Some literature reports that water use for floor cleaning in a large commercial  
8 kitchen can be in the range of 1,000 to 1,500 gallons a day.

9 One of the items used to perform cleaning in food service operations is the wash-down sprayer.  
10 These sprayers consist of hoses and nozzles used for a variety of cleaning purposes, including  
11 washing countertops, floors, mats, and other kitchen areas. Wash-down sprayers use large  
12 volumes of water to provide a high-pressure stream capable of cleaning dirt and residue from  
13 surfaces.

14 A wash-down sprayer features a nozzle attached to a hose, which, in turn, is connected to the  
15 potable water supply. Wash-down sprayers typically deliver flow rates of 7 gpm,<sup>80</sup> while heavy-  
16 duty hoses used without nozzles can deliver higher flow rates from 9 to 20 gpm.<sup>81</sup>

17 Because wash-down sprayers are not water efficient for cleaning tasks, using another cleaning  
18 method could be a viable alternative. These cleaning methods (e.g., mopping or sweeping) are  
19 able to perform the same tasks yet require significantly less water or no water at all. If  
20 implementing new cleaning methods is not feasible, replacement options exist that use lower  
21 flow rates than wash-down sprayers, including pressure washers and water brooms.

## 22 **Operation, Maintenance, and User Education**

23 For optimum wash-down sprayer efficiency, consider the following:

- 24 • Only use wash-down sprayers to clean floors, countertops, and other surfaces. Do not  
25 use wash-down sprayers to clean dishware, which should be cleaned with pre-rinse  
26 spray valves.
- 27 • Any conventional floor cleaning system with a hot-water hose should, at a minimum,  
28 have a self-closing valve. If the wash-down sprayer does not have such a valve, shut off  
29 the water supply when the sprayer is not in use.
- 30 • For floor washing applications, consider using a broom and dust pan to clean up solid  
31 waste and/or using a mop and squeegee instead of a wash-down sprayer.
- 32 • Use floor-cleaning machines that are equipped with a water tank.

33

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<sup>80</sup> Food Service Technology Center. Water Conservation Measures for Commercial Food Service.

[www.fishnick.com/savewater/bestpractices/Water\\_Conservation\\_in\\_CFS.pdf](http://www.fishnick.com/savewater/bestpractices/Water_Conservation_in_CFS.pdf)

<sup>81</sup> U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Energy Star program. *Best Practices—How To Achieve the Most Efficient Use of Water in Commercial Food Service Facilities.*

[www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=healthcare.fisher\\_nickel\\_feb\\_2005](http://www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=healthcare.fisher_nickel_feb_2005)

1 **Retrofit Options**

2 If a high-flowing wash-down sprayer hose is used without a nozzle, consider installing a self-  
3 closing nozzle. This nozzle can reduce a 10-20 gpm flow to 7 gpm or less and prevent water  
4 waste when the wash-down sprayer is not in use.

5 **Replacement Options**

6 There are several replacement options for wash down sprayers. For certain applications, wash  
7 down sprayers may be replaced with mopping or sweeping, which require little or no water.

8 Pressure washers serve as a viable replacement option for facilities that rely on the washing  
9 capability of wash-down sprayers. Pressure washers typically operate at flow rates of 3 gpm or  
10 less at high pressure and often outperform wash-down sprayers in cleaning ability.

11 For surface cleaning applications, water brooms can replace existing wash-down sprayers.  
12 Water brooms have wide spray patterns with multiple jets that can clean more efficiently than a  
13 wash-down sprayer and use significantly less water.<sup>82</sup>

14 **Savings Potential**

15 Water savings can be achieved through retrofit or replacement. Existing high flowing wash-  
16 down sprayers can be retrofitted with a self-closing nozzle. Wash-down sprayers can be  
17 replaced with a pressure washer or water broom.

18 Wash-Down Sprayer Retrofit

19 Installing a self-closing nozzle on a high-flowing wash-down sprayer to reduce the water flow  
20 can result in sprayer water savings between 40,000 to 280,000 gallons per year. Nozzle retrofits  
21 cost approximately \$100; therefore, a facility saving 40,000 gallons per year could recoup the  
22 initial cost of the retrofit equipment in less than one year.<sup>83</sup> To estimate facility-specific savings  
23 and payback use the following information:

24 *Current Water Use*

25 To estimate the current water use of an existing wash-down sprayer without a nozzle, identify  
26 the following information and use Equation 1 below:

- 27 • Flow rate of the existing, high-flowing wash-down sprayer without a nozzle. Most high-  
28 flowing wash-down sprayers have flow rates between 9 and 20 gpm.<sup>84</sup>
- 29 • Average daily use time in the food service operation.
- 30 • Days of food service operation per year.

31

<i>Equation 1:</i>
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<sup>82</sup> Food Service Technology Center. Water Conservation Measures for Commercial Food Service. [www.fishnick.com/savewater/bestpractices/Water\\_Conservation\\_in\\_CFS.pdf](http://www.fishnick.com/savewater/bestpractices/Water_Conservation_in_CFS.pdf)

<sup>83</sup> Assumes a water and sewer rate of \$7.16 per 1,000 gallons. Raftelis Financial Consulting. 2008. *Water and Wastewater Rate Survey*. American Water Works Association.

<sup>84</sup> East Bay Municipal Utility District. 2008. *Watersmart Guidebook—A Water-Use Efficiency Plan Review Guide for New Businesses*. Pages FOOD8-FOOD9. [www.ebmud.com/for-customers/conservation-rebates-and-services/commercial/watersmart-guidebook](http://www.ebmud.com/for-customers/conservation-rebates-and-services/commercial/watersmart-guidebook)

1 Water Use of a Wash Down Sprayer or Water Broom (gallons/year) = Flow Rate (gallons/minute) X Daily  
2 Use Time (minutes/day) X Days of Facility Operation (days/year)

3 *Water Use After Retrofit*

4 To estimate the water use after installing a nozzle on an existing wash-down sprayer without a  
5 nozzle, use Equation 1, substituting the flow rate of the new nozzle. Self-closing nozzles often  
6 flow at a rate of 7 gpm.<sup>85</sup>

7 *Water Savings*

8 Determine the expected water savings by subtracting the water use before nozzle retrofit or  
9 replacement from the current wash-down water use.

10 *Payback*

11 To calculate the simple payback for the wash-down sprayer retrofit, identify the following  
12 information and use Equation 2 below:

- 13 • Equipment and installation cost of the self-closing nozzle. Self-closing nozzles typically  
14 cost \$100.
- 15 • Water savings as calculated using Equation 1.
- 16 • Facility-specific cost of water and wastewater.

17 *Equation 2:*

18 Payback (years) = Equipment and Installation Cost (\$) / (Water Savings (gallons/year) X Cost of Water  
19 and Wastewater (\$/gallons))  
20

21 Wash-Down Sprayer Replacement

22  
23 Replacing a wash-down sprayer with a pressure washer or water broom can result in water  
24 savings between 100,000 and 400,000 gallons per year. Pressure washers and water brooms  
25 typically cost in the range of \$100 to \$200; therefore, a facility saving 100,000 gallons per year  
26 could recoup the initial cost of the retrofit equipment in less than one year.<sup>86</sup> To estimate facility-  
27 specific savings and payback use the following information:  
28

29 *Current Water Use*

30 To estimate the current water use of an existing wash-down sprayer, use Equation 1.  
31

32 *Water Use After Replacement*  
33

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<sup>85</sup> Food Service Technology Center. Water Conservation Measures for Commercial Food Service.  
[www.fishnick.com/savewater/bestpractices/Water\\_Conservation\\_in\\_CFS.pdf](http://www.fishnick.com/savewater/bestpractices/Water_Conservation_in_CFS.pdf)

<sup>86</sup> Assumes a water and sewer rate of \$7.16 per 1,000 gallons. Raftelis Financial Consulting. 2008. *Water and Wastewater Rate Survey*. American Water Works Association.

1 To estimate the water use of a replacement pressure washer or water broom, use Equation 1,  
2 substituting the flow rate of the new device. Water brooms can use as little as 2 gpm.<sup>87</sup>  
3 Pressure washers flow at similar flow rates using high water pressure.

4  
5 *Water Savings*

6 Determine the expected water savings by subtracting the water use after replacement from the  
7 current wash-down water use.

8 *Payback*

9 To calculate the simple payback for the wash-down sprayer replacement, use Equation 2,  
10 substituting the cost of the pressure washer or water broom for the cost of the retrofit self-  
11 closing nozzle.

12  
13 **Additional Resources**

14 American Water Works Association (Raftelis Financial Consulting). 2008. *Water and Wastewater Rate Survey*.

15 East Bay Municipal Utility District. 2008. *Watersmart Guidebook—A Water-Use Efficiency Plan Review Guide for New*  
16 *Businesses*. Pages FOOD8-FOOD9. [www.ebmud.com/for-customers/conservation-rebates-and-](http://www.ebmud.com/for-customers/conservation-rebates-and-services/commercial/watersmart-guidebook)  
17 [services/commercial/watersmart-guidebook](http://www.ebmud.com/for-customers/conservation-rebates-and-services/commercial/watersmart-guidebook)>.

18 Food Service Technology Center. *Water Conservation Measures for Commercial Food Service*.  
19 [www.fishnick.com/savewater/bestpractices/Water\\_Conservation\\_in\\_CFS.pdf](http://www.fishnick.com/savewater/bestpractices/Water_Conservation_in_CFS.pdf)

20 Food Service Technology Center. *Water, Water Everywhere and Not a Drop to Waste*.  
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22 Sydney Water, 2001. *Save Water, Money, and the Environment – Kitchens*.

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24 Sydney Water, 2006. *The Conserver: Water Cuts are on the Menu at McDonalds*.

25 <http://www.sydneywater.com.au/Publications/CaseStudies/HiltonConserver13.pdf>

26 Sydney Water, 2007. *The Conserver: No Water Wasted at the Mandarin*.

27 <http://www.sydneywater.com.au/Publications/CaseStudies/MandarinShoppingCentreConserver12.pdf>

28 U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Energy Star program. *Best Practices—How To Achieve the Most Efficient*  
29 *Use of Water in Commercial Food Service Facilities*.

30 [www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=healthcare.fisher\\_nickel\\_feb\\_2005](http://www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=healthcare.fisher_nickel_feb_2005)

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<sup>87</sup> Food Service Technology Center. *Water Conservation Measures for Commercial Food Service*.  
[www.fishnick.com/savewater/bestpractices/Water\\_Conservation\\_in\\_CFS.pdf](http://www.fishnick.com/savewater/bestpractices/Water_Conservation_in_CFS.pdf)

# 1 7A2: Fabric Cleaning and Washing Equipment

## 2 Overview

3

### 4 *General*

5 The type of equipment used in commercial laundry operations depends upon the type of laundry  
6 facility, the total quantity and type of laundry to be cleaned, and the frequency that cleaning is  
7 needed. Several different CII applications exist, each of which uses a different type of wash  
8 equipment:

- 9 • Self-service (coin- or card-operated) commercial laundromats provide a centralized  
10 location where individual consumers can bring their personal laundry. These types of  
11 laundry facilities typically use commercial single-load, residential-style washers and  
12 multi-load washers not commonly found in homes.
- 13 • On-premises laundries - OPLs (institutional), on the other hand, are on-site facilities  
14 dedicated to washing fabrics used at the location. They are typically found in facilities  
15 such as hotels, food and beverage manufacturers, hospitals, nursing homes,  
16 incarceration facilities, athletic facilities, and universities.
- 17 • Industrial laundries are typically centralized contract laundries that launder fabrics from  
18 other businesses, usually in high volume, such as uniform, diaper, and linen services, as  
19 well as other specialized apparel and fabrics.

20 Industrial laundries and on-premises laundries tend to use large, multi-load washers and washer  
21 extractors. These same operations may also use tunnel washers. Specific types of commercial  
22 laundry equipment are discussed in more detail below.

23 Recent advances in commercial laundry equipment include the availability of more efficient  
24 equipment, water recycling (internal and external to the machines), and ozone technologies.  
25 Each has provided options for reducing water use in commercial laundry operations.

### 26 *Technical Feasibility*

27 All of the practices, products and technologies described within this report section have been in  
28 existence for an extended period of time and found to be technically feasible. In each case,  
29 however, economic feasibility must be evaluated within the context of the physical condition and  
30 demands of the specific property or building being considered for high-efficiency fabric cleaning  
31 operations.

### 32 **Commercial Coin- and Card-Operated Washers**

33 Commercial coin- and card-operated single-load washers are similar to conventional,  
34 residential-style clothes washing machines. Top loading, soft mount (not bolted to the floor)  
35 machines have dominated this market, although they are being phased out and replaced by  
36 more efficient, front-loading machines. Multi-load machines are now appearing in many  
37 laudromats (supplementing single-loaders) as a means to achieve economies of scale (reduced

1 machine footprint, greater water and energy efficiency, and increased revenue per square foot  
2 of store).

3

4

1 Single-Load Clothes Washers

2 The Energy Policy Act (EPAAct) of 2005 and subsequent rulings require that commercial coin- or  
3 card-operated single-load, soft-mount residential-style laundry equipment meet the following  
4 requirements<sup>88</sup>:

5 Top loading machine: Water factor (WF) of 8.5 gallons per cycle per cubic foot of  
6 capacity and a modified energy factor (MEF) of at least 1.6 cubic feet per kilowatt-hour  
7 (kWh) per cycle.

8 Front loading machine: WF of 5.5 gallons per cycle per cubic foot of capacity and an  
9 MEF of at least 2.0 cubic feet per kilowatt-hour (kWh) per cycle

10 To address efficiency and advances in commercial clothes washers, Energy Star has developed  
11 voluntary criteria to further qualify high-efficiency clothes washers to earn their Energy Star  
12 label. As of January 8, 2013, Energy Star qualified washers  
13 (<http://www.energystar.gov/products>) must not exceed a WF of 4.5 gallons per cycle per  
14 cubic foot of capacity and must have an MEF of no less than 2.2<sup>89</sup>.

15

16 Multi-Load Washers

17 In addition to the single-load machines, some commercial laundromats are also equipped with  
18 coin- or card-operated multi-load capacity washers. These types of machines are not regulated  
19 for water use by EPAAct 2005 or DOE. Multi-load machines may be top- or front-loaded, hard  
20 mount (bolted to the floor) or conventional soft mount machines with capacities often exceeding  
21 80 pounds per load (as compared to less than 20 pounds per load for a conventional single-load  
22 machine). Unlike the conventional machines, multi-load machines must be programmed to  
23 control settings (e.g., number of cycles, water levels per cycle). These settings can dictate the  
24 amount of water used by the machine and can be adjusted to improve efficiency.

25

---

<sup>88</sup> These updated requirements are effective January 8, 2013. See:  
[www1.eere.energy.gov/buildings/appliance\\_standards/commercial/clothes\\_washers.html](http://www1.eere.energy.gov/buildings/appliance_standards/commercial/clothes_washers.html)

<sup>89</sup> For information on Energy Star-qualified commercial clothes washers see  
[www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?fuseaction=find\\_a\\_product.showProductGroup&pgw\\_code=CCW](http://www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?fuseaction=find_a_product.showProductGroup&pgw_code=CCW)



1

2

3

Typical installation of multi-load clothes washing machines



1 **Washer Extractors**

2 Washer extractors are similar to multi-load washers, but they can be significantly larger, with  
3 capacities ranging from 30 to 800 pounds of laundry per load. Commonly used in OPLs<sup>90</sup>,  
4 washer extractors remove water and detergent from clothes using high-speed, centrifugal force  
5 spin cycles and are only configured with a horizontal front-loading axis. Washer extractor  
6 efficiency is usually measured in gallons of water per pound of fabric, as opposed to gallons per  
7 cubic foot for commercial coin- or card-operated washers. Today's high-efficiency washer  
8 extractors reuse water multiple times within the wash-rinse cycle to achieve both water and  
9 energy efficiency.

10 Washer-extractors are designed to wash everything from relatively clean hotel towels and  
11 bedding to heavily soiled items from nursing homes and commercial kitchens. One significant  
12 difference between a washer extractor and a coin- or card-operated commercial washer is the  
13 ability to significantly vary the number of wash cycles. For example, washing lightly soiled  
14 sheets at a hotel may only require a three-cycle operation consisting of wash (detergent),  
15 bleach and rinse cycles. More heavily soiled laundry may require additional cycles including a  
16 first flush, an alkali cycle to adjust the pH, a wash cycle, a bleach cycle, several rinse cycles,  
17 another pH adjustment to return the pH to neutral, and a final rinse cycle. With each cycle,  
18 some machines have the ability to adjust water levels and the amount of hot or cold water used.  
19 This example illustrates the importance of the equipment operator separating laundry by its level  
20 of soil to determine the amount of water used for the total wash operation. Most washer  
21 extractors require two to four gallons of water per pound of fabric cleaned, depending upon the  
22 machine, the number of wash cycles used, and the water level settings. Equipment costs vary  
23 depending upon washer capacity, and range from \$3,000 to \$20,000.

24 Table Y shows the average volume of laundry produced by each of the most common OPL  
25 operations.

26

**Table Y. Laundry Production in Common Operations**

Type of On-Premise Laundry Operation	Pounds of Laundry	
	per person/day	per room/day
Hospitals		25
Nursing Homes		25
Motels		23
Hotels		36
University dormitories	20	
Jails	10	

<sup>90</sup> Koeller and Company, 2005. *Evaluation of Potential Best Management Practices – On-Premise Laundries*, for the CUWCC, November.

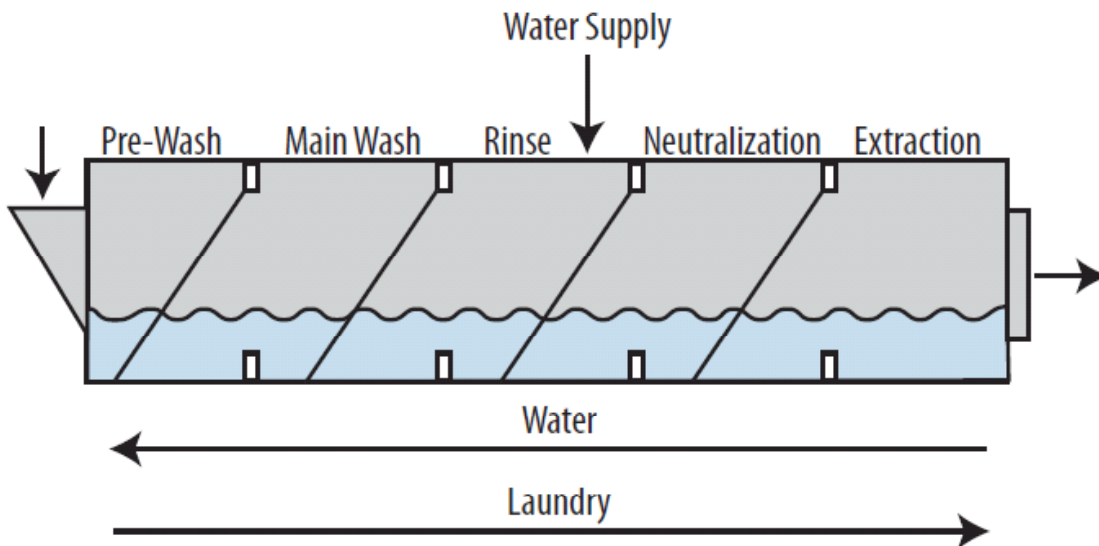
Prisons	12	
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1 Source: Koeller and Company, 2005

2 **Tunnel Washers**

3 Since their introduction in the late 1960s, tunnel washers have become progressively more  
4 reliable. Though extremely expensive (many in excess of \$1 million), they are now common in  
5 major hotel, hospital, cruise ship and other high-volume laundry applications<sup>91</sup>. Tunnel washers  
6 are large volume, continuous batch washers with long chambers and a series of compartments  
7 through which the laundry is pulled for soaking, washing, and rinsing. In addition to being used  
8 in some OPLs, tunnel washers are also used in off-site industrial laundry operations serving  
9 institutional users, such as hospitals, prisons, hotels, motels, and restaurants. They are capable  
10 of handling up to 2,000 pounds of laundry per hour. Tunnel washers are more water-efficient  
11 because the water moves in a counter-flow direction to the laundry, starting with the last rinse,  
12 so water is used through several cycles of the wash before being sent to the drain (Figure X).  
13 Tunnel washers are costly to purchase and install, but are capable of saving more water than  
14 washer extractors and require less operation and maintenance labor. Tunnel washers typically  
15 use two gallons of water or less per pound of fabric.

Figure X. Tunnel Washer



16

17 **Ozone Laundry Systems**

<sup>91</sup> Wikipedia, 2011. Tunnel Washers. en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tunnel\_washer

1 Ozone laundry systems can be used in a variety of OPLs. With these systems, ozone is  
2 injected into the wash as a powerful oxidant that reacts with dirt and organic materials. It also  
3 provides disinfection and whitening properties. Ozone can reduce the amount of detergents  
4 and other chemicals needed, lessening the amount of rinsing required.

5 Ozone systems are especially attractive where water/sewer costs are less than \$4.00 per  
6 thousand gallons, and where annual laundry volume is relatively small. Ozone laundry systems  
7 are best suited for wash classifications in the medium and light range, generally not for heavy  
8 soil. Although some manufacturers claim that satisfactory results have been obtained in heavy  
9 soil laundering, most manufacturers will not venture into applications with large percentages of  
10 heavy soil or they exclude the mix of heavy soil from their savings calculations. Care must be  
11 taken at the laundry not to attempt to treat the heavy soil portion with ozone, as it must be  
12 laundered with conventional chemistry and high-temperature water.

13 Studies indicate that a minimum of 15 percent to 20 percent water and sewer savings can be  
14 achieved in many applications. Isolated opportunities may yield 30 percent to 35 percent  
15 savings in water consumption and sewer discharges. Some manufacturers claim savings up to  
16 the 50 percent - 60 percent range. Caution is very important in estimating savings with ozone  
17 laundry systems. Ozone laundry systems can cost between \$10,000 and \$25,000; paybacks are  
18 cited of less than two years.

19 Since ozone works best in ambient water temperatures, the water is not heated. Therefore, the  
20 water heating energy savings over conventional laundry systems is approximately 80 percent in  
21 most applications. Actual energy savings realized will depend upon the proportion of loads that  
22 must be washed with standard chemistry in high temperature, such as food and beverage linen,  
23 mop heads and bar rags. Other benefits include chemical savings, less wear and tear on  
24 linens, shorter wash cycles and potential labor savings.

## 25 **Rinse Water Recovery Technologies**

26 One of the concepts utilized in laundries is rinse water recovery. This type of system works by  
27 diverting water recovered from rinse-only cycles into a large holding tank near the laundry wash  
28 line. Whenever a washer calls for water in a soak, suds or wash cycle, the water stored in the  
29 rinse water holding tank is pumped into the washers. One manufacturer has been successful in  
30 installing their system in several institutional properties, such as Veterans Administration  
31 hospitals and state prisons, but these systems are not found in typical commercial laundry  
32 applications. They involve high initial cost and very long payback periods, often making them  
33 unattractive in commercial settings.

34

## 35 **Operation and Maintenance**

36 To maximize the efficient operation of commercial laundry machines, consider the following:

- 37 • Operate washers only with full loads. For washer extractor and tunnel washer  
38 applications, use a laundry scale to weigh loads to ensure the machine is filled to  
39 capacity.

- 1 • Separate and wash laundry based upon the extent to which materials are soiled. Also  
2 consider separating laundry by the number of cycles needed.
- 3 • In consumer applications (laundromats), install only front loading high efficiency  
4 machines (single load and multi-load) and set those machines to maintain the  
5 manufacturer-rated WF (or less).<sup>92</sup>
- 6 • Work with the equipment manufacturer and supplier to provide an ongoing service and  
7 maintenance program.
- 8 • Consult service personnel and the laundry's supplier of chemicals for the wash  
9 equipment to ensure that equipment is operating at optimal efficiency.
- 10 • Use detergents specially formulated for high-efficiency clothes washers.
- 11 • Install a computer-controlled wash and/or rinse water reclamation system in situations  
12 where the washers are not already equipped for internal water re-use and where  
13 permitted by local codes. These systems can save as much as 25 percent of a washer's  
14 potable water demand by diverting rinse water to a storage tank for later reuse as wash  
15 water. However, note the disadvantages mentioned earlier for such systems.
- 16 • Avoid excessive backflushing of filters or softeners; backflush only when necessary.

## 17 **Retrofit Options**

18 There are two main retrofit options to reduce water use associated with existing laundry  
19 equipment— water reuse/recycling and ozone systems.

### 20 *Water Reuse/Recycling*

21 Simple or complex recycle systems can be added to coin- or card-operated, multi-load washers,  
22 and washer extractors to recycle a portion or all of the water for reuse in the next wash. Simple  
23 recycle systems recover discharge from the final rinse in a multi-cycle operation for use in the  
24 first rinse of the next cycle. The water from these systems rarely needs treatment prior to reuse,  
25 so potential water savings are generally between 10 to 35 percent. Complex recycle systems  
26 treat the reclaimed water from wash and rinse cycles for use in all cycles of the next load and  
27 can save more than 85 percent of water used<sup>93</sup>. Complex recycle systems usually require water  
28 treatment before reuse and are costly to install and maintain.

29 It is important to evaluate space constraints when considering water reuse/recycling options.  
30 Space may not be available to accommodate additional recycling equipment or storage tanks.  
31 Recycling may also require adjustments in chemicals and detergents. Therefore, contact the  
32 chemical supply vendor during the planning process.

### 33 *Ozone Systems*

34 Ozone systems can be installed on all types of existing commercial laundry machines as  
35 retrofits, although they are not as common as a retrofit for tunnel washers. As noted earlier,

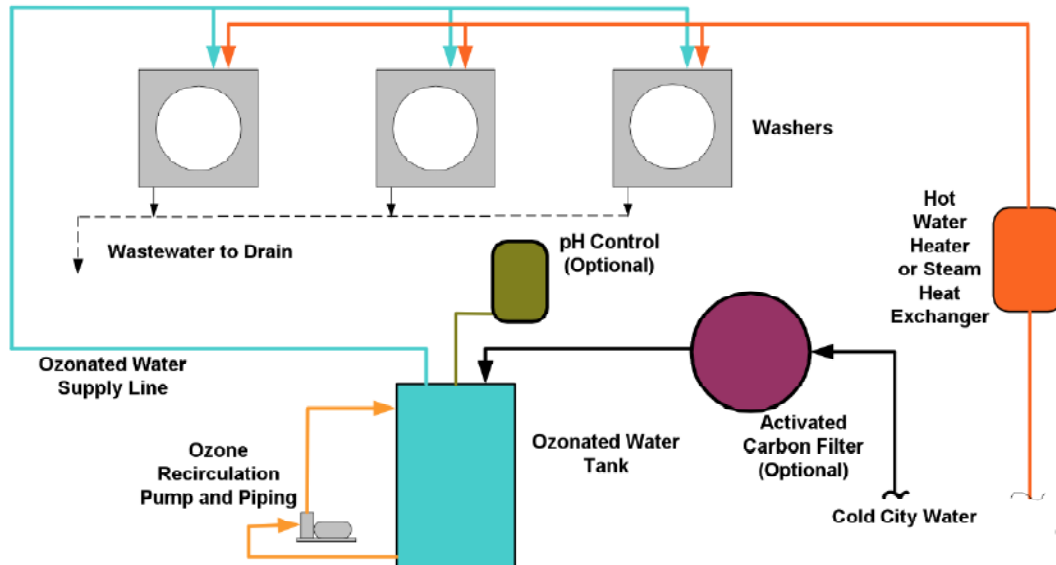
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<sup>92</sup> East Bay Municipal Utility District. 2008. *WaterSmart Guidebook: A Water-Use Efficiency Plan Review Guide for New Businesses*. <[www.ebmud.com/for-customers/conservation-rebates-and-services/commercial/watersmart-guidebook](http://www.ebmud.com/for-customers/conservation-rebates-and-services/commercial/watersmart-guidebook)>.

<sup>93</sup> Koeller and Company, 2005. *Evaluation of Potential Best Management Practices – On-Premise Laundries*, for the CUWCC, November.

1 ozone systems work well on lightly soiled laundry, but are not recommended for heavily soiled  
2 laundry. In these applications, conventional washing, detergents, and hot water work best. See  
3 the figure below for ozone system configuration.

#### 4 Ozone Laundry Systems



#### 23 Replacement Options

24 When installing new laundry equipment or replacing existing equipment, consider the following:

- 25 • Select new coin- or card-operated, single-load clothes washer models that are Energy  
26 Star-qualified (<http://www.energystar.gov/products>). Energy Star-qualified washers use  
27 significantly less energy, water, and detergent compared to standard models.
- 28 • When installing new multi-load washers, choose models that use no more than 6.0  
29 gallons per cycle per cubic foot of capacity.

- 1 • When installing new or replacing old washer extractors, choose machines with built-in  
2 water recycling capabilities that can store the rinse water from the previous load for use  
3 in the next load. These types of washer extractors can use less than 2.5 gallons of water  
4 per pound of fabric.
- 5 • For very large industrial or commercial laundries, consider replacing old washer  
6 extractors or multi-load washers with tunnel washers if large volumes of laundry will be  
7 processed.
- 8 • Ensure that large commercial laundry equipment is easily programmable so it uses no  
9 more water than required for the degree of soiling of the items being washed.
- 10 • Choose new machines that support remote diagnosis by the manufacturer to minimize  
11 maintenance costs and time associated with troubleshooting equipment problems.

12

### 13 **Savings Potential**

14 Water savings can be achieved through retrofitting existing laundry equipment to recycle wash  
15 water or reduce the amount of water required for rinsing, or by replacing existing laundry  
16 equipment with more efficient equipment. To estimate facility-specific water savings and  
17 payback, use the following information:

#### 18 Coin- or Card-Operated Washer or Multi-Load Washer Retrofit

19 Use the following information to estimate water savings and payback potential that may be  
20 achieved with recycling or ozone retrofits. Water savings can vary based upon the water use  
21 and use patterns of the existing laundry equipment and the type of retrofit selected.

22

#### 23 *Water Use*

24 To estimate the current water use from a commercial coin- or card-operated washer or multi-  
25 load washer, identify the following information and use Equation 1 below:

- 26 • Washer's water factor (WF) in gallons per cycle per cubic foot of capacity. Coin- or card-  
27 operated washers installed since the early 1990's will have a WF of 9.5 or less.
- 28 • Capacity of the washer.
- 29 • Average number of cycles per load.
- 30 • Average number of loads per year.

31

*Equation 1:*

32 Water Use of a Commercial Coin- or Card-Operated Washer or Multi-Load Washer (gallons/year) = Water  
33 Factor (gallons/cycle/ft<sup>3</sup> capacity) X Washer Capacity (ft<sup>3</sup>) X Number of Cycles (cycles/load) X Number of  
34 Loads (loads/year)

35

#### 36 *Water Savings*

37 Studies have documented water savings for retrofits with a simple recycling system, retrofits  
38 with a complex recycling system, and ozone system retrofits. To estimate water savings that  
39 may be achieved from retrofitting existing laundry equipment, multiply the water use of the

1 existing laundry equipment (Equation 1) by the savings potential for the appropriate retrofit  
2 option indicated in the Table X (Equation 2).

3

4 **Table X. Potential Water Savings From Commercial Laundry Retrofit Options**

Retrofit Option	Water Savings Potential <sup>94</sup>
Retrofit with simple recycling system	10–35%
Retrofit with complex recycling system	85–90%
Retrofit with ozone system	10–25%

5

6 *Equation 2:*

7 Water Savings from Commercial Laundry Retrofit (gallons/year) = Current Water Use (gallons/year) X  
8 Water Savings Potential (%) from Retrofit in Table X

9

10 Washer Extractor or Tunnel Washer Retrofit

11 Existing washer extractors or tunnel washers can also be retrofitted to recycle and reuse a  
12 portion of the wash or retrofitted with an ozone system.

13 *Water Use*

14 To estimate the current water use from a washer extractor or tunnel washer, identify the  
15 following information and use Equation 3 below:

- 16 • Washer's water efficiency in gallons per pound of fabric.
- 17 • Average number of pounds of fabric per load.
- 18 • Average number of loads per year.

19 *Equation 3:*

20 Water Use of a Washer Extractor or Tunnel Washer (gallons/year) = Water Efficiency (gallons/pound of  
21 fabric) \* Pounds of Fabric per Load (pounds /load) X Number of Loads (loads/year)

22

23 *Water Savings*

24 To calculate water savings that can be achieved from retrofitting an existing washer extractor or  
25 tunnel washer, multiply the water use of the existing laundry equipment as calculated using  
26 Equation 3, by the savings potential for the appropriate retrofit option indicated in the Table X  
27 above.

28 Coin- or Card-Operated Washer or Multi-Load Washer Replacement

29 Coin- or card-operated washer or multi-load washers can be replaced with more efficient  
30 laundry equipment. Look for washers with the Energy Star designation.

<sup>94</sup> East Bay Municipal Utility District. 2008. *WaterSmart Guidebook: A Water-Use Efficiency Plan Review Guide for New Businesses*. <[www.ebmud.com/for-customers/conservation-rebates-and-services/commercial/watersmart-guidebook](http://www.ebmud.com/for-customers/conservation-rebates-and-services/commercial/watersmart-guidebook)>.

1 *Current Water Use*

2 To estimate the current water use of a coin- or card-operated washer or multi-load washer, use  
3 Equation 1.

4 *Water Use After Replacement*

5 To estimate the water use of a more-efficient, replacement commercial coin- or card-operated  
6 washer or multi-load washer, substitute the water factor and washer capacity of the replacement  
7 equipment into Equation 1. Energy Star qualified coin- or card-operated washers will have a  
8 WF of 6.0 or less. An efficient multi-load washer will have a WF of 8.0 or less.

9 *Water Savings*

10 Calculate the expected water savings by subtracting the water use after replacement from the  
11 current water use.  
12

13 *Washer Extractor or Tunnel Washer Replacement*

14 Existing washer extractors or tunnel washers can be replaced with more efficient laundry  
15 equipment.

16 *Current Water Use*

17 To estimate the current water use from a washer extractor or tunnel washer, use Equation 3.

18 *Water Use After Replacement*

19 To estimate the water use of a more-efficient, replacement washer extractor or tunnel washer,  
20 substitute the new washer's water efficiency in Equation 3. Existing washer extractors can be  
21 replaced with machines with built-in water recycling capabilities that use less than 2.5 gallons of  
22 water per pound of fabric. Efficient tunnel washers typically use two gallons of water or less per  
23 pound of fabric.

24 *Water Savings*

25 Calculate the expected water savings by subtracting the water use after replacement from the  
26 current water use.  
27  
28

29 **Additional Resources**

30 Alliance for Water Efficiency. Commercial Laundry Facilities Introduction.

31 [www.allianceforwaterefficiency.org/commercial\\_laundry.aspx](http://www.allianceforwaterefficiency.org/commercial_laundry.aspx) AND

32 [www.allianceforwaterefficiency.org/uploadedFiles/Resource\\_Center/Library/non\\_residential/EBMUD/EBMUD\\_Water\\_Smart\\_Guide\\_Laundries\\_Dry-Cleaning\\_Operations.pdf](http://www.allianceforwaterefficiency.org/uploadedFiles/Resource_Center/Library/non_residential/EBMUD/EBMUD_Water_Smart_Guide_Laundries_Dry-Cleaning_Operations.pdf)  
33

34 DeBrum, Marc, Clear Water Tech, LLC, 2011. Ozone Laundry System Reduces Hotel's Operational Costs by 40%.



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2 [operational-costs-40](http://www.airbestpractices.com/sustainability-projects/water-conservation/ozone-laundry-system-reduces-hotels-operational-costs-40)

3 Del Ozone, 2011. *Recapture Ozone Laundry Costs in 12 to 24 months*.

4 [www.delozonelaundry.com/our-program/roi-of-ozone.php](http://www.delozonelaundry.com/our-program/roi-of-ozone.php)

5 East Bay Municipal Utility District. 2008. *WaterSmart Guidebook: A Water-Use Efficiency Plan Review Guide for New*  
6 *Businesses*. [www.ebmud.com/for-customers/conservation-rebates-and-services/commercial/watersmart-guidebook](http://www.ebmud.com/for-customers/conservation-rebates-and-services/commercial/watersmart-guidebook)

7 Koeller and Company, 2005. *Evaluation of Potential Best Management Practices – On-Premise Laundries*, for the  
8 CUWCC, November.

9 Laundry and Cleaning News, 2010. *Tunnel Washers, Cutting Water, Energy, and Labour Costs*.  
10 [www.laundryandcleaningnews.com/story.asp?sectioncode=58&storyCode=2055854](http://www.laundryandcleaningnews.com/story.asp?sectioncode=58&storyCode=2055854)

11 New Mexico Office of the State Engineer. 1999. *A Water Conservation Guide for Commercial, Institutional and*  
12 *Industrial Users*. Page 41.

13 Pacific Gas and Electric. 2009. *Ozonated Laundry Systems in Hospital Facilities*.  
14 [www.pge.com/includes/docs/pdfs/mybusiness/energysavingsrebates/incentivesbyindustry/hospitality/Ozonated\\_Laun](http://www.pge.com/includes/docs/pdfs/mybusiness/energysavingsrebates/incentivesbyindustry/hospitality/Ozonated_Laundry_FS_Final.pdf)  
15 [dry\\_FS\\_Final.pdf](http://www.pge.com/includes/docs/pdfs/mybusiness/energysavingsrebates/incentivesbyindustry/hospitality/Ozonated_Laundry_FS_Final.pdf)

16 San Diego County Water Authority. 2006. *Report on the Monitoring and Assessment of Water Savings from the Coin-*  
17 *Operated Multi-Load Clothes Washer Voucher Initiative Program*. [www.p2pays.org/ref/50/49004.pdf](http://www.p2pays.org/ref/50/49004.pdf)

18 Southern California Gas Company, San Diego Gas and Electric Company. 2008. *Cal-UCONS Commercial Laundry*  
19 *Program Measurement and Evaluation*.  
20 [www.allianceforwaterefficiency.org/WorkArea/linkit.aspx?LinkIdentifier=id&ItemID=1418](http://www.allianceforwaterefficiency.org/WorkArea/linkit.aspx?LinkIdentifier=id&ItemID=1418)

21 Sydney Water, 2001. *Save Water, Money, and the Environment – Laundries*.  
22 [www.sydneywater.com.au/Publications/FactSheets/SavingWaterLaundries.pdf](http://www.sydneywater.com.au/Publications/FactSheets/SavingWaterLaundries.pdf)

23 U.S. Department of Energy, 2000. Federal Energy Management Program (FEMP), BMP 13. May.  
24 [www1.eere.energy.gov/femp/program/waterefficiency\\_bmp13.html](http://www1.eere.energy.gov/femp/program/waterefficiency_bmp13.html) U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Energy  
25 Star Program. *Energy Star Products*. [www.energystar.gov/products](http://www.energystar.gov/products)

26 Vancouver Island Health Authority, 2010. *New Tunnel Washer System at Cumberland Regional Laundry Facility*.  
27 [www.viha.ca/about\\_viha/news/news\\_releases/cumberland\\_laundry.htm](http://www.viha.ca/about_viha/news/news_releases/cumberland_laundry.htm)

28 VWR International, 2011. *Lab Animal Science*. [www.vwrsp.com/programs/animal\\_science/page.cgi?tmpl=smc](http://www.vwrsp.com/programs/animal_science/page.cgi?tmpl=smc)

29 Water Energy Laundry Consulting, 2011. *Tunnel Washers*.  
30 [laundryconsulting.com/equipment/washers/tunnel-washers/](http://laundryconsulting.com/equipment/washers/tunnel-washers/)

31 Water Energy Laundry Consulting, 2011. *Ozone Laundry Systems*.  
32 [laundryconsulting.com/solution/green-laundry-technology/ozone-laundry-systems/](http://laundryconsulting.com/solution/green-laundry-technology/ozone-laundry-systems/)

33 Wikipedia, 2011. *Tunnel Washers*. [en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tunnel\\_washer](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tunnel_washer)

34

35

36

37

38 **7A3 Hospitality: Lodging - Hotels and Motels**

1

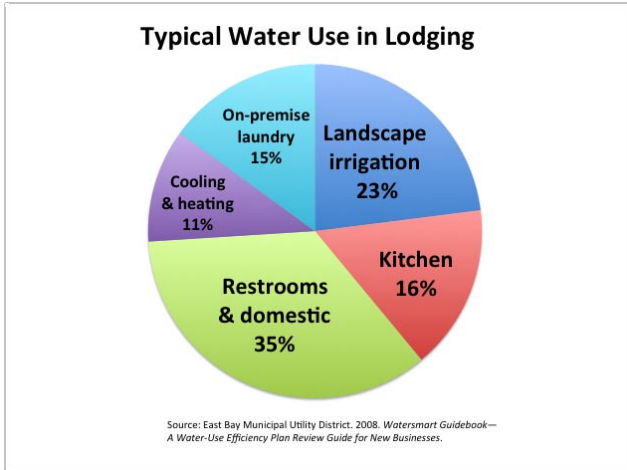
## 2 Introduction

3 In California, the lodging industry  
4 encompasses approximately 6,500  
5 establishments, each with an average of  
6 roughly 150 rooms<sup>1</sup>. The largest lodging  
7 facilities may be part of a mixed-use property  
8 and also include residential apartments, retail  
9 stores, recreation facilities, landscaping, and  
10 office space at the same site, but this is not  
11 typical of most establishments.

12

13 Each activity within a hotel or motel has its  
14 own special need for water. Smaller facilities have guest-room water demands similar to those  
15 of the larger properties, but do not usually recreation facilities and heavily irrigated landscapes.  
16 Typically, the largest lodging properties require water for guest rooms, on-premise laundries,  
17 HVAC systems, public restrooms, food service, recreation, landscape, and maintenance.

18



## 19 Restrooms and Plumbing

20 Appropriate water-saving technologies exist with all restroom fixtures, both in the public areas  
21 and guest rooms. Refer to report **Section XXX, General Building Sanitary and Safety**  
22 **Applications** for a discussion of water use efficiency opportunities and best management  
23 practices for restrooms and other operations in lodging facilities.

24

25 If available, and where codes and health departments permit, non-potable, treated water may  
26 be used for fixture flushing (toilets and urinals only) and landscape irrigation applications. Refer  
27 to report **Sections XXX Commercial Landscape and VII.C.6 Alternate Water Sources** for  
28 information and best management practices related to these topics.

29

30 In guest rooms, additional BMPs to be considered are:

- 31     ▪ Prohibit multiple showerhead installations in a shower stall.
- 32     ▪ Substitute showers for bathtubs. Where bathtubs are necessary, use low-volume tubs.

33

## 34 Cooling and Heating Systems

35 Water use related to cooling and heating amounts to 11 percent of total water consumption in  
36 the typical lodging facility. Cooling towers and boilers are the primary systems accounting for  
37 this use. Refer to report **Sections XXX Building Systems – Thermodynamic Processes** for  
38 information and best management practices related to this topic.

39

<sup>1</sup> California Hotel and Lodging Association, [www.calodging.com](http://www.calodging.com)

1 **On-Premise Laundries**

2 On-premise laundries account for 15 percent of all water consumption in the typical lodging  
3 property. Refer to report **Section XXX Fabric Cleaning and Washing Equipment and**  
4 **Technologies** for a discussion of water use efficiency opportunities and best management  
5 practices for on-premise laundries in lodging facilities.

6

7 **Floor Cleaning**

8 Best management practices for floor cleaning include:

- 9     ▪ Discourage the use of open hoses for cleaning. While wet methods may be used, install  
10 self-closing nozzles, limiting flow to 5 gpm. Also refer to report **Section XXX**  
11 **Commercial Food Service, Washing and Sanitation** for further information on floor  
12 cleaning, available equipment, and best management practices.
- 13     ▪ Install drains close to areas where liquid discharges are expected.
- 14     ▪ Arrange equipment for easy use of a mop and squeegee system or floor-cleaning  
15 machine.

16

17 **Ice Machines**

18 Ice machines installed on guest room floors as well as in the central kitchen use water for ice  
19 and sometimes for cooling the compressor. Best management practices include:

- 20     ▪ Select ENERGY STAR qualified ice-making machines that are air-cooled, using remote  
21 heads to expel warm air outside the workspace and customer areas. Air-cooled  
22 machines are preferred over cooling-tower loops.
- 23     ▪ Select energy-efficient flake or nugget machines rather than cube-ice machines. If cube-  
24 ice machines are used, those that meet CEE Tier 2 or 3 efficiency standards are  
25 preferred.
- 26     ▪ Also refer to report **Section XXX Commercial Food Service, Commercial Ice Machines**  
27 for more information on available equipment and their efficiencies.

28 **Kitchen Operations**

29 On-site kitchens in typical lodging facilities consume about 16 percent of the potable water use  
30 by the facility. For best management practices and equipment options associated with food  
31 service, refer to report **Section XXX Commercial Food Service**.

32

33 **Submetering**

34 Separate metering of water-using systems and building areas is recommended where possible  
35 in order to ensure that the costs of water use and wastewater disposal are accurately tracked.  
36 Tracking actual use through a building management system connected to a series of submeters  
37 can disclose operating issues (leaks, equipment malfunctions) that might have previously  
38 remained undiscovered. For a full discussion of submetering and best management practices  
39 associated with that topic, refer to report Section XXX **Building Meters, Submeters, and**  
40 **Management Systems**.

1 **Landscape**

2 Landscape irrigation represents 23 percent of water use in the typical lodging property. It is  
3 important to ensure the use of climate-appropriate plant materials in the landscape and to install  
4 and monitor efficient irrigation systems that apply only the amount of water necessary. For  
5 further information and best management practices related to landscape and landscape  
6 irrigation, refer to report **Section XXX Commercial Landscaping**.  
7

8 **Other**

9 Other recommended best management practices for lodging facilities include:

- 10     ▪ Install automatic shutoff and solenoid valves on all hoses and water-using equipment.
- 11     ▪ Encourage guests to engage in “green” practices for bed linens and towels to avoid  
12         unnecessary laundry use.
- 13     ▪ Conspicuously mark fire-protection plumbing so no connections will be made other than  
14         those for fire protection.
- 15     ▪ Install flow-detection meters on fire services to reveal unauthorized water flows.

16  
17 **CASE STUDY – San Francisco Hotel**

18 Significant water savings and reductions in maintenance service calls resulted from a major  
19 toilet retrofit project in the Park 55 Wyndham Hotel in downtown San Francisco. The hotel was  
20 originally constructed in 1984 and opened for business as a Ramada Inn. With 1,012 guest  
21 rooms and 1,030 guest room toilet fixtures, the Parc 55 is one of the largest hotels in that city.  
22 At the time of construction, all guest rooms were fitted with 3.5 gallons per flush gravity-fed toilet  
23 fixtures.

24 In late 2007, hotel management undertook the toilet replacement project by selecting a  
25 pressure-assist HET to replace the older non-efficient gravity-fed fixtures. The fixture selected  
26 functions at 1.0 gallon per flush and was ideally suited to guest room use. In December 2007,  
27 the physical replacement of fixtures began, concluding in October 2008, a rate of about 100  
28 replacements per month.

29 At the conclusion of the retrofit project and after the 2008 holiday season, the per unit (or per  
30 guest room toilet) reductions attributable to the retrofit program were determined as follows:

31 **Water Consumption – “Before” and “After” Replacement**

<b>Water Consumption</b>	
“BEFORE” - Water use prior to retrofit project (22 months – January 2006 to October 2007)	4,707 units per month <sup>95</sup> = 3,521,000 gallons per mo.
“AFTER” – Water use following retrofit project (8 months November 2008 to June 2009)	3,474 units per month = 2,598,000 gallons per mo.
Water use reduction – 1,030 guest room toilet fixtures <sup>96</sup>	1,233 units per month =

<sup>95</sup> A unit is equal to 100 cubic feet or 748 gallons, and is used for utility billing purposes.

<sup>96</sup> Savings based upon a nominal 90% occupancy

	923,000 gallons per month
Water use reduction – per guest room toilet fixture	893 gallons per month = 10,700 gallons per year (29 gallons per day)

1 The daily per fixture water savings of 29 gallons amounts to a savings of approximately \$170,000 annually on water  
2 and sewer charges at 2009 rates in San Francisco.

3 The secondary major benefit to the replacement program was the reduction in service calls upon hotel maintenance  
4 (and associated labor cost reductions), due to improved flush performance and fixture reliability, and elimination of  
5 frequent repairs. Annually, the replacement is projected to reduce maintenance labor by several hundred hours per  
6 year.

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7

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9

10

11

12

1 **Additional Resources**

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3 East Bay Municipal Utility District. 2008. *Watersmart Guidebook—A Water-Use Efficiency Plan Review Guide for New*

4 *Businesses*. Pages FOOD8-FOOD9. [www.ebmud.com/for-customers/conservation-rebates-and-](http://www.ebmud.com/for-customers/conservation-rebates-and-services/commercial/watersmart-guidebook)

5 [services/commercial/watersmart-guidebook](http://www.ebmud.com/for-customers/conservation-rebates-and-services/commercial/watersmart-guidebook)

6 Food Service Technology Center. *Water Conservation Measures for Commercial Food Service*.

7 [www.fishnick.com/savewater/bestpractices/Water Conservation in CFS.pdf](http://www.fishnick.com/savewater/bestpractices/Water_Consevation_in_CFS.pdf)

8 Food Service Technology Center. *Water, Water Everywhere and Not a Drop to Waste*.

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10 Green Seal, Inc., 2011. *GS-33 - Green Seal Standard for Hotels and Lodging Properties*, Fifth Edition, January.

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12 [33 Hotels and Lodging Properties Standard Fifth Edition.pdf](http://www.greenseal.org/Portals/0/Documents/Standards/GS-33/GS-33_Hotels_and_Lodging_Properties_Standard_Fifth_Edition.pdf)

13 Koeller and Company and Veritec Consulting, Inc., 2009. *Water Use Reduction Achieved Through Hotel Guest*

14 *Room Toilet Fixture Replacements*, September.

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16 [%20Sept%202009%20rev1.pdf](http://www.map-testing.com/assets/files/Parc%2055%20Hotel%20Fixture%20Replacements%20-%20Sept%202009%20rev1.pdf)

17 Sydney Water, 2007. *Saving Water in Luxury*.

18 <http://www.sydneywater.com.au/Publications/CaseStudies/HiltonConserver13.pdf>

19 Sydney Water, no date. *The Conserver: 100% Saving of Toilet Water*.

20 <http://www.sydneywater.com.au/Publications/CaseStudies/NovotelNorthbeachHotelConserver2.pdf>

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22 *Leisure Centres*.

23 Sydney Water, 2001. *Save Water, Money, & the Environment: Hotels*.

24 U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, ENERGY STAR program. *Best Practices—How To Achieve the Most Efficient*

25 *Use of Water in Commercial Food Service Facilities*.

26 [www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=healthcare.fisher\\_nickel\\_feb\\_2005](http://www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=healthcare.fisher_nickel_feb_2005)

27

1 **7A4: Medical and Laboratory Equipment & Processes**

2 Hospitals, dental offices, laboratories, aquariums, and research facilities are found in most large  
3 communities. All of these facilities have water uses such as restrooms, landscape, and often  
4 cooling towers and boilers that are common to many types of facilities. They also have  
5 equipment and operations not commonly found in other facilities, including:

- 6 1. Sterilizers
- 7 2. Instrument, glassware, cages, racks, and bottles
- 8 3. Vacuum systems
- 9 4. Hood systems
- 10 5. Vivarium and Aquarium operations
- 11 6. X-ray film developers.

12 This section will discuss each of these six types of equipment or operations.

13 **Sterilizers**

14 Description of Sterilizer Types - Sterilization of surgical instruments, fluids, pharmaceuticals,  
15 equipment, and bandages is an integral part of modern medical and laboratory practice. Over  
16 the years, different sterilization techniques have been used,

- 17 1. chemical (ethylene oxide, peroxides, ozone, etc.)
- 18 2. radiation
- 19 3. dry heat
- 20 4. steam sterilization.

21  
22 Since the first three techniques do not require significant amounts of water, this discussion  
23 focuses on steam sterilizers. Steam sterilizers and autoclaves may be divided into four  
24 categories. The first three are for medical and laboratory type facilities and include (1) table top,  
25 (2) gravity, and (3) vacuum type systems. The fourth are autoclaves used in industrial  
26 operations, and they are not covered in this discussion.

27 Steam sterilizers have two major configurations: tabletop and freestanding. Tabletop-type  
28 sterilizers have a filled water reservoir and a heating element to make steam. They use little  
29 water. Freestanding sterilizers include both gravity and vacuum type systems. In both, steam is  
30 injected into a closed chamber housing the instruments or equipment to be sterilized. Steam  
31 used for this purpose must be "clean steam" meaning that the water used to make the steam  
32 has been demineralized. Both types have application in the medical, pharmaceutical, and in  
33 science and engineering laboratories.

34 In the gravity type, steam pushes air out of the chamber filling the top of the chamber with  
35 steam. The air is said to be "drained" by gravity since it weighs more than the steam. With the  
36 vacuum type, a vacuum pump draws the air out. The vacuum type dries the sterilized materials  
37 more quickly than the vacuum type.

1 In both cases, the sterilizer chamber is surrounded by an outer chamber that is also filled with  
2 steam to help keep the whole cavity hot. As the steam in the outer chamber condenses, it is  
3 discharged through a steam trap to the sanitary drain.

4 Steam sterilizers are common in hospitals and biological or medical laboratories. The California  
5 Urban Water Conservation Council report, PBMP-Year One-Chapter VI-Sterilizer Savings  
6 Assessment reports that there over 8,400 medical steam sterilizers in California.

7



8  
9

**Figure 1 Front of Typical Steam Sterilizer**



10  
11  
12

**Figure 2 Sterilizer Being Loaded with Surgical Packs**



1 Water Use by Sterilizers

2 Freestanding-type sterilizers, which are the most common found in medical facilities, use large  
3 quantities of water in their operation. Table-top sterilizers, on the other hand, use only small  
4 amounts of water, and the other types use little if any.

5 Freestanding sterilizers use water in three ways. The first is the consumption of steam, which,  
6 in most cases, represents is the least amount of water use. Only a few gallons (5 to 12 gallons  
7 depending on model and size) get used per complete sterilization cycle.

8 A major water use for older sterilizers is associated with plumbing code regulations that prohibit  
9 water hotter than 140°F from being discharged to a sanitary sewer. The sterilizer steamtraps  
10 only discharge a couple of quarts of water at the most when opened and this occurs  
11 infrequently during the day. Since the water from the steam trap that discharges the  
12 condensate from condensed steam from the outside steam jacket is at 112°F.

13 For models made before the mid 1990s, water was simply plumbed to run continuously down  
14 the drain, commonly with flow rates of 0.3 to 1.5 gallons per minute. The purpose of this water  
15 was to be available any time the steam trap opened to cool the condensate as it entered the  
16 drain. Since the mid 1990's, tempering kits have been included as standard devices. These  
17 kits have solenoid valves connected to thermal sensors that only open and allow water to flow  
18 when condensate is actually flowing. Retrofit kits are available for older models.

19 Based on the California Urban Water Conservation Council report, PBMP-Year One-Chapter VI-  
20 Sterilizer Savings Assessment and work done at the University of Washington in Seattle, adding  
21 a water tempering kit to older models can reduce water use for this purpose from 68 to 98  
22 percent and can save 1,500 to 3,000 gallons a day. The installed cost for these retrofit kits  
23 ranges from 2,2,500 to \$5,500 per kit.



24

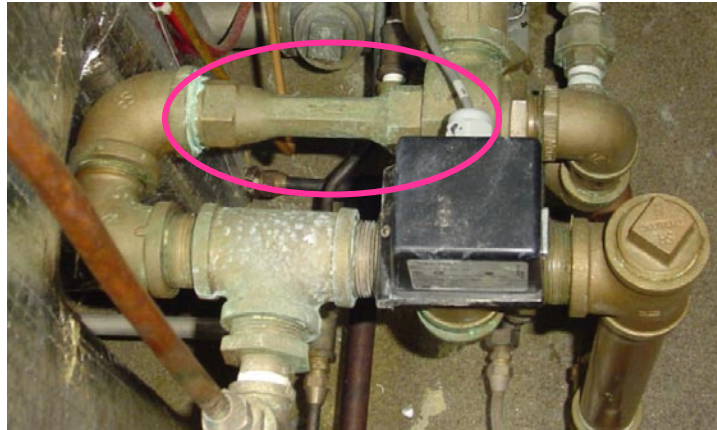
25 **Figure 3. Example of a Retrofit Water Tempering Device**

26

27 The most water efficient and energy efficient practice is to return the condensate to the boiler.  
28 Unfortunately, most hospitals are not equipped to do this. Another method used in several U.S.  
29 Green Building Council LEED certified facilities is to use the building's chilled water system to  
30 cool the condensate. An even more water efficient strategy was is to install individual boilers

1 on each autoclave so the condensate can be returned directly, but since these boilers typically  
2 use electricity, energy costs rise.

3 The way in which a vacuum is created significantly impacts the amount of water used for this  
4 operation. In the past, a simple venturi system was used to create a vacuum (Figure 4.).



5  
6 **Figure 4. Venturi Vacuum System on a Sterilizer**  
7

8 These systems can use 6 to 18 gallons per minute according to the California Urban Water  
9 Conservation Council report, PBMP-Year One-Chapter VI-Sterilizer Savings Assessment.  
10 Liquid ring vacuum systems can reduce water use by about 75 percent. The retrofit liquid ring  
11 vacuum systems cost over \$20,000 installed. Table 1 summarizes the impact installing a liquid  
12 ring vacuum pump on total water use.

<b>Table 1. Comparison of Vacuum System Water Use for Steam Sterilizers*</b>			
<i>Based on 10 uses a day, and 250 days per year</i>			
<b>Venturi Ejector Water Use (gpm)</b>	<b>Gallons Used per Cycle</b>	<b>Venturi Gallons per Year</b>	<b>Liquid Ring Gallons per Year</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>189</b>	<b>495,000</b>	<b>123,750</b>
<b>11</b>	<b>363</b>	<b>907,500</b>	<b>226,875</b>
<b>18</b>	<b>594</b>	<b>1,485,000</b>	<b>371,250</b>

\*Source: California Urban Water Conservation Council report, PBMP-Year One-Chapter VI-Sterilizer Savings Assessment

13

14 In Europe, another technology is emerging that would bring this water use to zero. Cisa, an  
15 Italian firm now markets a dry vacuum system for sterilizers. Called the "Aquazero," it has not  
16 yet been approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration 510K regulations, so it not  
17 available in America at this time for medical facilities.

18 ([www.cisagroup.it/site/prodotti/english/.../aquazero/aquazero.pdf](http://www.cisagroup.it/site/prodotti/english/.../aquazero/aquazero.pdf)). In research facilities and  
19 industrial operations, however, dry vacuum systems are in use, reducing water use to zero. The  
20 systems cost more than liquid ring pumps. (See section on vacuum systems.)

21 Best Management Practices (BMP's) for Sterilizers

- 1 • If possible, choose something other than a free-standing steam sterilizer, such as a  
2 chemical, radiation, or dry heat sterilizer or even a table-top steam sterilizer.
- 3 • Ensure that free-standing steam sterilizers are equipped with water tempering devices,  
4 that the steam is returned to the boiler, or that it is condensed using a chilled water  
5 condenser.
- 6 • Where not cost prohibitive, consider stand-alone boilers on each autoclave.
- 7 • Prohibit the use of venturi vacuum systems on vacuum sterilizers.
- 8 • Use dry vacuum systems wherever allowed by the FDA 510K regulations.

9

## 10 **Vacuum Systems**

11 Vacuum systems are used throughout the medical and scientific community as well as in all  
12 types of industries. The most rudimentary “vacuum pump” is a venturi system, also called an  
13 aspirator system. Aspirators are found in many high school and college laboratories that only  
14 use them for a few hours each semester. Because of their infrequent use, these pumps are not  
15 the focus of this BMP, but using aspirator or venturi systems on frequently used equipment,  
16 such as steam sterilizers, is an extremely wasteful practice. (See section on  
17 sterilizers.) Mechanical pumps may be used for medical, dental, and other low vacuum  
18 laboratory applications of 0.01 mbar (.0074 millimeters of mercury). The end use determines  
19 that size of the pump. Dental office pumps range from 1.0 to 4.0 horsepower (hp), while a  
20 central vacuum pump in a medical facility requires 5.0 to 20.0 hp.

21 Vacuum pumps can use water in two ways:

- 22 1. for pump cooling - use only air cooled pumps or those connected to a cooling tower loop  
23 or chilled water systems (See Thermodynamic Processes), or
- 24 2. for creating a seal.

25 Vacuum pumps can either be “dry” or “wet”—based on how the vacuum seal is generated. Wet  
26 pumps use a closed impeller that is sealed with water to generate the vacuum. Dry pumps do  
27 not use water to generate the seal for the vacuum, so they do not connect to a water supply.  
28 Instead, they create vacuums with turbines (fans) or use positive displacement devices, such as  
29 vane pumps, claw pumps, or piston pumps.

30 Dry systems tend to be the most energy efficient. A review of product literature shows energy  
31 savings in the range of 25 to 50 percent. However, dry systems cost more to purchase. A  
32 typical dental liquid ring pump, for example, costs about \$2,000, while dry systems cost from  
33 \$5,000 to \$7,500 for the same dental clinic. In addition, dry pumps must be vented since they  
34 use air instead of water as the moving agent.

35



1  
2 **Figure 5. A Dry Vacuum System at a Dental Office**  
3  
4

5 The amount of water that may be saved is significant. Literature shows that a typical dental  
6 liquid ring vacuum uses approximately one-half-gallon minute per horsepower, so a two-  
7 horsepower pump would use approximately 1.0 gpm. An office that is open for eight hours uses  
8 480 gallons. For larger medical installations, the relationship of water to horsepower is similar,  
9 but the pumps are much larger.

10 Central vacuum systems serve the entire hospital with vacuum. These systems should always  
11 be dry with air cooling or with cooling that is part of the chilled water loop. Any type of pass-  
12 through cooling should be eliminated.

13 Some special laboratory facilities that produce acid fumes may have to use a liquid ring pump to  
14 prevent corrosion of the pump. In these cases, water recirculation systems may be used. In  
15 these systems, a pump recirculates water through the pump, and that water is cooled either by  
16 air or a chilled water loop. A portion of the water must be continuously discharged to keep the  
17 chemicals from building up. Typically, these units can reduce water use by 50 percent to 75  
18 percent depending on the chemicals involved.

19 *Best Management Practices (BMPs) for Vacuum Systems*

- 20
- 21 • Use dry vacuum systems for all medical and dental processes.
  - 22 • Eliminate pass through cooled equipment.
  - 23 • Only use liquid ring pumps for conditions where acid fumes and other very corrosive  
24 materials are being handled.
  - 25 • If a liquid ring vacuum pump must be used, consider a non-potable source of water such  
26 as an on-site source or recycled water.

1    **Laboratory Fume Hoods**

2    A fume hood is a ventilated enclosure where hazardous materials can be handled safely to limit  
3    exposure. Fume hoods draw contaminants within the work area away from the user to minimize  
4    contact, and they exhaust fumes through a ventilation system to remove contaminants from the  
5    building. Most hood exhausts can be directed to the outside without additional treatment. These  
6    hoods do not use water to clean the exhausted gases. In some cases though, contaminants  
7    that pose a hazard or pollution risk must be removed using either a dry or wet "scrubber  
8    system."

9



10

11                   **Figure 6. A Typical Hood System in a Lab**

12

13    The type of system chosen will depend on the substances in need of removal. Table 2  
14    summarizes some of these choices.

15    Perchloric acid, a corrosive liquid, poses a specific hazard. While not combustible, under some  
16    circumstances it may act as an oxidizer and present an explosion hazards. Organic materials  
17    are especially susceptible to spontaneous combustion if mixed or contacted with perchloric acid.

18    Special perchloric acid wash-down system hoods must be used to control these fumes and  
19    wash perchloric acid deposits from the duct linings. To prevent corrosion and reduce explosive  
20    perchlorate build-up, perchloric acid fume hoods use a system of nozzles to wash down the  
21    fume hood and exhaust system surfaces after each period of use. Older perchloric acid hoods  
22    ran water continuously. The flow of water in newer hoods can be controlled to operate only  
23    when the hood vent fan is operating. In all cases, the hood should be operated according to  
24    instructions for that hood.

25

<b>Filtering mechanism</b>	<b>How does it work?</b>	<b>How is contaminant removed?</b>	<b>Does it use water?</b>	<b>What are the special considerations?</b>
Wet scrubber	Packed bed system which is wetted with recirculated scrubbing liquor dissolves contaminants in air and releases cleaned air	Scrubbing liquor with dissolved contaminants is blowdown and the liquor is periodically replenished with fresh water	Yes	None
Inert adsorbents	Inert adsorbents, such as activated carbon, activated alumina, and molecular sieves, adsorb contaminants	Spent adsorbent must be changed or regenerated regularly	No	Adsorbent systems are not effective in removing high concentrations of contaminants (i.e., spills inside the hood). These systems require a consistent check on contaminant concentrations and maintenance of the adsorbent.
Chemically active adsorbents	Inert adsorbents impregnated with a strong oxidizer, such as potassium permanganate, which react with and destroy organic vapors	Spent adsorbent must be changed or regenerated regularly	No	Adsorbent systems are not effective in removing high concentrations of contaminants (i.e., spills inside the hood). These systems require a consistent check on contaminant concentrations and maintenance of the adsorbent.

1  
2 Wet scrubbers simply pass water over a packed medium as the exhaust gas is forced or drawn  
3 through the packed medium with fans. The water and solution of reactive chemicals are  
4 recirculated through the systems. Water is evaporated in the process, and some water must be  
5 bled off to prevent the buildup of chemicals and salts in the system. Figure 7 shows the pumps  
6 and back side of a hood scrubber system.

7



1  
2 **Figure 7. Fume Scrubber for a Microelectronics Lab**

3  
4 *Best Management Practices for Laboratory Hoods*

- 5  
6
- Use dry hoods to the maximum extent possible.
  - Only choose scrubber systems if that is the only type of system that will work.
  - If a hood scrubber system must be used, be sure it is a type that recirculates water.
  - Control scrubber blowdown with a conductivity controller or other appropriate control device.
  - Use an alternate, non-potable source of water for the scrubber wherever possible.
- 7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12

13

1 **Instrument, Glassware, Cage, Rack, and Bottle Washers**

2 Laboratory and medical facilities must wash a variety of types of equipment of all sizes and  
3 types, including glassware in labs, surgical instruments in hospitals, and animal cages at  
4 vivariums and animal research facilities. In all cases, the articles being washed must be  
5 thoroughly cleaned and disinfected. In many cases, the equipment or instruments are then  
6 sterilized in a steam sterilizer.

7 For ***glassware washers***, no specific efficiency standards have been set, but major  
8 manufacturers are beginning to offer more energy and water efficient models. In the interim the  
9 consider following these best management:

10 **Operation, Maintenance, and User Education:** For optimum glassware washer efficiency:

- 11 • Only run glassware washers when they are full. Fill each glassware washer rack to  
12 maximum capacity.
- 13 • Operate the glassware washer near or at the minimum flow rate recommended by the  
14 manufacturer.
- 15 • Use detergents that clean most effectively so rinsing is simpler.
- 16 • If the number of rinse cycles can be chosen, select as few rinse cycles as possible,  
17 considering the cleanliness requirements of the glassware.

18  
19 **Retrofit Options:** Consider installing a water recycling system that reuses rinse cycle  
20 wastewater as wash water in the next load.

21 **Replacement Options:** When purchasing a new glassware washer or replacing an existing  
22 one, look for models with these features:

- 23 • Cycle selection that allows users to optimize rinse cycles for both effective and efficient  
24 cleaning.
- 25 • Reuse of final rinse water as wash water for the next load.
- 26 • Water intake monitoring to adjust the amount of water used based on load size.

27  
28 **Washer - Disinfectors** are used to clean surgical and medical instruments before they are  
29 sterilized. They are typically found in central sterilizations operations in hospitals. These  
30 operations are usually abbreviated as "Central Sterile" or "CS" operations. There are stand-  
31 alone batch washers for smaller operations and large tunnel washers that resemble conveyor  
32 dishwashers in operation. A search of product literature shows that water and energy  
33 conservation have become major selling points for the current generation of surgical and  
34 medical instrument washer - disinfectors. Better instrumentation and computer control along  
35 with better design are cited as the reasons for these increases in efficiency.





1

2 **Figure 8. Batch and Conveyor (Tunnel) Washer - Disinfectors in Central Sterile**

3

4 Until standards for water efficiency are established, the **best management practices** for this  
5 type of operation is to only operate when needed and search the literature for water and energy  
6 efficiency when purchasing new equipment.

7 **Cage, Rack, and Bottle Washers** are found in vivariums and animal research facilities. The  
8 equipment ranges from conveyor washers for mice and rat cages that closely resemble  
9 conveyor dishwashers to large compartment washers that can hold carts of cages or large  
10 primate cages. The following Best Management Practices information is provided as part of the  
11 U. S. Environmental Protection Agency's "Labs for the 21st Century" program.



12

13

**Figure 9. Small Cage Washer**

14 ***Vivarium Equipment***

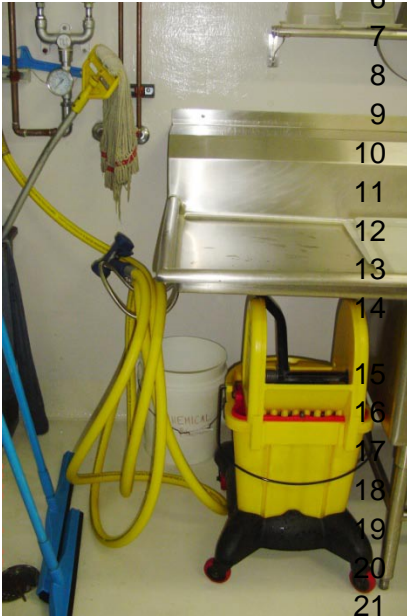
- 1 • *Replace older inefficient cage and rack washers with more efficient models. Look for*  
2 *models that recycle water through four cleaning stages using a counter-current rinsing*  
3 *process. In counter-current rinsing, the cleanest water is used only for the final rinsing*  
4 *stage. Water for early rinsing tasks (when the quality of rinse water is not as important) is*  
5 *water that was previously used in the later stages of rinsing operations.*
- 6 • *Retrofit existing cage and rack washers to make use of counter-current flow system to*  
7 *reuse final rinse water from one cage-washing cycle in earlier rinses in the next washing*  
8 *cycle.*
- 9 • *Use tunnel washers for small cage cleaning operations.*
- 10 • *Sterilize and recirculate water used in automatic animal watering systems instead of*  
11 *discharging water to the drain. Consider using water that cannot be recycled for drinking*  
12 *due to purity concerns in other non-potable applications, such as cooling water make-up*  
13 *or for cleaning cage racks and washing down animal rooms.*  
14 *([http://www1.eere.energy.gov/femp/program/waterefficiency\\_bmp12.html#dss](http://www1.eere.energy.gov/femp/program/waterefficiency_bmp12.html#dss))*

15

1 **Vivariums and Aquariums**

2 Aquariums, vivariums (research mice facilities), and large animal research facilities are found at  
3 most universities and pharmaceutical research facilities.

4 Vivariums and other animal care facilities require regular cleaning and care. The washing of  
5 cages, bottles, and feeding containers is covered under the section on washing and disinfecting.



6 The care and washing of the facilities and floors often  
7 requires hose down. Using squeegees and brooms to first  
8 clean an area significantly reduces the amount of water  
9 needed for floor washing. For large animals, slotted floors  
10 with manure rakes are sometimes used. Choosing hose  
11 nozzles with the minimum flow rates that accomplish the  
12 cleaning, increasing pressure to reduce water use, and using  
13 floor cleaning equipment can all help reduce water use, as  
14 will designing floors and walls to be easily cleanable.

15 Automatic animal watering systems provide drinking water to  
16 laboratory animals. There are two types of automated animal  
17 watering equipment. They differ in their method of bacterial  
18 build-up prevention: flushing animal watering systems and  
19 recirculating animal watering systems. Flushing animal  
20 watering systems use a periodic, high-pressure flow to “flush”  
21 and remove bacteria from piping. Residual chlorination is  
22 typically used to further control bacterial growth. Recirculating animal watering systems control  
23 bacteria, by means of a constant flow of water treated with ultraviolet disinfection or other  
24 methods before distribution for animal watering. Flushing systems use more water than  
25 recirculating systems because water is discharged to the drain after the flushing cycle is  
26 complete.

27 Automatic water systems require regular observation of the systems and the animals. If not  
28 maintained properly, they pose the risk of cage flooding or clogged valves. They do not allow for  
29 monitoring of animal water intake. Before choosing an automatic watering system, these issues  
30 should be considered.

31 For optimum animal watering system efficiency, consider the following:

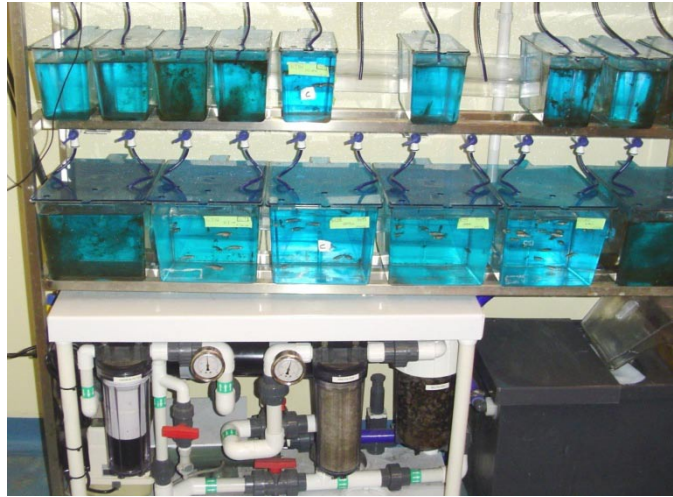
- 32 • For animal watering systems that use flushing, minimize the number of flushing cycles,  
33 while ensuring sufficient control of bacterial growth.
- 34 • Consider collecting and reusing wastewater from animal watering systems for other  
35 purposes within the facility, matching an end use with the level of water quality that  
36 exists or that can be achieved through water treatment.

37

38 Aquariums are common in any research facility working with fish and aquatic plants and  
39 animals. For smaller systems, good filtration systems significantly reduce water use.

1  
2 For larger aquariums, the principles are the same but the equipment is much larger and special  
3 treatment systems are sometimes needed as seen in Figure 10's sea foam remover and Figure  
4 11's large sand filtration systems. Large aquariums often capture the backwash from these  
5 larger filters, treating and filtering it to recover as much water as possible.

6  
7



8  
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11

**Figure 10. Filtration System for Ichthyology Lab Aquariums**



12  
13

**Figure 11. Sea Foam "Fractionator"**

1



Figure 12. Large Aquarium Sand Filters

2  
3  
4

5 Best Management Practices for Aquariums include the proper use of filtration equipment, using  
6 water treatment systems to remove specific contaminants that may be unique to the situation,  
7 and proper care and cleaning of aquarium surfaces.

8 **Photographic and X-Ray Equipment**

9 Traditional film processing is extremely water-intensive, with water required for both the image  
10 development and printing process. Old 35-mm film could use as much as 30 gallons of water  
11 per roll developed. The requirements in the late 1970s to recover silver and other heavy metals  
12 at film process centers began the process of reducing water use. Modern 35 mm film  
13 processing equipment, such as that found at pharmacies and department stores, uses only a  
14 few ounces of water to develop a role film.

15

16 Digital technology represents a much more significant development since it has eliminated the  
17 need for film development. Water conservation considerations for film development, including  
18 large frame X-ray film development, must be tempered by the fact that extensive use of wet  
19 processes may not even exist in 20 years except for special "artistic" endeavors. Dry printing  
20 processes similar to laser printing are also available that do not use water.

21

22 In old X-ray equipment, water is sometimes also used for equipment cooling. Some X-ray film  
23 processing machines require a constant stream of cooling water flowing at a rate of 0.5 to 2.5  
24 gallons per minute (gpm) to as much as 3.0 to 4.0 gpm<sup>97</sup> to ensure acceptable image quality.  
25 Cooling water with a flow rate as low as 0.5 gpm can discharge more than 250,000 gallons of  
26 water annually. In the past, special "WaterSaver" recirculation equipment that only operates the  
27 cooling system and the film rinse purge systems when needed was available, but with the

---

1 advent of modern digital technology and the rapid disappearance of old film type equipment,  
2 sales of this equipment have plummeted.

3 The new digital X-ray technology is rapidly replacing the old film based equipment  
4 because of its medical value for radiology. Just like home digital pictures can be  
5 enhanced to see specific detail, digital x-rays can, and they can be sent by e-mail to  
6 family physicians and others.

7 New medical digital equipment is very expensive, potentially costing more than a million dollars  
8 to convert a large medical center radiology department to digital equipment. Water savings  
9 alone would not be a major cost savings for this conversion. It is being driven by the need of  
10 medical facilities to have the most up-to-date equipment.

11

12 *Best Management Practices for Photographic and X-Ray Equipment*

- 13 • If old film type equipment is being used, install a WaterSaver kit.
- 14 • Encourage the switch to digital equipment.

15

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## 1 **7A5: Office Buildings**

2

### 3 **Introduction**

4 Office buildings may combine residential apartments, hotels, retail stores, and office space into  
5 a mixed use structure. Each has its own special needs for water. Typically, large buildings  
6 require water for HVAC (cooling), restrooms, food service, and maintenance.

7

### 8 **Restrooms and Plumbing**

9 High-efficiency plumbing fixtures and fittings are critical to achieving water use efficiency, since  
10 restrooms and related domestic uses are the primary water consumers office buildings.

11 Appropriate water-saving technologies exist with all restroom fixtures, both in the public areas  
12 and tenant spaces. Refer to report **Section XXX General Building Sanitary and Safety**  
13 **Applications** for a discussion of water-use efficiency opportunities and best management  
14 practices for restrooms and other operations in office buildings.

15 If available, and where codes and health departments permit, non-potable, treated water may  
16 be used for fixture flushing (toilets and urinals only) and landscape irrigation applications. Refer  
17 to report **Sections XXX Commercial Landscape and XXX Alternate Water Sources** for  
18 information and best management practices related to these topics.

19

### 20 **Cooling and Heating Systems**

21 Water use related to cooling and heating amounts to about 28 percent of total water  
22 consumption in the typical office building. Cooling towers and boilers are the primary systems  
23 accounting for this water use.

24

#### 25 Cooling Systems

26 Modern office buildings need to remove heat generated by the occupants, as well as from  
27 computers, lights, kitchens, and other operations. Energy-efficient equipment may reduce such  
28 waste heat, which is usually removed by a central refrigeration system and compressor. The  
29 compressor may be air-cooled or connected with a circulating loop to a cooling tower or  
30 evaporative condenser. As warm water from the compressor is directed through the cooling  
31 tower, some water evaporates, cooling the remaining water, which returns to cool the  
32 equipment. Measures to reduce water waste in cooling towers include:

- 33 • Operating towers at a minimum of five cycles of concentration using potable water,  
34 depending upon the chemistry of the make-up water used, including considerations for  
35 reclaimed water or other on-site sources of quality water. In certain cases, where source  
36 water quality is high, CCs of as much as 15 may be achieved.
- 37 • Providing adequate training to cooling-tower operators and maintenance personnel.
- 38 • Performing a life cycle cost analysis, including all operating, capital, and maintenance  
39 costs, to determine the cost effectiveness of a cooling tower vs. air cooling.
- 40 • Equipping cooling towers with conductivity controllers, make-up and blowdown water

1 meters, and overflow alarms.

- 2 • Using dry cooling or once-through cooling with non-potable water where feasible.
- 3 • Using high-efficiency drift eliminators that reduce drift loss to less than 0.002 percent of
- 4 circulating water volume for cross-flow towers and 0.001 percent for counter-flow towers.
- 5 • Evaluating the processes in the plant for maximum energy efficiency and waste-heat
- 6 recovery, since a more efficient building will reject less heat to the cooling tower.

## 7 Heating Systems

9 Steam boilers and hot-water boilers provide heat and hot water in some buildings. Closed-loop

10 systems return water and steam condensate to the boiler for reuse, saving energy and water.

11 Open-loop systems expend the water or steam without return to the boiler. Several water-

12 efficiency actions are available to optimize water use.

- 13 • Install make-up meters on feed-water lines:
  - 14 ▪ to steam boilers and water boilers of more than 100,000 Btus per hour.
  - 15 ▪ to closed-loop hot-water systems for heating.
- 16 • Install recirculating hot-water systems for large buildings.
- 17 • Equip steam boilers of 200 boiler horsepower (hp) or greater with conductivity controllers
- 18 to regulate top blowdown.
- 19 • Install condensate-return meters on steam boilers of 200 boiler hp or greater in closed
- 20 loop systems.
- 21 • Operate closed-loop steam systems at twenty cycles of concentration or greater (5
- 22 percent or less of make-up water).
- 23 • Install code-compliant steam-distribution lines and equipment with steam traps.
- 24 • Ensure that boiler-temperature and make-up meters are clearly visible to operators.
- 25 • Ensure that discharge pipes are easy to inspect for flow. Provide visible indicators that will
- 26 show whether the valve has activated, thereby reducing plumbing leaks due to repeated
- 27 openings of water-temperature- and pressure-relief valves (TPRVs).

28 Refer also to report **Sections XXX Building Systems – Thermodynamic Processes** for

29 further information and additional best management practices related to this topic.

## 31 **Water Treatment**

32 Water treatment is used in many commercial operations, including food services, laundries,

33 pharmacies, and food service operations, all of which can be present within a multi-tenant office

34 building. The types of treatment and best management practices associated with those types

35 are fully described within **Section XXX Water Treatment Processes**. However, the most

36 important measures to improve the efficiency of water treatment include the following:

- 37 ▪ For all filtration processes, install pressure gauges to determine when to backwash or
- 38 change cartridges, followed by backwash based upon pressure differential.
- 39 ▪ Set recharge cycles by volume of water treated or by using conductivity controllers for all
- 40 ion-exchange and softening processes.
- 41 ▪ Avoid the use of clock timers for softener-recharge systems.

- 1       ▪ Use water treatment only when necessary.  
2  
3

#### 4   **Kitchen**

5   On-site commercial kitchens in office facilities can account for a significant proportion of the  
6   potable water use by the facility. For best management practices and equipment options  
7   associated with food service, refer to report **Section XXX Commercial Food Service**.

#### 8   **Ice Machines**

9   Ice machines use water for ice and sometimes for cooling the compressor. Best management  
10  practices include the following:

- 11       ▪ Select Energy Star qualified ice-making machines that are air-cooled, using remote heads  
12       to expel warm air outside the work space and customer areas. Air-cooled machines are  
13       preferred over cooling-tower loops.  
14       ▪ Select energy-efficient flake or nugget machines rather than cube-ice machines. If cube-  
15       ice machines are used, those that meet Consortium for Energy Efficiency (CEE) Tier 2  
16       or 3 efficiency standards<sup>98</sup> are preferred; avoid products that are water cooled.  
17       ▪ Refer to report **Section XXX Commercial Food Service, Commercial Ice Machines** for  
18       more information on available equipment and their efficiencies.  
19

#### 20  **Floor Cleaning**

21  Best management practices for floor cleaning include:

- 22       ▪ Discourage the use of open hoses for cleaning. While wet methods may be used, install  
23       self-closing nozzles, limiting flow to 5 gpm. Also refer to report **Section XXX**  
24       **Commercial Food Service, Washing and Sanitation** for further information on floor  
25       cleaning, available equipment, and best management practices.  
26       ▪ Install drains close to areas where liquid discharges are expected.  
27  
28

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<sup>98</sup> CEE, 2011. <http://www.cee1.org/com/com-kit/files/IceSpecification01Jul2011.pdf>

1 **Submetering**

2 Wherever feasible, meter indoor water use separately from outdoor water use. In addition,  
3 separate metering of individual units (tenants), building water-using systems (e.g., cooling  
4 towers), or building areas (e.g., food service, landscape) is recommended wherever feasible to  
5 ensure that the costs of water use and wastewater disposal are equitably distributed among the  
6 tenants and accounted for accurately.

7  
8 Tracking actual use through a building management system connected to a series of submeters  
9 can disclose operating issues (e.g., leaks, equipment and process malfunctions) that might have  
10 otherwise remained undiscovered. For a full discussion of submetering and best management  
11 practices associated with that topic, refer to report **Section XXX Building Meters, Submeters,**  
12 **and Management Systems.**

13 **Landscape**

14 Landscape irrigation represents 27 percent of water use at the typical office building site. It is  
15 important to ensure the use of climate-appropriate plant materials in the landscape and to install  
16 and monitor efficient irrigation systems that apply only the amount of water necessary.  
17 Wherever possible, meter indoor water use separately from outdoor water use. For further  
18 information and best management practices related to landscape and landscape irrigation, refer  
19 to report **Section XXX Commercial Landscaping.**

20 **Other**

- 21 Other recommendations include:
- 22 • Installing automatic shutoff and solenoid valves on all hoses and water-using equipment.
- 23

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1 **7A6: Prisons and Correctional Facilities**

2 Correctional facilities are a major component in the institutional water use sector. They fall into  
 3 the following North American Industrial Classification System Codes.

<b>Table 2. NAICS* Codes for Correctional Facilities</b>	
<b>NAICS</b>	<b>Description</b>
922140	Correctional boot camps
922140	Correctional institutions
922140	Detention centers
922140	Honor camps, correctional
922140	Houses of correction
922140	Jails (except private operation of)
922140	Penitentiaries
922140	Prison farms
922140	Prisons
922140	Reformatories
922150	Pardon boards and offices
922150	Parole offices, publicly administered
922150	Probation offices, publicly administered
922150	Public parole offices
922150	Public probation offices
922150	Rehabilitation services, correctional, government
* NAICS - North American Industrial Classification System	

4

5 California houses over 290,000 prisoners and detainees in Federal, State, and local facilities.  
 6 According to the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation, about 170,000 of  
 7 these people reside in state facilities. California is home to approximately 500 correctional  
 8 facilities. Table 1 shows the types of facilities based on State and Federal records.

<b>Table 1. Correctional Facilities in California*</b>	
Type of Facility	Number in State
Federal	15
State Prisons	33
State (Other Facilities)	28
Local Facilities	540+
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>625+</b>
*Source: California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation - Corrections Year at a Glance 2011, and <b>CALIFORNIA COUNTY JAILS &amp; STATE PRISONS            CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES -Jail.org</b>	

9

10 Prisons are much like small cities. They have living, eating, medical, laundry, manufacturing,  
 11 boilers and cooling towers, and industrial operations. Table 2 summarizes types of water use  
 12 found in prisons and provides the references to applicable sections in the document that  
 13 describe best management practices for that use.

Table 2. Water Uses Found at Prisons and Correctional Facilities	
Type of Use	Section Describing BMP for Use
Employee restroom facilities	<p><i>Chapter and Section numbers will be added when the document is set and the table of contents finalized.</i></p>
Medical/dental facilities	
Food service	
Inmate restroom facilities	
Inmate showering facilities	
Laundries and clothes washers	
Cooling towers and boilers	
Water treatment	
Cogeneration and energy facilities	
Wastewater treatment	
Prison industries	
Prison farms, greenhouses, and gardens	
Pools and recreational facilities	
Landscape irrigation	
Vehicle washing	
Educational facilities	
Leaks, metering, and unaccounted for water	
Reclaimed water	
Alternate on-site sources of water	

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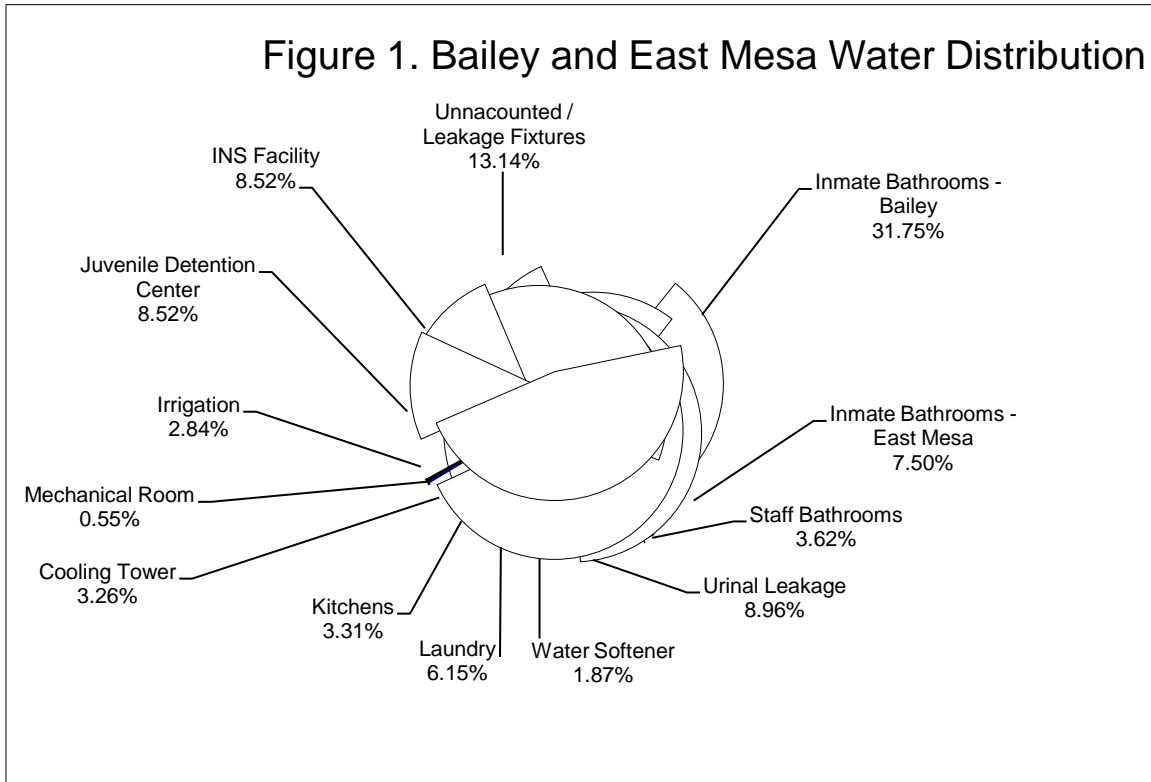
2 Some ways that water is used in prison is unique in its wastefulness. In his book,  
3 **Unquenchable: America's water crisis and what to do about it**, author Robert J. Glennon  
4 talks about toilet telegraphs, the use of toilets to reduce boredom, a toilets as a means of  
5 disposing of contraband, often causing minor flooding. In fact, he reports that toilets are  
6 sometimes flushed 100 times a day. The main point is that prisoners are locked in their cells for  
7 over 20 hours a day with plenty of time to invent ways to use (WASTE) water. Audits of prisons  
8 by Water Management Inc. have shown that prisoners often flush the toilets in their cells fifteen  
9 to twenty times a day. For regular sanitation uses, one person should flush five to six times a  
10 day.

11 One best management practice unique to prisons is the use of flush valves that limit the number  
12 of flushes that a can occur in a given amount of time, thus eliminating much of this excessive  
13 flushing. A number of California prisons have used these valves, saving significant volumes of  
14 water.

15 The Otay Water District has made a concerted effort to work with correctional facilities in their  
16 service area in San Diego County: the R.J. Donovan Correctional Facility, a State Prison, and  
17 the George F. Bailey Detention Center & East Mesa Detention Facilities. Before the water  
18 conservation effort, the Donovan facility used over 885 acre-feet per year (290 million gallons  
19 per year). For the Donovan facility, the audit showed that just the potential indoor savings were

1 in the range of 84 million gallons per year (Table 3.), a 29 percent reduction in indoor use. With  
2 all measures in place – indoor, outdoor, and managerial – water use had declined to under 450  
3 acre-feet per year (145 million gallons per year) or a 45 to 50 percent drop by 2010.

4 For the George F. Bailey Detention Center & East Mesa Detention Facilities, reductions were  
5 similar. Based on the first nine months of water use for 2010 compared to a similar period in  
6 2009, water use has decreased more than fifty percent. Figure 1 shows the breakdown of  
7 indoor water use and facility operations water use for the detention facilities. Measures taken  
8 include all those found in Table 3 for the Donovan facility.



9

10 *Source: Information provided by William Granger and Rhianna Pensa, Otay Water District, San Diego*  
11 *County, California*

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Table 3. Proposed Water Conservation Measures at the Donovan State Prison

Measures	Quantity	Gallons/ Year Savings	Annual Savings	Installed Cost	Payback with Incentives
<i>Inmate Bathroom Fixtures – Facility 1-4</i>					
I-CON Electronic Bathroom Controls	2,092	57,834,260	\$421,039	\$1,851,420	4.0
I-CON Electronic Shower Controls	176	13,094,010	\$114,812	\$155,760	1.0
I-CON Electronic Faucet Controls	500	5,840,000	\$51,207	\$442,500	8.3
<i>Inmate Bathroom Fixtures- Facility 5</i>					
Replace commercial toilets	26	1,790,592	\$12,714	\$26,185	1.9
Replace urinal flush valves	4	156,160	\$1,109	\$2,026	1.8
Install flow reducers for faucets	44	78,022	\$554	\$2,577	4.7
<i>Common Area Bathrooms Facility 1-5</i>					
Replace common area toilets	267	2,797,729	\$19,865	\$237,700	10.7
Replace common area urinals	23	468,096	\$3,324	\$9,965	3.0
Replace common area faucet aerators	265	68,270	\$591	\$4,770	8.1
<i>Laundry</i>					
Ozone Laundry System	1	1,750,000	\$38,704	\$151,429	2.8
<i>Kitchen</i>					
Kitchen Pre Rinse Spray Nozzles	8	175,200	\$1,789	\$0	-
<b>Total</b>		<b>84,052,339</b>	<b>\$665,706</b>	<b>\$2,884,331</b>	<b>4.6 years</b>

2

3 Source: Information provided by William Granger and Rhianna Pensa, Otay Water District, San Diego  
4 County, California

5

6 The California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation has implemented a system-wide  
7 initiative to reduce water use as part of the State mandate Executive Order S-06-08 that  
8 declared a state of drought in California. CDCR set a goal of reducing water consumption by 20  
9 percent statewide, and the results have been significant. The following is a report released by  
10 the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation in 2009 (See actual news release at  
11 the end of this segment). The prison system continues to make progress.

**California Prisons Reduce Water Consumption by 21 Percent Through Comprehensive Drought Response Plan**

SACRAMENTO – Today the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) announced it has achieved a 21 percent annual reduction in its water usage, saving 2.4 billion gallons of water— enough to fill approximately 65,000 swimming pools.

1 CDCR's water conservation program began in 2006 with a pilot project to install "flush meters" on toilets in selected  
2 prisons. In 2008, under the direction of Governor Schwarzenegger's Executive Order S-06-08 declaring that California is in  
3 a state of drought, CDCR set a goal of reducing water consumption by 20 percent statewide. On February 27, 2009  
Governor Schwarzenegger declared a state of emergency on water shortage in response to three years of drought  
conditions.

"As California's largest state agency and a major water user, Corrections has taken steps to drastically reduce water consumption and prepared a comprehensive drought response plan in anticipation of another dry summer," said CDCR Secretary Matthew Cate. "CDCR's expansive water savings program has reviewed water usage in our 33 prisons and correctional facilities across the state. We are reducing water consumption on a massive scale through a combination of methods including conservation, elimination of nonessential use, retrofits, and increased efficiencies. Through the efforts of our wardens and staff across the state, we have achieved the Governor's goal for our agency of reducing consumption by 20 percent, and are continuing to search for new and innovative means to lessen the impact of the drought."

To comply with the Governor's Executive Order, CDCR has enacted the following measures:

- Flush meters have been installed at nearly one-third of all adult institutions, with more under construction in 2009. Institutions with flush meters result in a 27 percent average annual savings of water, versus 17 percent for institutions without flush meters.
- Institutions are now reporting monthly water consumption to CDCR Headquarters.
- Prisons and other facilities have enacted low-or-no-cost water conservation methods.
- Headquarters has distributed a "Best Management Practices Water Management & Conservation" document to all institutions that covers:
  - eliminating nonessential water use;
  - modifying practices for water efficient landscaping;
  - leak detection and repair – building systems and equipment;
  - water-efficient irrigation; and
  - laundries and vehicle washing.
- On-site Water Consumption Surveys have been initiated at prisons.
- CDCR has identified other opportunities for additional water savings through operational modifications and best practices in inmate housing, kitchens, grounds and laundries.
- Additional water conservation projects have been launched.

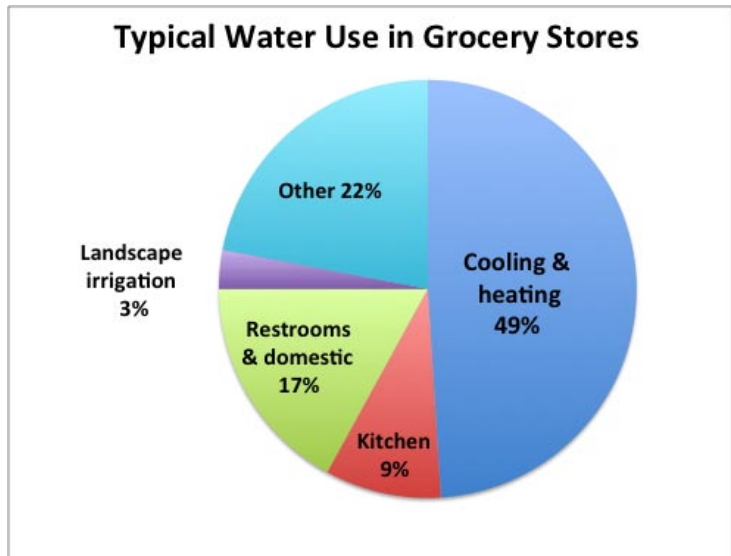
"This is just the beginning," said Deborah Hysen, CDCR's Chief Deputy Secretary, Facility Planning, Construction and Management Division which oversees the effort. "Through a centralized reporting process and basic surveys we are conserving more water than ever before. As the drought continues we hope to enact additional water savings programs." CDCR's water conservation efforts are part of its agency-wide environmental resource conservation program. CDCR is on-track to achieve the goal laid out by the Governor of reaching a 20 percent reduction in energy usage by 2015. These savings will be realized through the use of solar photovoltaic power plants, implementing peak load reduction programs, and by installing the latest in lighting technology. CDCR has been recognized as a national leader and as the first state government agency member of the Climate Registry.

1 **7A7: Retail, Grocery Stores and Food Markets**

2

3 **Introduction**

4 Grocery stores and food markets  
5 typically use water for a variety of  
6 operations: spraying fresh vegetables  
7 with cold water, ice machines, deli  
8 operations, food preparation and  
9 restaurant service, restrooms, photo  
10 processing, floor cleaning, and  
11 cooling refrigeration equipment with  
12 cooling towers and evaporative  
13 condensers. Ice is often used in  
14 vegetable displays to maintain  
15 product freshness and to enhance  
16 aesthetic appeal.



17

18 In the general retail sector, water use is directed more at sanitary applications – restrooms and  
19 cleaning – and, in most cases,  
20 landscape.

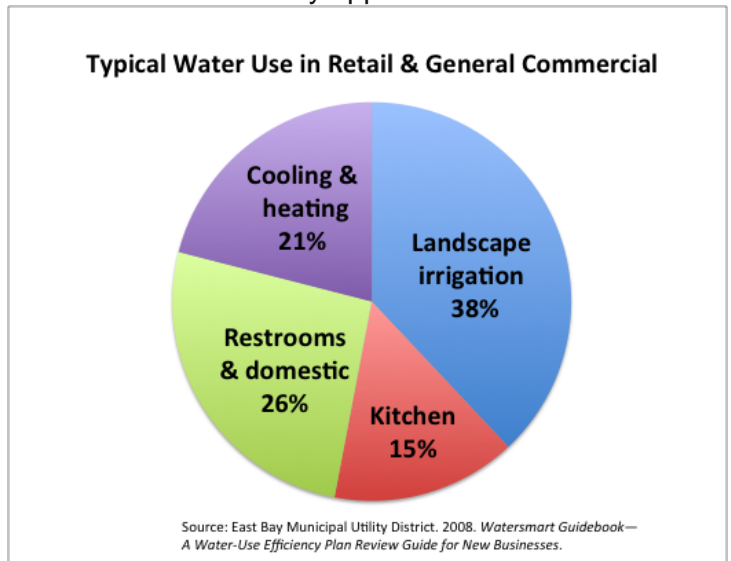
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22 Multi-tenant commercial structures,  
23 such as mixed-use strip malls that are  
24 also occupied by medical activities,  
25 such as dentists, physicians, and  
26 clinics), distribute water differently  
27 (**Section XXX Medical Processes**).

28

29 **Cooling and Heating Systems**

30 Water use related to cooling and  
31 heating accounts for 49 percent of  
32 total water consumption in the typical



33 grocery store. Freezers, refrigeration and cooler operations, and comfort air conditioning  
34 equipment are often linked to remote refrigeration equipment. According to recent studies of  
35 grocery stores in California, half the water used at facilities with cooling towers is used by the  
36 cooling towers themselves. In other parts of the South and Southwest, air cooling, typically with  
37 multiple rooftop units, is more common<sup>99</sup>. The use of multiple rooftop units allows a grocery to  
38 continue to operate even if one or two units are down for repair. The use of air-cooling also  
39 eliminates the cost of building and operating a cooling tower. However, air-cooled units are  
40 generally less energy-efficient than systems using cooling towers, especially under full- or base-

<sup>99</sup> Refer to Section VII.C.2 on Thermodynamic Processes for further information.

1 load conditions.

2 In the general retail sector, water use for cooling and heating is estimated at 21 percent of total  
3 use. However, the same recommendations and best management practices apply.

4 Refer to report **Sections XXX Building Systems – Thermodynamic Processes** for a full  
5 discussion and information and best management practices related to this topic.

## 6 **Kitchen Operations**

7 In addition to traditional groceries, some grocers offer prepared food for take-out and eat-in.  
8 Preparation of food for sale and the resulting scullery operations are areas that use large  
9 amounts of water. Selecting energy-efficient kitchen equipment helps reduce waste heat, which  
10 also has implications for water use.

11 Water consumption for dishwashing and other scullery operations can be reduced through the  
12 following best management practices:

- 13     ▪ Use only efficient pre-rinse spray valves (1.6 gpm maximum) for dish rinsing.
- 14     ▪ Use strainer (scraper) baskets in place of garbage disposals (grinders).
- 15     ▪ Install ENERGY STAR automatic dishwashers meeting efficiency standards set by the  
16         Consortium for Energy Efficiency (CEE).
- 17     ▪ Install steam doors on dishwashers.

18 For food preparation, several best practices offer opportunities for improved water efficiency.

- 19     1. Select combination ovens that use no more than 15 gallons of water per hour and comply  
20         with the California energy rebate list.
- 21     2. Instead of steam tables, install dry heating tables.
- 22     3. Thaw food in refrigerators. Avoid thawing food under running water.
- 23     4. Return and reuse condensate from all boiler-type steam kettles.
- 24     5. Size steam traps for proper operation to avoid dumping condensate.
- 25     6. Insulate condensate-return lines.
- 26     7. Use pasta cookers with a simmer mode and automatic over-flow-control valves. Restrict  
27         flow to 0.5 gpm.
- 28     8. Use connectionless or boilerless steamers consuming no more than 3 gallons per hour.
- 29     9. Install in-line restrictors that reduce “dipper well” flows to under 0.3 gpm where permitted.

30 For further information on these and other best management practices in the kitchen, refer to  
31 report **Section XXX Commercial Food Service**.

## 32 **Ice Machines**

33 Ice machines may be located in vending areas for customers, as well as in the central kitchen of  
34 a grocery or food market. These machines use water for the ice itself and sometimes for  
35 cooling the compressor. These best management practices apply:

- 36     ▪ Select ENERGY STAR qualified ice-making machines that are air-cooled, using remote  
37         heads to expel warm air outside the workspace and customer areas. Air-cooled  
38         machines are preferred over cooling-tower loops.
- 39     ▪ Select energy-efficient flake or nugget machines rather than cube-ice machines. If cube-  
40         ice machines are used, those that meet CEE Tier 2 or 3 efficiency standards are  
41         preferred.
- 42     ▪ Refer to report **Section VII.A.1 Commercial Food Service, Commercial Ice Machines**

1 for more information on available equipment and their efficiencies.

## 2 **Restrooms and Plumbing**

3 Appropriate water-saving technologies exist with all restroom fixtures. Refer to report **Section**  
4 **XXX, General Building Sanitary and Safety Applications** for a discussion of water use  
5 efficiency opportunities and best management practices for restrooms and other operations in  
6 lodging facilities.

7  
8 If available, and where codes and health departments permit, use non-potable, treated water for  
9 fixture flushing (toilets and urinals only) and landscape irrigation applications. Refer to report  
10 **Sections XXX Commercial Landscape** and **XXX Alternate Water Sources** for information  
11 and best management practices related to these topics.

## 12 **Floor Cleaning**

13 Best management practices for floor cleaning include:

- 14     ▪ Discourage the use of open hoses for cleaning. While wet methods may be used, install  
15       self-closing nozzles, limiting flow to 5 gpm. Refer to report **Section XXX Commercial**  
16       **Food Service, Washing and Sanitation** for further information on floor cleaning,  
17       available equipment, and best management practices.
- 18     ▪ Install drains close to areas where liquid discharges are expected.
- 19     ▪ Arrange equipment for easy use of a mop and squeegee system or floor-cleaning  
20       machine.

## 21 **Submetering**

22 Separate metering of water-using systems and building areas is recommended where possible  
23 to ensure accurate tracking of the costs of water and wastewater disposal, particularly in multi-  
24 tenant commercial applications where tenancy is divided among disparate users with widely  
25 different water use demands. Accountability for individual water use and the associated water  
26 and sewer costs by each tenant often leads to the implementation of water efficient practices by  
27 those tenants, reducing overall property water consumption.

28 Tracking actual water use through a building management system connected to a series of  
29 submeters can rapidly disclose operating issues such as leaks and equipment malfunctions that  
30 might have remained undiscovered for a period of time. For a full discussion of submetering  
31 and best management practices associated with that topic, refer to report **Section XXX**  
32 **Building Meters, Submeters, and Management Systems.**

## 33 **Other**

34 Other recommended best management practices for grocery and retail facilities include:

- 35     ▪ Install automatic shutoff and solenoid valves on all hoses and water-using equipment.
- 36     ▪ Use self-contained “mini labs” that require no plumbing or washing for on-site photo  
37       processing.
- 38     ▪ Conspicuously mark fire-protection plumbing so no connections will be made other than  
39       those for fire protection.
- 40     ▪ Install flow-detection meters on fire services to reveal unauthorized water flows.

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- <http://www.sydneywater.com.au/Publications/FactSheets/BestPracticeGuidelinesForWaterConservationInCommercialOfficeBuildingsAndShoppingCentresPart3AlternativeWaterSources.pdf>
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## 7A8: Schools and Educational Facilities

### Introduction

Schools, colleges, universities, and vocational institutions use water in many ways, including some that are similar to those of the following sectors: lodging, food service, laundry, and office buildings. They have in common many of the water-using systems and equipment common in those sectors, such as restrooms and sanitary functions, food service equipment, image processing, water purification, on-premise laundries (colleges and universities), vacuum systems, cooling towers and boilers, and cleaning, as well as the industrial processes taught in many of the vocational schools and classes. This discussion highlights the key water-using elements of typical schools.

### Restrooms and Plumbing

Restrooms and related domestic uses are the major water consumers in schools. Appropriate water-saving technologies exist with all restroom fixtures. Refer to report **Section XXX, General Building Sanitary and Safety Applications** for a discussion of water use efficiency opportunities and best management practices for restrooms and other operations in school facilities.

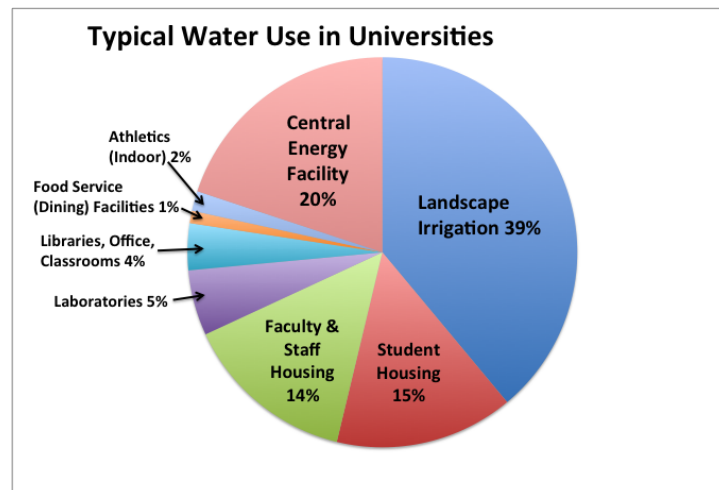
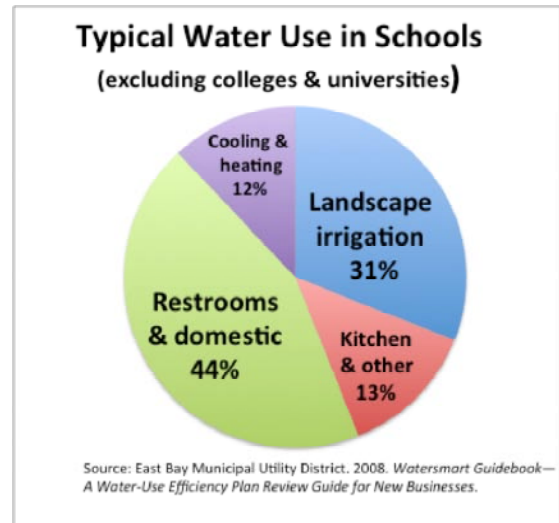
If available, and where codes and health departments permit, non-potable, treated water may be used for flushing toilets and urinals and landscape irrigation applications. Refer to report **Sections XXX Commercial Landscape and XXX Alternate Water Sources** for information and best management practices related to these topics.

### Cooling and Heating Systems

Water use related to cooling and heating, mostly in cooling towers and boilers, accounts for about 12 percent of total water consumption in the typical school.

#### Cooling Systems

Modern schools need to remove heat generated by the occupants, as well as the computers, research laboratories, lights, kitchens, and other operations, usually by means of a central refrigeration system and compressor. The use of energy-efficient equipment may reduce such



1 waste heat. The compressor may be air- cooled or connected with a circulating loop to a  
2 cooling tower or evaporative condenser. As warm water from the compressor is directed  
3 through the cooling tower, some water evaporates, cooling the remaining water, which returns  
4 to cool the equipment. Measures to reduce water waste in cooling towers include:

- 5 • Operating towers at a minimum of five cycles of concentration (CC) when using potable  
6 water, depending upon the chemistry of the make-up water used, including considerations  
7 for reclaimed water or other on-site sources of quality water. In certain cases, where  
8 source water quality is high, CCs of as much as 15 may be achieved.
- 9 • Providing adequate training to cooling-tower operators and maintenance personnel.
- 10 • Performing a life-cycle cost analysis, including all operating, capital, and maintenance  
11 costs, to determine the cost effectiveness of a cooling tower vs. air cooling.
- 12 • Equipping cooling towers with conductivity controllers, make-up and blowdown water  
13 meters, and overflow alarms.
- 14 • Using dry cooling or once-through cooling with non-potable water where feasible.
- 15 • Using high-efficiency drift eliminators that reduce drift loss to less than 0.002 percent of  
16 circulating water volume for cross-flow towers and 0.001 percent for counter-flow towers.
- 17 • Evaluating the processes in the plant for maximum energy efficiency and waste-heat  
18 recovery, since a more efficient building will reject less heat to the cooling tower.

### 19 Heating Systems

20  
21 Steam boilers and hot-water boilers provide heat and hot water in some buildings. Closed-loop  
22 systems return water and steam condensate to the boiler for reuse, saving energy and water.  
23 Open-loop systems expend the water or steam without return to the boiler. Several water-  
24 efficiency choices are available:

- 25 • Install recirculating (including demand-based) hot water distribution systems for large  
26 buildings.
- 27 • Equip steam boilers of 200 boiler horsepower (hp) or greater with conductivity controllers  
28 to regulate top blowdown.
- 29 • For closed-loop systems, install condensate-return meters on steam boilers of 200 boiler  
30 hp or greater.
- 31 • Operate closed-loop steam systems at twenty cycles of concentration or greater (5  
32 percent or less of make-up water).
- 33 • Install code-compliant steam-distribution lines and equipment with steam traps.
- 34 • Install make-up meters on feed-water lines:
  - 35 ▪ to steam boilers and water boilers of more than 100,000 Btus per hour.
  - 36 ▪ to closed-loop hot-water systems for heating.
- 37 • Ensure that boiler-temperature and make-up meters are clearly visible to operators.
- 38 • Ensure that discharge pipes are easy to inspect for flow. Provide visible indicators that will  
39 show whether the valve has activated, thereby reducing plumbing leaks due to repeated  
40 openings of water-temperature- and pressure-relief valves (TPRVs).

41 Refer also to report **Sections XXX Building Systems – Thermodynamic Processes** for  
42 further information and additional best management practices related to this topic.



1 **On-Premise Laundries**

2 On-premise laundries exist in nearly every major college and university in California. Refer to  
3 report **Section XXX, Fabric Cleaning and Washing Equipment and Technologies** for a  
4 discussion of water use efficiency opportunities and best management practices for on-premise  
5 laundries in schools.  
6

7 **Special Facilities**

8     ▪ For laboratories, choose dry-vacuum systems rather than liquid-ring pumps. For vacuum  
9     and compressor systems, use air-cooled, radiator-cooled, chilled-loop, or cooling-tower  
10     systems. Sterilizers in laboratories should be equipped with water tempering devices.  
11     Water used by cage, glassware, and bottle washers in laboratories should comply with  
12     the requirement outline elsewhere in this report. For further details on these and other  
13     items of laboratory equipment, refer to report **Sections XXX Medical and Laboratory**  
14     **Equipment and Processes** and **XXX Water Treatment Processes**.

15     ▪ For vocational facilities dedicated to vehicle repair, refer to report **Section XXX Auto and**  
16     **Truck**.

17     ▪ For photography and medical and other imaging, try to use digital technologies that allow  
18     images to be displayed on electronic video screens and stored in computer files. Where  
19     film imaging is required, use self-contained “mini-lab” developing units that require no  
20     special plumbing or washing to develop the film. For paper or film image copies use  
21     laser or ink-jet printing.

22 **Floor Cleaning**

23 Best management practices for floor cleaning include:

- 24     ▪ Discourage the use of open hoses for cleaning. While wet methods may be used, install  
25     self-closing nozzles, limiting flow to 5 gpm. Also refer to report **Section XXX**  
26     **Commercial Food Service, Washing and Sanitation** for further information on floor  
27     cleaning, available equipment, and best management practices.
- 28     ▪ Install drains close to areas where liquid discharges are expected.
- 29     ▪ Arrange equipment for easy use of a mop and squeegee system or floor-cleaning  
30     machine.

31 **Submetering**

32 Separate metering of water-using systems and building areas is recommended where possible  
33 to ensure that the costs of water use and wastewater disposal are accurately tracked. Tracking  
34 actual use through a building management system connected to a series of submeters can  
35 disclose operating issues such as leaks and equipment malfunctions that might have remained  
36 undiscovered. For a full discussion of submetering and best management practices associated  
37 with that topic, refer to report **Section 7.8.8 Building Meters, Submeters, and Management**  
38 **Systems**.

39  
40 **Residence Halls (college and university)**

41 For college and university on-campus residence halls, refer to the report section on **Hotels and**  
42 **Motels** as well as **XXX on laundry facilities** and **XXX General Building Sanitary and Safety**

1 **Applications.**  
2

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1 **CASE STUDY – UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, IRVINE**

2 UC Irvine (UCI) is the first of the University of California campuses to participate in the Strategic  
3 Energy Partnership (SEP), joining with the local water utility to reduce potable water use.  
4 Through joint funding with the Irvine Ranch Water District (IRWD), UCI's Plumbing Shop  
5 retrofitted 70 toilets in high-traffic restrooms with High-Efficiency Toilets (HETs). The HETs use  
6 1.28 gallons per flush compared to the 3.0 gallons per flush used by the targeted toilets. This  
7 retrofit equates to a 57 percent reduction in potable water consumption per toilet, totaling 2.6  
8 million gallons and \$11,800 in annual savings.

9 UCI has also taken advantage of the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California's "Save  
10 Water – Save A Buck" program to retrofit 83 urinals with High-Efficiency Urinals (HEUs). The  
11 HEUs flush with one pint (0.125 gallons) of water compared to the 1.5 and 3.5 gallons per flush  
12 used by the targeted urinals that were removed. This resulted in an average 95 percent drop in  
13 potable water consumption per urinal, totaling 3.4 million gallons and \$15,700 in annual savings.

14 To determine the value of the water savings, UCI and IRWD commissioned a third party to  
15 calculate the average usage and savings per fixture based on the campus population and  
16 number of fixtures on campus. With this report and an audit of all the restrooms on campus,  
17 UCI developed a work plan to replace the most inefficient toilets and urinals in the restrooms  
18 that get the most traffic and estimated the water savings resulting from such replacements. The  
19 result was an average savings per fixture that IRWD could use to calculate the incentive value  
20 and UCI could use to calculate the annual savings in their operating budget for water.  
21

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1 **Additional Resources**

2 East Bay Municipal Utility District. 2008. *Watersmart Guidebook—A Water-Use Efficiency Plan Review Guide for New*  
3 *Businesses*. Pages FOOD8-FOOD9. [www.ebmud.com/for-customers/conservation-rebates-and-](http://www.ebmud.com/for-customers/conservation-rebates-and-services/commercial/watersmart-guidebook)  
4 [services/commercial/watersmart-guidebook](http://www.ebmud.com/for-customers/conservation-rebates-and-services/commercial/watersmart-guidebook)

5 Food Service Technology Center. *Water Conservation Measures for Commercial Food Service*.  
6 [www.fishnick.com/savewater/bestpractices/Water\\_Conservation\\_in\\_CFS.pdf](http://www.fishnick.com/savewater/bestpractices/Water_Conservation_in_CFS.pdf)

7 Food Service Technology Center. *Water, Water Everywhere and Not a Drop to Waste*.  
8 [www.fishnick.com/saveenergy/greensheets/GreenSheet\\_Water\\_Waste\\_1.pdf](http://www.fishnick.com/saveenergy/greensheets/GreenSheet_Water_Waste_1.pdf)

9 Sydney Water, 2007. *The Conserver: Helping Schools Save Water Without Compromising Quality*.  
10 <http://www.sydneywater.com.au/Publications/CaseStudies/EarlyleakdetectionschoolsConserver12.pdf>

11 Sydney Water, 2003. *The Conserver-Business Bulletin: Simple Measures-Big Savings, University of Wollongong*.  
12 <http://www.sydneywater.com.au/Publications/CaseStudies/UniversityofWollongong1Conserver3.pdf>

13 Sydney Water, no date. *The Conserver-Business Bulletin: Invisible Modification Reduces Residential College's Water*  
14 *Consumption by 40 Percent*.  
15 <http://www.sydneywater.com.au/Publications/CaseStudies/StAndrewsCollegeConserver3.pdf>

16 Sydney Water, 2007. *The Conserver: Mission Accomplished, Sydney Institute*.  
17 <http://www.sydneywater.com.au/Publications/CaseStudies/TAFENSWSydneyInstituteConserver12.pdf>

18 Sydney Water, 2005. *Save Water, Money, & the Environment: Saving Water in Community Swimming Pools or*  
19 *Leisure Centres*.

20 U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, ENERGY STAR program. *Best Practices—How To Achieve the Most Efficient*  
21 *Use of Water in Commercial Food Service Facilities*.  
22 [www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=healthcare.fisher\\_nickel\\_feb\\_2005](http://www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=healthcare.fisher_nickel_feb_2005)

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# 1 **7A9: Vehicle Washing**

## 2 **Background**

3 This section addresses vehicle washing. It includes commercial carwashes open to the public,  
4 fleet operations, including car, truck and bus washes, and washes for trucks and light vehicles  
5 that leave industrial sites to enter the public thoroughfare. Stand-alone businesses providing  
6 these services, categorized under NAICS 811192, include mobile carwash systems and  
7 detailing shops that offer hand washing. Some businesses, like car dealerships, vehicle rental  
8 companies, convenience stores, or service stations often have the same equipment, but they  
9 are not listed under this NAICS classification. Similarly, quarries, cement or asphalt companies  
10 with wheel or truck wash equipment are classified under their principal business type rather than  
11 this code.

12 According to the 2007 Business Census, businesses falling under the NAICS 811192 category  
13 provided \$1 billion of economic activity and almost 24,000 jobs in California. While water use  
14 data is not aggregated on a statewide basis for this industry, some municipal water agencies  
15 track customer water use by class on gallons per vehicle (gpv) basis. These data provide an  
16 estimate of statewide water demand when multiplied by the average number of washes per  
17 business type.

18 This section only addresses the wash equipment associated with cleaning the exterior of the  
19 vehicle. Water uses and best management practices associated with domestic uses of water  
20 found at the businesses can be found in the General Building Sanitary and Safety Applications  
21 section, and water uses associated with businesses that are co-located with a carwash can be  
22 found in sections appropriate to that business. In addition, some vehicle washes have  
23 landscaped areas, and the water uses associated with those landscapes are addressed in that  
24 section.

25 In 2006, the CUWCC estimated that the total water use for all commercial vehicle washes would  
26 be approximately 60,000 acre-feet by 2020 based upon the growth rate in dedicated vehicle  
27 wash businesses from the 1997 to 2002 California business census figures. This estimate  
28 included commercial vehicle washes available to the general consumer and vehicle wash  
29 systems at car dealerships. It did not include washing of vehicles leaving industrial sites for  
30 which there are no centralized data sources.

## 31 **Description**

32 The most common types of vehicle washes are divided into three classes by the International  
33 Carwash Association: conveyor, in-bay automatic, and self-serve.<sup>100</sup> This section deals with  
34 general and particular patterns of water use and best management practices applicable to all  
35 three types of vehicle washes. In a conveyor vehicle wash, separate spray arches and/or  
36 brushes perform these steps. In in-bay automatic washers, all processes are performed through

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<sup>100</sup> Brown, Water Conservation in the Professional Carwash, International Carwash Association,  
2000

1 a set of nozzles, except in those cases where brushes are used in the wash cycle. Self-service  
2 vehicle washes use a hand-held wand, though there may also be a brush for the wash cycle.  
3 Truck and bus washes use the same types of equipment only on a larger scale, typically  
4 combining the spray wands of a self-service or tunnel with the arches of a conveyor wash.

## 5 **How Water is Used**

6 Water use in vehicle washes is controlled by type of equipment, water pressure, speed, nozzle  
7 size, and presence or lack of an on-site reclamation system. Typically, car washes are divided  
8 into specific stages in which water is delivered by different equipment, at different rates, and of  
9 different quality. The four basic phases are pre-wash, wash, application of finish products, and  
10 rinse. In some vehicle washes, the drying stage presents an opportunity to save water and  
11 reclaim it for use in the earlier stages of the wash.

12 Pre-wash cycles are usually performed by a handheld spray wand or fixed nozzles designed to  
13 knock loose dirt and grit off a vehicle prior to the wash cycles. The wash cycle(s) use detergent  
14 or surfactants and high-pressure sprays or brushes. In the conveyor or in-bay automatic  
15 washes, the brushes may be in the form of strips of cloth on a spinning axle or a curtain of cloth  
16 that is pulled from side-to-side over the vehicle. Reclaimed water, when used, is typically used  
17 in the pre-wash and/or wash cycles.

18 Rinse cycles may use high- or low-pressure sprays, and in some cases, they may include water  
19 treated for greater clarity. When reverse osmosis water treatment is used for the rinse water, the  
20 reject water may be reclaimed for use in the pre-wash or wash cycles.

## 21 **Water Use and Best Management Practices by Type of Vehicle Wash**

### 22 **Self-Service Carwash**

23 Self-service vehicle washes are typically coin-operated with spray wands and brushes operated  
24 by the customer. The wash facility typically contains four to six wash bays and a central  
25 equipment room that houses water process equipment. The customer controls whether and for  
26 how long to use low-pressure or high-pressure settings, as well as whether to use a spray wand  
27 or brush. As a result,, the carwash owner/operator does not have direct control over the water  
28 use at the facility. With a fixed pricing structure for the initial purchase of several cycles plus the  
29 ability to purchase additional time (usually at a 25¢ per unit), however, the customer has a direct  
30 monetary incentive to move as quickly as possible, thus conserving water. Studies of vehicle  
31 wash water use efficiency have shown that on average, self-service carwashes use the least  
32 amount of water, 15 gallons per vehicle (gpv).

33 In addition to water used in the pre-soak and wash cycles, many self-service operations also  
34 offer a spot-free rinse. As with in-bay automatics, reject water from the RO unit may be used in  
35 landscape watering if landscape exists.<sup>101</sup> Because customers wash their own vehicles  
36 unattended, self-service operators sometimes find evidence of dumping of oils or other organic

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<sup>101</sup> However, since reclaim is not typically used in self-service washes, except where required by law, reuse of RO reject water is not typically an option in self-service carwashes.

1 materials in the wastewater. Such dumping is expensive, difficult to remedy, destructive of  
2 filters, and it provides a disincentive to the use of reclaimed water in self-service washes.

### 3 **In-Bay Automatic**

4 “In-bay automatics” have a wash bay in which the customer stays in the vehicle as spray  
5 nozzles, brushes, or a combination of both carry out the individual cycles. The vehicle remains  
6 stationary during the process, and the carwash machinery is moved over the vehicle by a  
7 gantry. In-bay automatics have the greatest variety in basic design with some machines  
8 comprising an entire moveable arch, others having vertical and horizontal arms suspended from  
9 the gantry, and yet others with spinning arms attached to the gantry.

10 Nozzle size, number and alignment, flow rates, and timing all affect water use in the in-bay  
11 automatic vehicle washes. Since all of the water flows to one pit, and all of the chemicals mix  
12 together, reclaim systems can be more costly and a bigger challenge to maintain than in  
13 conveyor carwashes. Many in-bay automatic operations also offer a spot-free rinse, which is  
14 typically obtained with reverse osmosis (RO) or deionization (DI) equipment. The Water  
15 Treatment Systems section contains a more detailed discussion of water treatment systems  
16 found in commercial carwashes.

17 As with the conveyor vehicle wash, in-bay automatics that use brushes or cloth use less water  
18 than frictionless or “touch-free” vehicle washes. Some in-bay automatics also reduce water use  
19 by using laser sensors to identify the length of the vehicle, thus limiting the gantry movement  
20 and timing of wash based upon the sensor signals. The International Carwash Association study  
21 of 2002 found average in-bay automatic water consumption per vehicle to be 42.9 gallons,  
22 although differences in equipment produce great variability among sites.

### 23 **Conveyor**

24 The conveyor wash, which is usually installed in a tunnel, includes a series of cloth brushes or  
25 curtains and arches from which water is sprayed while the vehicle is pulled through the tunnel  
26 on a conveyor chain. Some “touchless” carwashes use only spray nozzles. In full service  
27 conveyor carwashes, hand drying usually follows the conveyor; likewise, the pre-soak is often  
28 done by hand, sometimes with held wands similar to those found at self-service carwashes.

29 In friction carwashes, the wash cycle is accomplished with brushes or soft cloth curtains.  
30 Conveyors with friction components use less water than frictionless washes because the  
31 brushes or curtains pick up water and detergent from the pre-soak of vehicles as the day  
32 proceeds.<sup>102</sup>

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<sup>102</sup> Kobrick, J.D., et. al., 1997. *Water uses and conservation opportunities in automatic carwashes: A City of Phoenix study*, June.

1 The most recent national survey of carwash businesses reported that 73 percent of conveyors  
2 use friction components in the wash.<sup>103</sup> California specific data were not available and, thus, not  
3 separated out in the report.

4 Timing is a critical component in carwash water efficiency. In properly calibrated conveyors,  
5 nozzles are timed to turn on as the vehicle passes under the arch and to shut off as the vehicle  
6 exits each arch. Each arch is on for a matter of seconds, so conveyors can process 90 or more  
7 vehicles per hour. Proper nozzle alignment and pressure also help to maintain efficiency.

8 Further water efficiency may be obtained by the orientation of blowers after the final rinse.  
9 When properly aligned, they push water back into the tunnel after the final rinse arch. As a  
10 result, water that would otherwise be carried out of the tunnel flows back into sump, where it can  
11 be reused in carwashes with reclaim systems. Because of the speed of the conveyors and the  
12 more prevalent use of reclaim systems (56% of sites) conveyor systems use an average of 34  
13 gpv.

14 Many full-service conveyor carwashes offer towel drying as one of the services. In many older  
15 vehicle washes, the sinks for washing the towels are designed to have a constant flow of water  
16 through them. Installing a float ball valve to stop the flow of water when it reaches an optimum  
17 level is an effective water efficiency measure. Replacing older flow-through sinks or replacing  
18 top loading washing machines with front loading machines will cut water consumption by 40% or  
19 more. Some conveyor washes, referred to by the industry as “exterior-only,” do not offer drying  
20 or detailing services, thus eliminating this water use.

## 21 **Truck, Bus and Fleet Washes**

22 The type of equipment used to wash trucks, buses, utility vehicles, and heavy equipment is  
23 similar to that described above except larger in scale. Industrial or construction-related uses  
24 often must remove greater amounts of dirt and grease. As a result, they use more water per  
25 vehicle than a typical carwash. Some commercial truck wash operations are coin operated,  
26 charging customers by the length of the vehicle, usually at a cost per foot of length. Due to  
27 differences in vehicle size and shape, hand held wands are prevalent in truck washes. One  
28 modified type of equipment is a drive through arch, similar to those found in conveyors, but  
29 where the driver controls the speed at which they move under the arch. These systems are  
30 referred to as “drive through tunnels,” though sometimes the arch is found without a surrounding  
31 building. Electronic or magnetic sensors turn the arch on and off as the vehicle enters and  
32 leaves the arch. Thus, the speed of the vehicle driving under the arch influences the amount of  
33 water used.

34 Fleet washing of light passenger vehicles (such as in an auto dealership or at a rental agency)  
35 is typically done with either in-bay automatic or hand held wands and brushes. The Irvine Ranch  
36 Water District (District) surveyed 24 automobile dealerships to determine the carwashing  
37 equipment being used.<sup>104</sup> They found that 87.5 percent of automobile dealers have on-site

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<sup>103</sup> Billings, A., ed, 2000. *Almanac for the Year 2000*, Auto Laundry News, Vol. 48, No. 14.

<sup>104</sup> Sanchez, Fiona, 2006. Personal communication, Conservation Manager, Irvine Ranch Water District, April 28.



1 vehicle wash facilities in their service areas: 62.5 percent had self-service type wands; 20.8  
2 percent had in-bay automatics or drive-through type washes<sup>105</sup>; and 4.2 percent had conveyors.  
3 The ICA study did not include fleet washes, but it would be reasonable to estimate that they use  
4 about the same amount of water per vehicle as their commercial counterparts.

5 Another sector of the market, which is not well studied, entails the water used by detailing or  
6 handwashing businesses. A survey of commercial vehicle washes in 1999 found that 5 percent  
7 of respondents operated hand washes.<sup>106</sup> Anecdotal observation suggests that hand washing  
8 and detailing businesses have grown as a sector of the carwash industry, although there are no  
9 firm numbers on water use or size of market.

## 10 **Reclaim**

11 On site capture and re-use of water in vehicle washes is referred to as reclaim water. Specific  
12 equipment and steps in the process of reclaim include capture of the water in pits or troughs  
13 below the cars, treatment of the water through filtration and disinfection, storage of the reclaim  
14 water and delivery of the reclaim water to specific cycles in the vehicle wash. The types of  
15 equipment used include paper filters, sand filters, or centrifugal filters. Disinfection and odor  
16 control is carried out by use of ozone, chlorine injection, or UV systems. For additional details  
17 on the uses and management of water treatment equipment please refer to that section of the  
18 report.

19 The data from the 2002 ICA study showed that the lowest amount of water recycled in a  
20 carwash was 9 percent of total gpv, and the highest being 82 percent of water used per  
21 vehicle<sup>107</sup>. This large range in percentages of reclaim water demonstrates the difficulty in  
22 providing accurate estimates without more details on the types of reclaim systems anticipated  
23 and the associated costs of making modifications to the existing facility.

24 A 2006 Potential Best Management Practice Report by the CUWCC indicated that a statewide  
25 requirement of reclaim systems in all new Conveyor and In-Bay Automatic vehicle wash  
26 systems has a potential for water savings totaling 22,877 acre-feet per year (AFY) in 2020. In-  
27 bay automatics make up more than two-thirds of the potential savings at 16,580 AFY, and  
28 conveyors represent 6,297 AFY potential savings, in 2020. Because of difficulties in the use of  
29 reclaim systems in self-service carwashes as discussed earlier, this category was not included  
30 in the estimated savings.

31

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<sup>105</sup> No studies of water use in drive-through facilities have been published, but due to the slower speed of the vehicle proceeding through a drive-through arch, an industry representative anticipates water use to resemble an in-bay automatic more than a conveyor. Bill Sartor, former Chair of ICA, personal communication, April 2006.

<sup>106</sup> Billings, *ibid.*, 2000.

<sup>107</sup> Brown, *ibid.*, 2002, p. 39.

1     **Self Serve and Reclaim**

2     Reclaim systems are not usually used by self-service carwashes due to the relatively few  
3     gallons per vehicle used by self-service customers. However, a closed-loop reclaim system is  
4     used in self-service carwashes where there is no discharge to the sanitary sewer and all  
5     discharge is restricted.<sup>108</sup> In these situations, it is not uncommon for the self-service to be staffed  
6     on-site to prevent customers from dumping oil or other materials, which would damage the  
7     reclaim equipment in the pits.

8     **In Bay Automatics and Reclaim**

9     Reclaim equipment companies generally acknowledge that in-bay automatics provide a more  
10    expensive challenge to reclaim systems, since all chemical products, from cleaning to finish, as  
11    well as oil and grease and contaminants from the road winds up in the same separator tank.  
12    The water needs to be treated to remove all constituents that would interfere with its eventual  
13    reuse in the wash. The 2002 ICA water use study also found a wide variation in reclaim usage  
14    rates in in-bay automatics with a low of 12 percent per wash and a high of 82 percent per  
15    vehicle washed. The 2002 study found that 25 percent of in-bay automatic washes in the United  
16    States have a reclaim system<sup>109</sup>.

17    **Conveyors and Reclaim**

18    In conveyor systems, the length of the tunnels can provide opportunities to reclaim rinse water  
19    separately from wash water, necessitating different levels of treatment. This flexibility can create  
20    more cost-effective reclaim opportunities. For example, more difficult-to-treat chemicals that are  
21    used in small quantities, such as those in waxes or finish products, may be routed away from  
22    the principal reclaim system. Likewise, final rinse water may be reclaimed and reused with less  
23    treatment. The wide variety of ways that reclaim can be performed in conveyor carwashes  
24    results in a broad range of reclaimed water usage measured as a percentage of total water  
25    used per vehicle in the 2002 ICA study. The lowest amount of reclaim water used in a conveyor  
26    wash with reclaim was 9 percent per wash and the highest was 74 percent. The 2002 study also  
27    found that 56 percent of conveyor washes in the United States have a reclaim system<sup>110</sup>.

28    **Large Vehicles and Reclaim**

29    Reclaim also has an important role in industrial uses and for large vehicles as noted above. The  
30    controlled access to such facilities allows for more innovative treatment of the water, such as  
31    longer residence times and use of enzymes. Rainfall can be captured to replenish systems, so  
32    closed-loop systems can approach 100 percent nonpotable water use. A bus wash reclaim  
33    system in Seattle, for example, which was partially funded by the Seattle Public Utilities,

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<sup>108</sup> Anderson, *ibid.*, 1999.

<sup>109</sup> Brown, *ibid.*, 2002.

<sup>110</sup> Brown, C., 2002. *Water Use in the Professional Carwash Industry*, International Carwash Association.

1 achieved in excess of 80 percent efficiency and saved more than 200 gallons per vehicle.  
2 Similar results could be expected for other large vehicle reclaim systems, but studies on this  
3 sector have not been performed.

4 **Other considerations**

5 Vehicle wash operators typically pay a sewer discharge rate that covers the costs of treating the  
6 materials that have come off the vehicles, such as grit, oils and metals, and the detergents or  
7 cleaning products the facility has added. Thus oil and grit separation tanks are standard  
8 features of a vehicle wash, and reclaim equipment has added value because it helps reduce the  
9 volume of discharge per vehicle.

10 Recycled water from municipal sources is not typically delivered to commercial car washes.  
11 However in California, Marin Municipal Water District (MMWD) has done so. MMWD currently  
12 serves two commercial car washes with recycled water. Two issues have dominated use of  
13 recycled water in these car washes: pathogens and spotting on cars due to TDS. To address  
14 DPH concerns about pathogens, the car washes have been equipped with a device that  
15 automatically delivers periodic chlorine shock treatment. Also, ozonation systems are  
16 commercially available to address this issue. Spotting was addressed initially with an RO  
17 system, but MMWD reduced its recycled water TDS such that spotting on cars is now effectively  
18 managed with ion exchange and/or surfactants.

19

1 **7B: Industrial Sectors**

2

3 **7B1: Best Management Practices for Industrial Operations**

4 **Introduction:** Industrial operations are unique, even more so , than commercial and  
5 institutional operations. Although the processes are generally the same in a specific  
6 type of industry, the uniqueness comes in the configuration or layout of the actual facility  
7 and the design of equipment, which is often proprietary. As a result, "cookie cutter"  
8 assumptions on payback or the implementation of a specific BMP are impractical. The  
9 following three concepts should serve as guiding principles when considering industrial  
10 facilities:

- 11 1. **One size does not fit all** – For any given industry, there may be a dozen  
12 potential BMPs. Not all will be applicable. In many cases, establishing one BMP  
13 will make another one inapplicable because they will “be saving the same water.”
- 14 2. **Every plant is unique** - Analyzing potential payback is unique to each plant and  
15 situation. Unlike many commercial situations, manufacturing plants vary in  
16 manufacturing techniques and design, even in the same industry. As a result,  
17 what may work at one vegetable processing plant may not be applicable at  
18 another.
- 19 3. **The list should be used only as a guide** - The intent of the manufacturing  
20 BMPs is to provide a list of possible measures that plants can adopt for their  
21 specific situation.

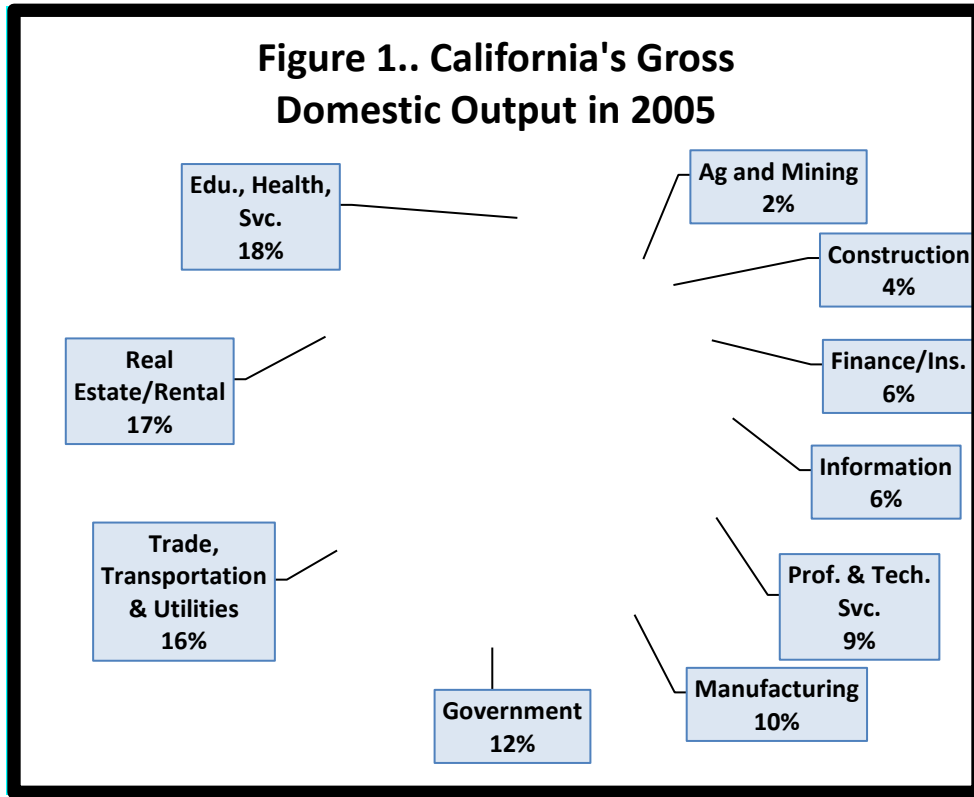
22 **Purpose:** The purpose of this chapter is to:

- 23 1. Look at the importance of industrial operations to the State of California.  
24 2. Examine how water is used in general.  
25 3. Look at six example cases of how water is used in selected major industrial  
26 sectors in the State.  
27 4. Present detailed descriptions of best management practices in each of these  
28 industries that are applicable to all industries.

29 The six industries chosen provide examples of water-using operations that are generally  
30 found in other industries.

31 **California Industries:** California leads the nation in commercial output. In fact, if  
32 California were its own country, it would rank as the eighth largest economy in the  
33 world. According to U.S. Department of Commerce information, the state's economic

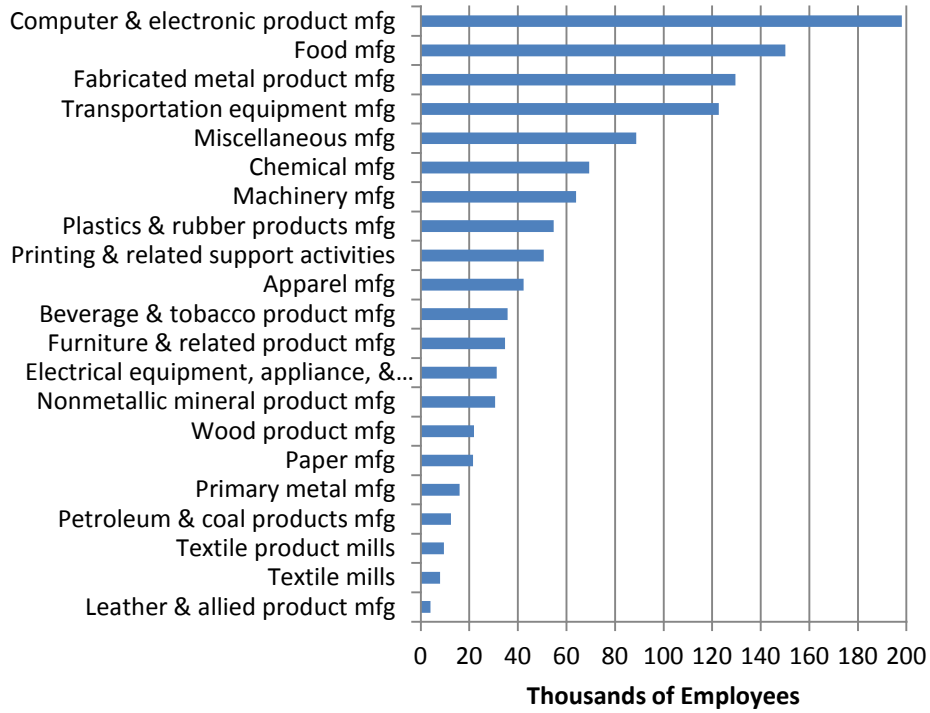
1 output in 2008 was \$1.85 trillion. Figure1. shows the distribution of that output over the  
2 various economic sectors in California.



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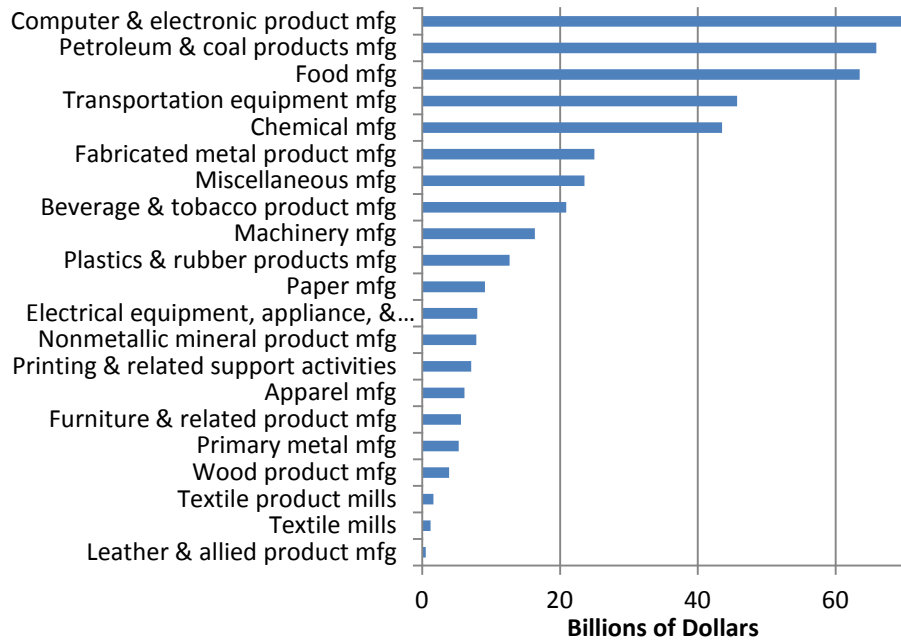
5 The manufacturing sector employed 1.197 million Californians in 2009 and produced  
6 over \$443 billion in total shipments based on the U.S. Census of Manufacturers.  
7 Figures aa, bb, and cc summarize employment and shipments by each of the major  
8 sectors. Value added, approximately the difference between raw materials and  
9 shipment, represents the "worth" added by the manufacturing process. Value added in  
10 2009 was \$225 billion while workers earned over \$63.6 billion, which averages to a little  
11 over \$53,000 dollars annually for each worker.

**Figure 2. Employment by Manufacturing Sector in California - 2009**



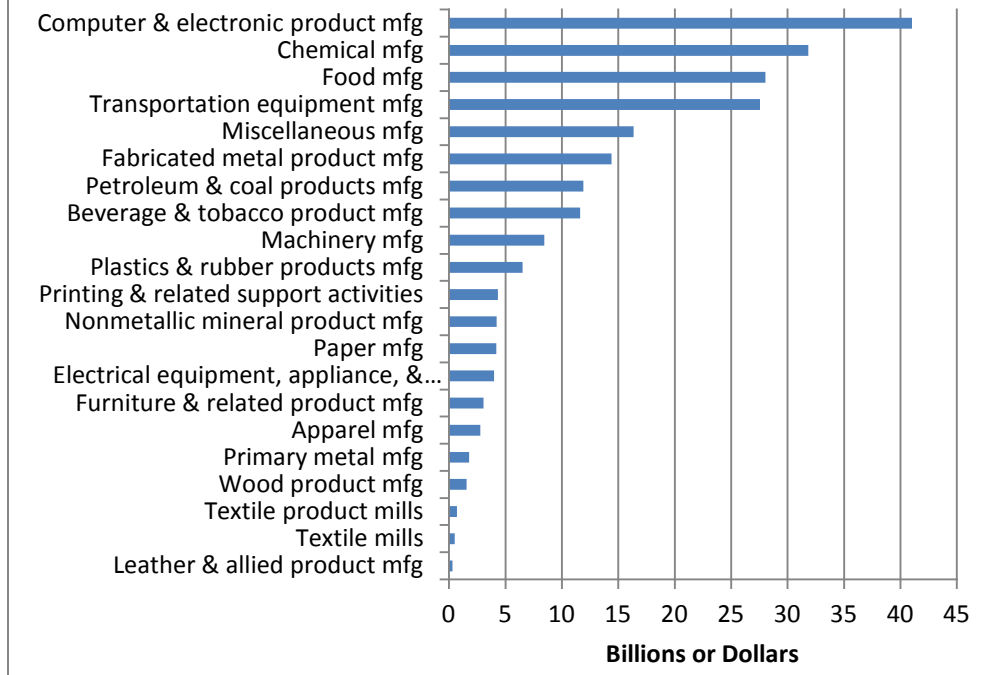
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**Figure 3. Value of Shipments in California - 2009**



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**Figure 4. Value Added  
By Sector in California - 2009**



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For purposes of this analysis, the beverage industry will be included in the food - processing sector. Prior to the 1990s the system to classify commercial activities was known as the Standard Industrial Classification system (SIC). The new North American Industrial Classification System (NAICS) has replaced the SIC system. In the new system, beverages were separated from the food processing system and combined into a new category of Beverages and Tobacco under the NAICS code of 312 with Beverages being 3121 and Tobacco being 3122. Because of confidentiality concerns, the US Department of Commerce does not list California dollar production at the four-digit level, but combines it at the 312 level including tobacco. However, it does give employment information at the four-digit level. This information shows that 99 percent of employees work in the beverage sector; therefore, NAICS 312 is used to represent this sector in the above material. The new NAICS codes also better delineated the Computer and Electronics Manufacturing sector to reflect current market conditions.

1

2 Table 1. compares old SIC codes to new NAICS codes.

<b>Table 1. Comparison of Federal Industrial Sector Codes</b>		
<b>Industrial Sector</b>	<b>NAICS*</b>	<b>SIC*</b>
<b>Food mfg</b>	<b>311</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>Beverage &amp; tobacco product mfg</b>	<b>312</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>Textile mills</b>	<b>313</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>Textile product mills</b>	<b>314</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>Apparel mfg</b>	<b>315</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>Leather &amp; allied product mfg</b>	<b>316</b>	<b>32</b>
<b>Wood product mfg</b>	<b>321</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>Paper mfg</b>	<b>322</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>Printing &amp; related support activities</b>	<b>323</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>Petroleum &amp; coal products mfg</b>	<b>324</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>Chemical mfg</b>	<b>325</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>Plastics &amp; rubber products mfg</b>	<b>326</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>Nonmetallic mineral product mfg</b>	<b>327</b>	<b>32</b>
<b>Primary metal mfg</b>	<b>331</b>	<b>33</b>
<b>Fabricated metal product mfg</b>	<b>332</b>	<b>34</b>
<b>Machinery mfg</b>	<b>333</b>	<b>35</b>
<b>Computer &amp; electronic product mfg</b>	<b>334</b>	<b>36</b>
<b>Electrical equipment, appliance, &amp; component mfg</b>	<b>335</b>	<b>36</b>
<b>Transportation equipment mfg</b>	<b>336</b>	<b>37</b>
<b>Furniture &amp; related product mfg</b>	<b>337</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>Miscellaneous mfg</b>	<b>339</b>	<b>39</b>
*NAICS - North American Industrial Classification, SIC - Old System Numbers		

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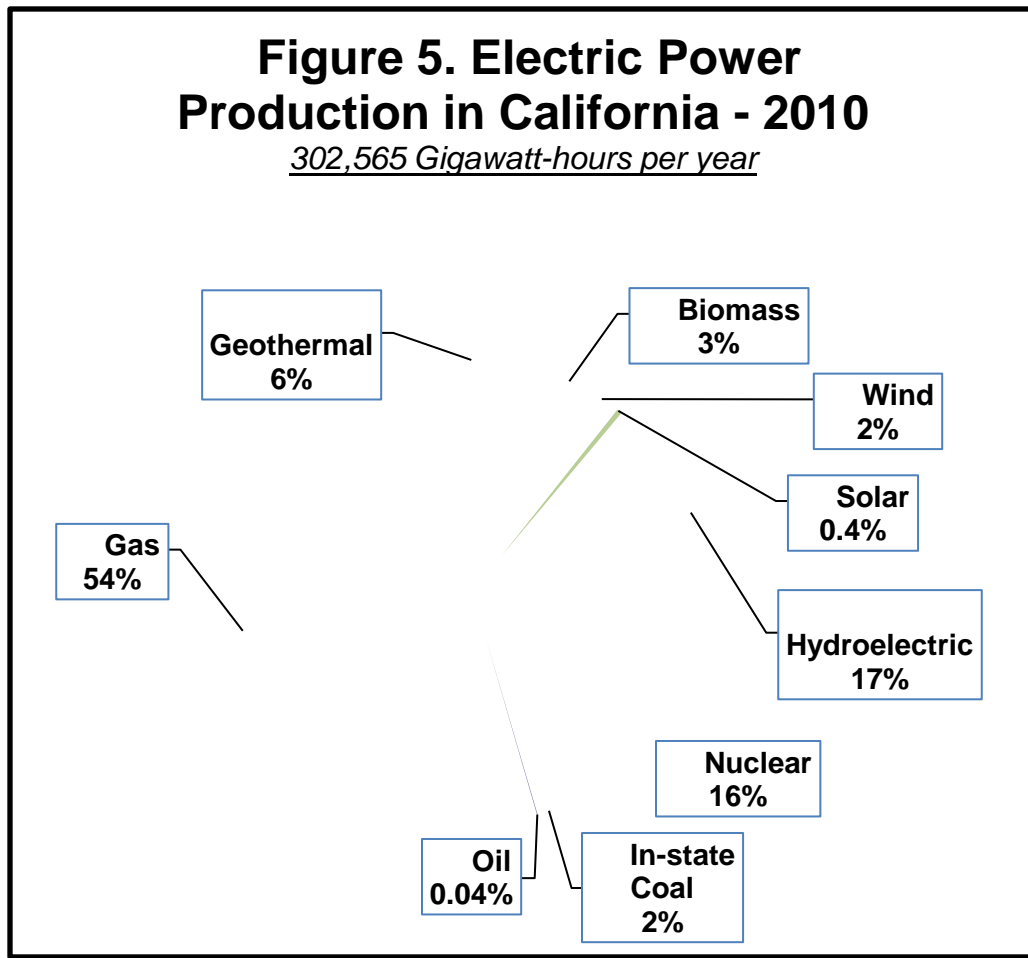
1 Table 2. summarizes the ranking of the industrial sectors in California by value of  
 2 shipments, employment, and value added. This information shows that from an  
 3 economic perspective, the major industries are computers and electronics, chemicals,  
 4 food processing, transportation equipment, fabricated metals, and petroleum.

<b>Table 2. California Industrial Economic Ranking by Three Indicators</b>			
<b>Rank</b>	<b>Value Added</b>	<b>Value of Shipments</b>	<b>Employment</b>
1	Computer & electronic products	Computer & electronic products	Computer & electronic products
2	Chemicals	Petroleum & coal products	Food processing
3	Food processing	Food processing	Fabricated metal product
4	Transportation equipment	Transportation equipment	Transportation equipment
5	Miscellaneous	Chemicals	Miscellaneous
6	Fabricated metal product	Fabricated metal product	Chemicals
7	Petroleum & coal products	Miscellaneous	Machinery
8	Beverage & tobacco	Beverage & tobacco	Plastics & rubber products
9	Machinery	Machinery	Printing
10	Plastics & rubber products	Plastics & rubber products	Apparel
11	Printing	Paper	Beverage & tobacco
12	Nonmetallic mineral products	Electrical equipment, appliance, etc.	Furniture
13	Paper	Nonmetallic mineral products	Electrical equipment, appliance, etc.
14	Electrical equipment, appliance, etc.	Printing	Nonmetallic mineral products
15	Furniture	Apparel	Wood products
16	Apparel	Furniture	Papers
17	Primary metals	Primary metals	Primary metals
18	Wood product	Wood products	Petroleum & coal products mfg
19	Textile product mills	Textile product mills	Textile product mills
20	Textile mills	Textile mills	Textile mills
21	Leather & allied product	Leather & allied product	Leather & allied product
Source: U.S. Dept. of Commerce - Census of Manufacturers			

5

## Figure 5. Electric Power Production in California - 2010

*302,565 Gigawatt-hours per year*



1

## 2 Water Use for Industry

3 Industrial water is used in eight basic ways:

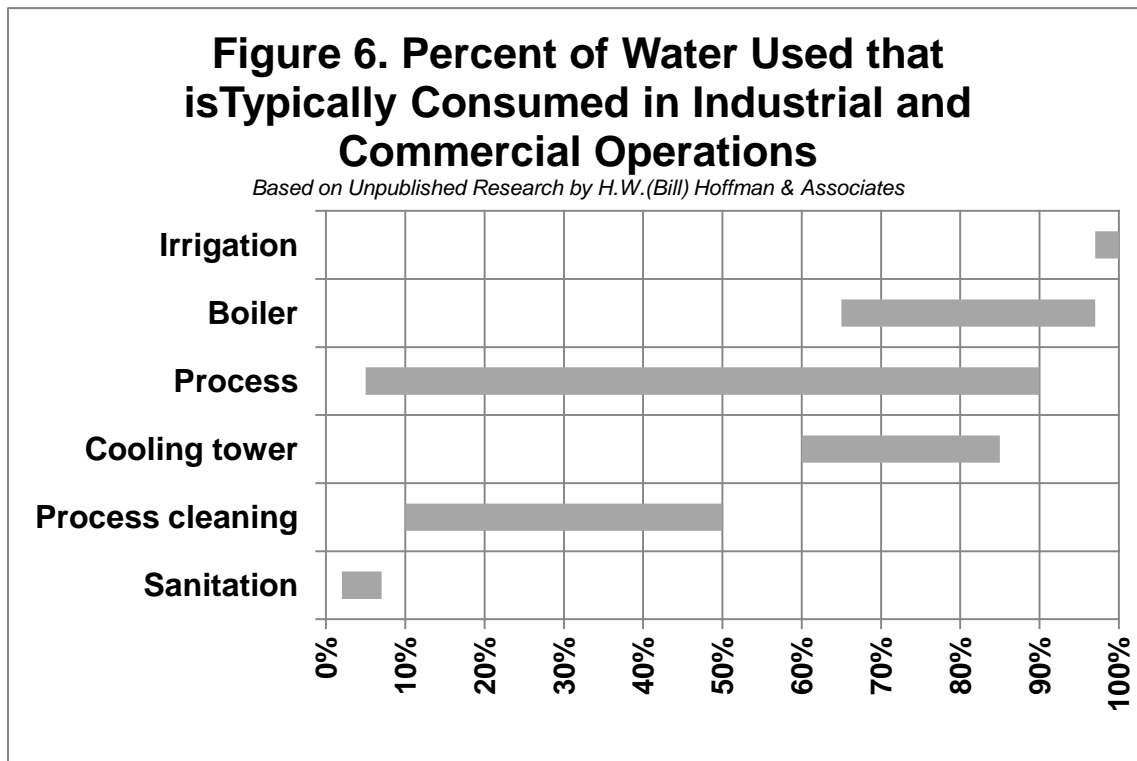
- 4 1. Cooling & boilers
- 5 2. Cogeneration and energy recovery
- 6 3. Process
- 7 4. In-plant conveyance
- 8 5. Cleaning
- 9 6. Environmental controls
- 10 7. Sanitation
- 11 8. Irrigation of landscape

12 To properly evaluate industrial water using operations, two terms must be defined: use  
13 and consumption.

- 14 1. **USE** means the total water purchased or withdrawn from a fresh or saline body  
15 of water or from a well.

1        2. **CONSUMPTION** refers to water that is either included in the product,  
2        evaporated, or otherwise not returned as an effluent from the facility. Some food  
3        processors, especially fruit and vegetable processors and wineries use their  
4        effluent for irrigation of crops. In the final analysis, the water is consumed for  
5        crop production, but not in the facility.

6        The percent of water use that is consumed and not returned depends on the type of  
7        use, the industry, and the specific process. For example, in efficient carbonated  
8        beverage (soda) manufacturing, total water use per gallon of soda produced is about  
9        1.7 gallons. This figure includes one gallon in the product and 0.7 gallons used in the  
10       plant. In petroleum refineries, over 75 percent of the water use is typically for cooling  
11       towers and boilers Figure 6. shows that the amount of water consumed in various types  
12       of industrial and commercial operations can vary considerably.



13

14

15        One of the consequences of water consumption is that the remaining water contains the  
16        concentrated minerals and salts that were in the water source and the chemicals that  
17        were added.

18        When examining industrial use, the potential source of that water will also have an  
19        impact on overall water costs. Industry can often use water that is not suitable for other

1 uses. Saline water from coastal areas is often used for cooling and recycled water and  
2 water from on-site sources can often be beneficially used.

3 To better understand the breadth of water use in industry, this section uses six industrial  
4 sectors as illustrations. They were selected because water use in each is very different.

5 The six industrial sectors are:

- 6 1. Food processing and beverage industries, including fruit and vegetable  
7 processing, wine making, and poultry processing;
- 8 2. The aerospace industry, including making of engine components, metal finishing,  
9 and plastic extrusion and molding;
- 10 3. The petroleum refining and petrochemical industries;
- 11 4. Pharmaceuticals, including drug production and the emerging biotechnology  
12 industries;
- 13 5. Electric power generation;
- 14 6. The electronics (high-tech) industry, including microelectronics and circuit board  
15 manufacturing.

## 16 **Technical Feasibility, Benefits and Cost**

17 Industrial water efficiency efforts can result in significant water and monetary savings to  
18 the industrial water user. All of the Best Management Practices (BMPs) discussed in  
19 the industrial BMP sections are technically feasible and have been successfully  
20 employed elsewhere.

21 Determining the cost and benefits of each BMP depends on a number of factors. In  
22 most cases, the solutions must be engineered to the specific facility design and layout.  
23 For example, the cost of two-inch industrial piping within a facility depends on the type  
24 of pipe material that can be used, the length of the pipe needed, and the hurdles it must  
25 overcome to be installed along with the labyrinth of other piping in the plant. The cost  
26 per foot of pipe can be as low as \$25 or more than \$300. The same variations are true  
27 for even the same equipment. For example, a pigging system launcher and retriever  
28 (see section describing clean-in-place applications) can typically be purchased for  
29 \$20,000 to \$35,000 depending on the size and application. But this figure represents  
30 only a starting point. Again, piping, the power sources to operate it, and the way  
31 materials recovered from the pipes to be pigged must be engineered for that specific  
32 application.

33 Another example is the installation of a water recycle system to recover water from the  
34 processing of wafers in a microelectronics fabrication facility (fab). For a large fab,  
35 recycling could save half a million gallons of water a day or more, but costs could range  
36 from a few hundred thousand dollars to several million dollars depending on plant  
37 design.

1 The technical feasibility can also be limited by a number of parameters. Water quality,  
2 available space, regulatory and code requirements, and technical limitations specific to  
3 a given industry or process may limit applications of a BMP. These factors are different  
4 for each type of industry, even between similar facilities producing the same products.

5 The benefits of a given BMP also depend on a number of factors including:

- 6 • The cost of water and wastewater source for that plant
- 7 • Associated energy savings or costs
- 8 • The value of any products recovered or saved as a result of the BMP
- 9 • Potentially incurred labor, solid waste, air quality, or related costs.

10 Other important factors include:

- 11 • The degree to which a facility has already implemented water efficiency  
12 measures
- 13 • The specific type and model of process equipment used within the same industry
- 14 • The life expectancy of the plant, process, or equipment to be modified.

15 In this document, case studies will illustrate the feasibility and record potential costs and  
16 savings for specific examples. Where cost ranges for specific measures are available,  
17 they will be included in the text for each BMP section.

18

19

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21

22

1 **7B2: Industry-specific Information**

2

3 **7B2a: Aerospace and Metal Finishing Industries in California**

4

5 **Introduction**

6

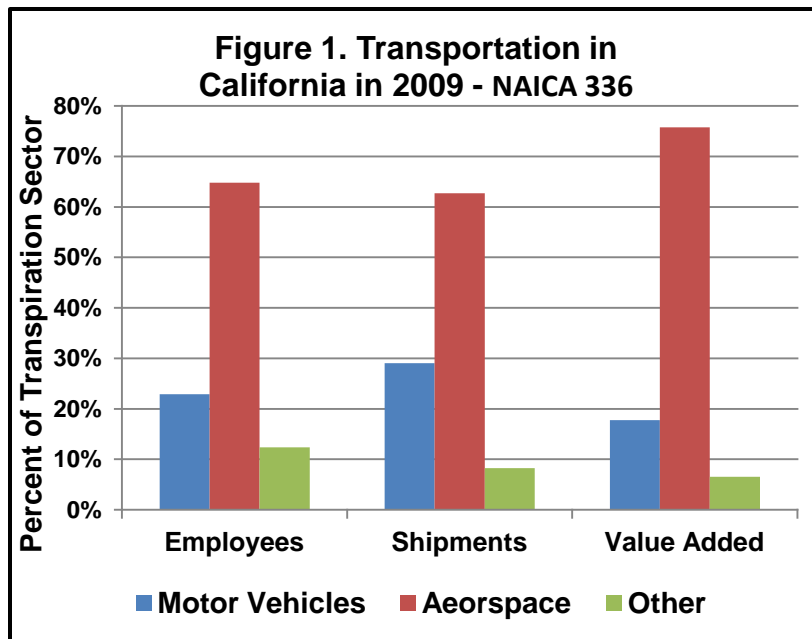
7 The term "aerospace industry" refers to a wide variety of industrial operations associated with  
8 the production and maintenance of aircraft, missiles, space vehicles, and the equipment and  
9 services that serve that sector. The industry encompasses both military and commercial  
10 aviation through original equipment manufacturing and reworking, which includes the  
11 maintenance, repair and modification of existing aircraft. All of the many tiers of the industry  
12 use water.

13 Metal finishing is the principal water using operation in the production of aircraft. Many of the  
14 operations common to this industry are found in industries that produce metals and plastics and  
15 that contain motors and controls. These products include appliances, boats, vehicles, and  
16 many types of commercial equipment. Best management practices that are applicable to the  
17 aerospace and metal finishing industry are equally applicable to these other industries.

18

19 **The Aerospace Industry**

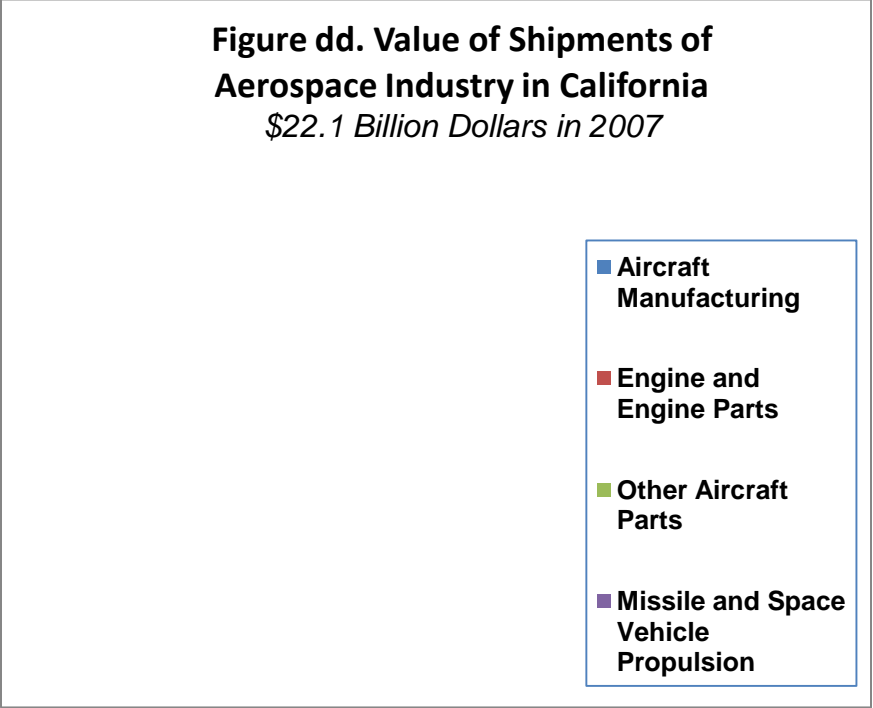
20 The aerospace industry is part of the transportation sector according to the North American  
21 Industrial Classification System (NAICS) 336. Figure 1. shows the predominance of the  
22 aerospace industry in California over other transportation equipment sectors.



23

24

1 Figure 2 shows the distribution of the value of shipments for the aerospace industry in California  
 2 based on the 2007 US Census of Manufacturers.



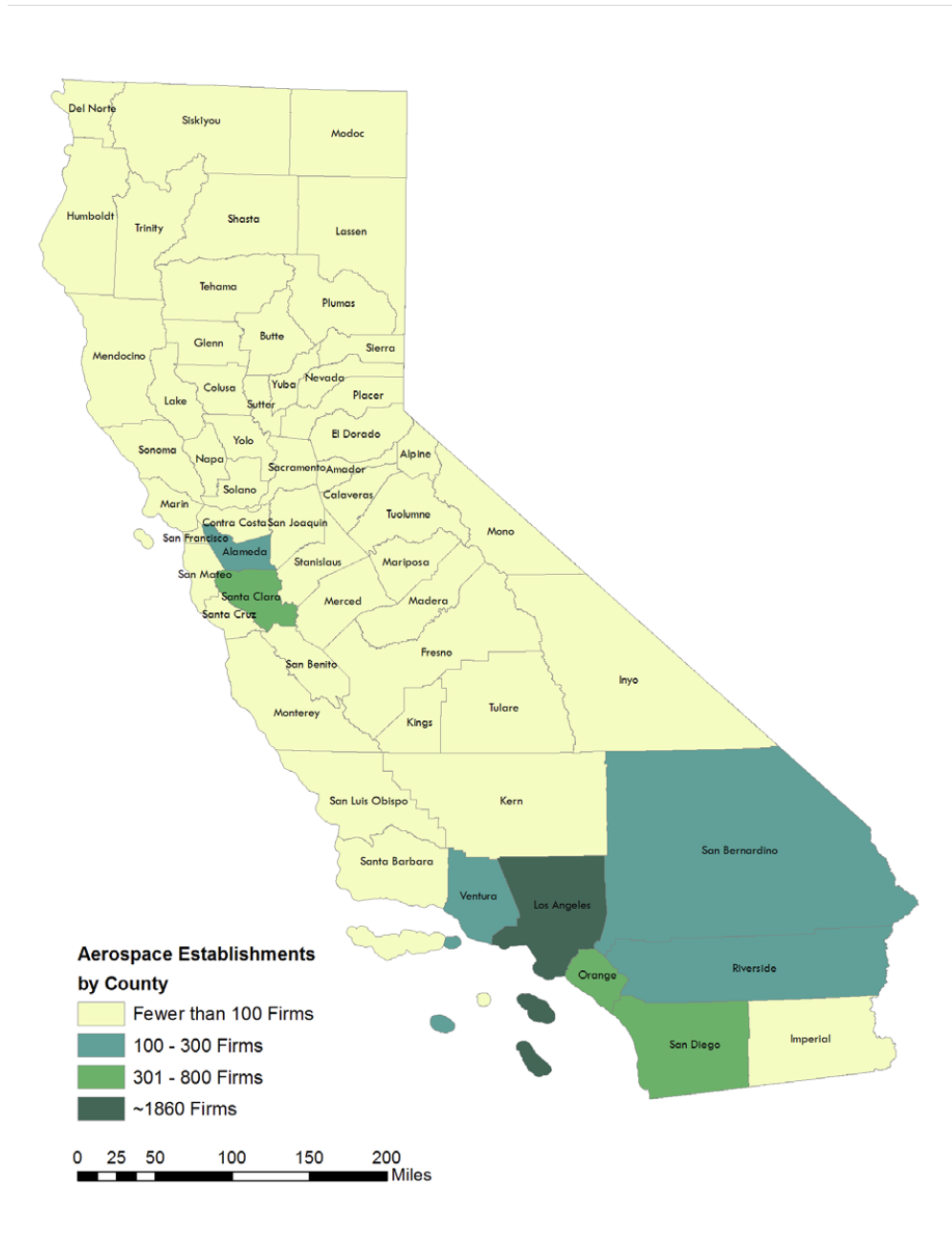
3  
 4  
 5 Based on U.S. Department of Commerce data, employment in this sector increased from  
 6 70,297 employees in 2007 to 79,098 employees in 2009. Likewise, the value of shipments rose  
 7 from \$22.1 billion in 2007 to \$28.4 billion in 2009 in California. Table 1. summarizes  
 8 employment and the value of shipments for 2007.

<b>Table 1. California Aerospace Industry in 2007</b>			
<b>NAICS</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Value Added (Billions of dollars)</b>	<b>Employment (Thousands)</b>
336411	Aircraft Manufacturing	6.5	13.3
336412	Engine and Engine Parts	5.3	23.4
336413	Other Aircraft Parts	9.2	29.5
336414	Guided Missiles and Space Vehicles	0.1	0.1
336515	Missile and Space Vehicle Propulsion	1.1	4.1
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>22.1</b>	<b>70.3</b>

9  
 10 As figure 3. shows, most of California’s aerospace industry is located in Southern California and  
 11 the Silicon Valley - San Francisco Bay Area. Actual manufacturing has declined according to  
 12 the publication, “Aerospace Manufacturing and Support Industries in California – 2010, but the

1 research, design, repair, and refurbishment of electronics, and the warfare aspects of the  
2 industry and space research continue to be very active.

3 **Figure 3. Aerospace Establishments in California**



4  
5 Source: Aerospace Manufacturing and Support Industries in California - 2010



1 The industry includes the following operations:

- 2 • Design
  - 3 ○ Design of all types
  - 4 ○ Administration
  - 5 ○ Academic research
- 6 • Testing and Research
  - 7 ○ Laboratory
  - 8 ○ Academic
- 9 • Manufacturing
  - 10 ○ Engines and propulsion systems
  - 11 ○ Air frames
  - 12 ○ Electronics
  - 13 ○ Structural parts
  - 14 ○ Life support and interior
  - 15 ○ Avionics
  - 16 ○ Metal working
  - 17 ○ Metal finishing
- 18 • Rework and refurbishing
  - 19 ○ Paint removal
  - 20 ○ Parts cleaning
  - 21 ○ Hydro blasting & plane washing
  - 22 ○ Processes like those in manufacturing

23 Many industries support the aircraft industry and use water in their operations. These  
24 Include:

- 25
- 26 • Hardware manufacturing - NAICS 332510,
- 27 • Machine shops - NAICS 332710,
- 28 • Precision turned product manufacturing - NAICS 332721,
- 29 • Bolt, nut, screw, rivet, and washer manufacturing - NAICS 332722, and
- 30 • Fluid power valve and hose fitting manufacturing - NAICS 332912

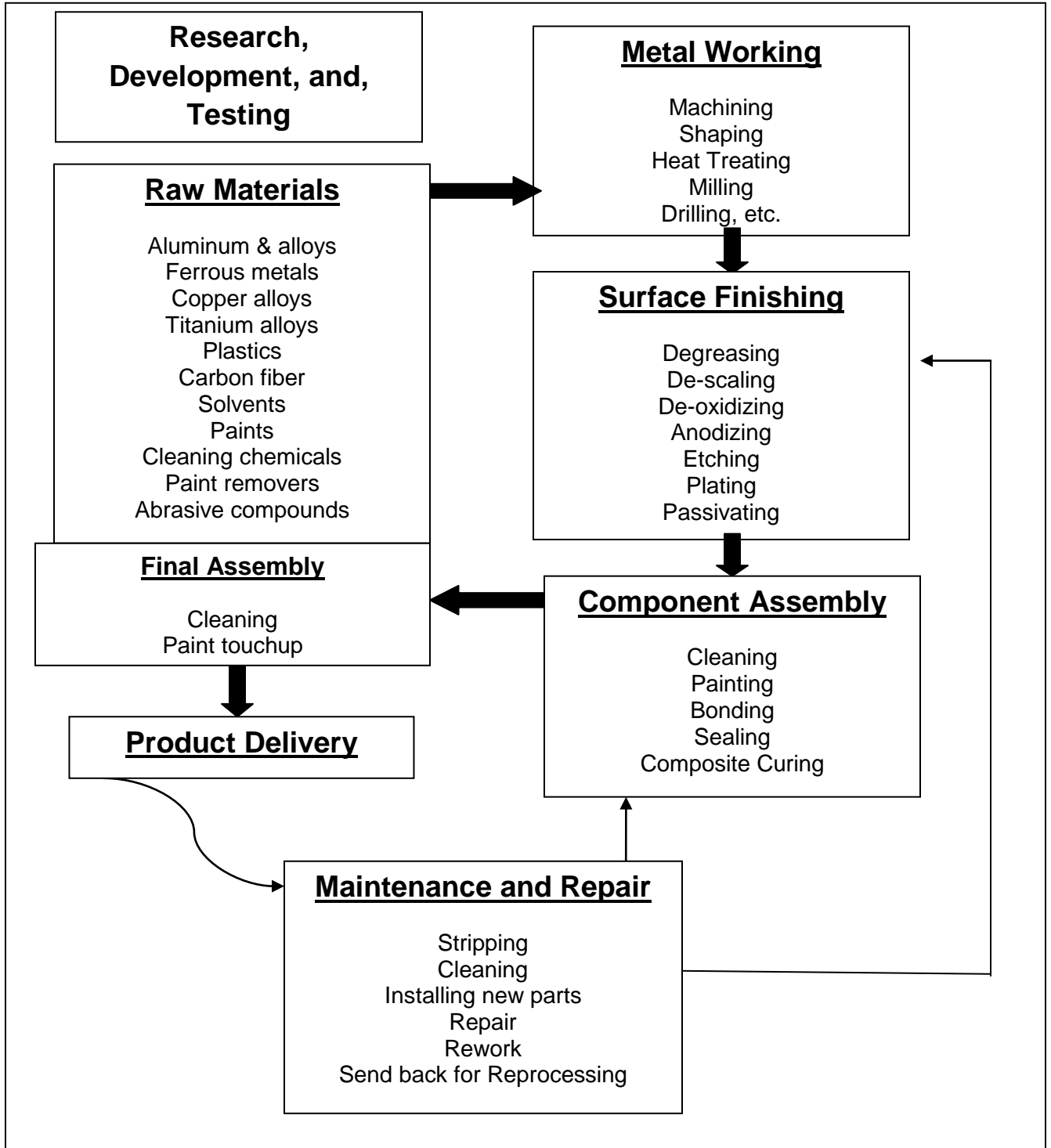
31  
32 These industries are important in their own right and are recognized as major  
33 contributors to the Aerospace industry in California. They use water for casting, milling,  
34 machining, and related uses. Many have cooling towers and other process equipment.  
35 Water efficiency is important to these industries, but they are not included in the overall  
36 discussion of the aerospace industry.

37  
38 Figure 4 shows the interaction between the different components of the aerospace  
39 industry.

40  
41  
42  
43

Figure 4. Aerospace Manufacturing Process

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11



1 **Water Use**

2 Because of the wide diversity of the industry, almost every conceivable type of water use occurs  
3 at some place in this sector. Normal uses range from landscape, cooling towers, boilers,  
4 sanitation, food service, and even laundry and swimming pool operations. Cleaning of all types  
5 is commonplace, including vehicle washing. Some operations even include medical and  
6 laboratory functions.

7 As Figure 4. shows, aircraft manufacturing employs many aspects of metal finishing. The  
8 section titled **Plating, Printed Circuit Board, and Metal Finishing** discusses water use and  
9 Best Management Practices for these operations.

10

11 Other water uses commonly found in aerospace and similar manufacturing industries include:

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1. **Molding and casting** Many metal parts are made by either pouring or injecting a material into a mold or form. Water may be used both to make the mold material, such as a wet sand mold, or for cooling the molds after injection. Any material that can be melted – such as metals, plastics, and ceramic materials – can be molded or cast into a desirable shape. The investment or lost wax method of casting involves making a wax mold that is coated in a slurry of clay; the clay is dried, and the wax melted out to form the mold.
2. **Milling and cutting** are common practices in engine manufacturing, metalworking, and production of subassemblies with forged, stamped, or cast parts Water is principally used in three main technologies:
  - a. **Electric Discharge Machining** - Micro electrical discharge milling of WC-Co using a deionized water spray and a bipolar pulse. This method of machining generally uses kerosene or deionized water as the working fluid.
  - b. **Water Jet Cutting and Milling** - Water jet cutting uses a high speed jet of water containing abrasives to cut metals, ceramics and other hard substances.
  - c. **Cutting and Milling Fluids** - Turning, mechanical milling and grinding, drilling, tapping, and sawing of metals all use cooling and cutting oils. Most are water-soluble oil-water mixtures. Air, CO<sub>2</sub>, nitrogen, oils, and gels may be used in place of oil-water mixtures, but all have cost considerations and limited applications.
3. **Welding** Resistance processes such as spot welding use water or a brine solution for tip cooling and for cooling when arc welding tungsten. Air or water may be used to cool tungsten arc welding torches and other arc welding devices.
4. **Quenching of metals** When quenching, there are four types of media: air, brine (salt water), oil, and water. Quenching is the final step in metal heat treating and annealing.

- 1 5. **Aircraft Parts stripping and cleaning** is a necessary step before hydraulic systems,  
2 engine parts, and other components may be refurbished and repaired.  
3  
4 6. **Air scrubbers** are used in many of the manufacturing and maintenance operations to  
5 remove fumes and particulates that would cause air pollution or cause health and safety  
6 hazards if not controlled. Water is used in most scrubber systems.  
7  
8 7. **Paint removal** is a routinely employed process to remove old paint from aircraft before  
9 repainting. Organic solvent strippers have been replaced with water-based caustic  
10 compounds as well as various particle, thermal, and high-pressure water systems.  
11 Caustic-based chemical stripping removes paint, but must use water to clean the  
12 stripped parts. Some systems use high-pressure water in conjunction with chemicals.  
13 The resulting wastewater - caustic mixtures are routinely filtered and recycled. Very  
14 high-pressure water systems that do not use chemicals or abrasives are also used, but  
15 they use large amounts of water.  
16  
17 Dry paint removal methods use a wide range of materials, including walnut shells, plastic  
18 pellets, sodium bicarbonate, carbon dioxide pellets, intense light, and heat.  
19  
20 8. **Painting** with solvent-based paints has been all but eliminated in most industrial  
21 processes and replaced with water-based paints or with electrostatic dry paint systems  
22 and other dry coat processes. Water is used to clean equipment and as a solvent for the  
23 paint. Systems that filter and recycle cleaning water are available. Where water  
24 curtains are used to capture paint particles in spray booths, the water needs to be  
25 filtered and recirculated. Dry electrostatic paint methods should be used where  
26 applicable.

## 27 **Metrics**

28 Annual water use estimates for the aerospace and metal finishing industries are not available.  
29 The diversity of this industry and the decline in actual manufacturing of aircraft in California all  
30 indicate that this sector's water use is declining. Establishing metrics for such a diverse industry  
31 is not possible without, at the very least, an inventory of current water use.

## 32 **Best Management Practices for the Aerospace and Metal Finishing Industry**

33  
34 The Best Management Practices described in this section are applicable to both  
35 manufacturing facilities and research laboratories/testing facilities for the aerospace and  
36 metal finishing industries. All of the BMPs are currently being successfully employed at  
37 various facilities. Their economic viability depends on specific facility design, cost of  
38 utilities, and a number of related factors. In other words, what works at one facility may  
39 not necessarily work or be economically practical at another similar facility.  
40

41 The section entitled Plating, Printed Circuit Board, and Metal Finishing describes Best  
42 Management Practices (BMPs) for metal finishing and plating. BMP's for landscape, cooling  
43 towers, boilers, sanitation, food service, laundry and swimming pool operations, vehicle  
44 washing, medical and laboratory operations, and other similar uses are described in their  
45 respective sections.

1  
2 The section on Water Use describes six common water using activities in the aerospace  
3 industry. BMP's for each of the six water using areas include:  
4

- 5 1. **Molding and casting** - Water saving opportunities depend on the type of molding and  
6 casting process used. Sand molds are a "standby" of the industry. The sand can be  
7 held together either with water or resin. Where resins can be used, water use can be  
8 eliminated. Investment casting involves making a water slurry of clay. In all cases  
9 where water is used, alternative methods are available. Mold cooling should only be  
10 done with either air or a closed cooling loop system.  
11
- 12 2. **Milling and cutting**
  - 13 a. Electric Discharge Machining - Use kerosene instead of water where feasible.
  - 14 b. Water Jet Cutting and Milling - Recycle water and abrasives.
  - 15
  - 16 c. Cutting and Milling Fluids - Air, CO<sub>2</sub>, nitrogen, oils, and gels can be used in place  
17 of oil-water mixtures, but all have cost considerations and limited applications.  
18
- 19
- 20
- 21 3. **Welding** - Where possible, use welding techniques that do not require cooling water or  
22 brine. Spot welding and tungsten arc welding tips should be air cooled where feasible.  
23
- 24 4. **Quenching of metals** When quenching, there are four types of media: air, brine (salt  
25 water), oil, and water. Where water or brine is used, water is lost directly through  
26 evaporation. Oil quench tanks are often cooled with water that circulates through coils of  
27 a heat exchanger. Once-through cooling water should be eliminated and replaced with a  
28 properly operated cooling tower or chilled water loop that recirculates the cooling water.  
29 Where feasible, air cooling should be used.  
30
- 31 5. **Aircraft Parts stripping and cleaning** is a necessary step before hydraulic systems,  
32 engine parts, and other components can be refurbished and repaired.  
33
- 34 6. **Air scrubbers** that use a water solution should be of the reticulating type and should be  
35 equipped with conductivity controllers or other devices to control the amount of makeup  
36 water. Scrubbers are excellent candidates for the use of alternate sources of water.  
37 Where feasible, a dry absorptive media should be used.  
38
- 39 7. **Paint removal** - Dry paint removal methods, including the use of walnut shells, plastic  
40 pellets, sodium bicarbonate, and even carbon dioxide pellets, should be used where  
41 feasible. Intense light and heat sources are applicable for certain types of surfaces and  
42 offer water savings, but can use energy.  
43

44 Where caustic strippers or softening agents are used that require water to remove the  
45 residue, the resulting water should be filtered and recirculated. This recirculation  
46 reduces water and chemical use and concentrates waste materials for disposal. Very

1 high pressure water systems should also be equipped with water filtration and recycle  
2 devices.

- 3  
4 **8. Painting** - Dry paint systems should be used where feasible, but for large surfaces,  
5 spray painting is still the most commonly applied method. Systems that filter and  
6 recycle cleaning water are available. Where water curtains are used to capture paint  
7 particles in spray booths, the water should be filtered and recirculated.  
8  
9

## 10 **Case Study: Spent Alkaline Cleaner Recycle at the Naval Aviation Depot - North** 11 **Island, San Diego, California**

12 Spent alkaline cleaner from the industrial cleaning operations at NADEP (Navel Aviation Depot  
13 – North Island) is contaminated with particulates, oil, and grease, which is then discharged to  
14 the Industrial Wastewater Treatment Plant (IWTP). NADEP hopes to eliminate that discharge  
15 through the use of an alkaline cleaner recycling system that uses cross flow filtration (CFF)  
16 technology originally designed to support oil and water separation, solid and liquid separation,  
17 and other applications in the petroleum industry.  
18

19 The recycling system processes the spent alkaline cleaning solution in a batch mode. From a  
20 holding tank, the solution is pressurized and fed through a ceramic filter membrane. Oil and  
21 grease are removed by the membrane and separated into a collection bin. The treated alkaline  
22 cleaning solution is then reconditioned before reuse.  
23

24 The CFF consists of ceramic membrane elements that have superior physical integrity,  
25 chemical resistance, and thermal stability. In addition, the ceramic membrane elements (either  
26 tubular or monolithic geometries) are packed separately in stainless steel housings. The  
27 stainless steel housings allow the membrane modules to operate at high temperatures  
28 (exceeding 80°C in aqueous applications) and extreme chemical conditions.  
29

30 In 1996, NADEP successfully pilot tested and evaluated the CFF system for recycling the  
31 alkaline cleaner. The study examined two commercially available non-ionic cleaner products  
32 and five lubricants commonly used by NADEP's industrial processes. Results of the pilot study  
33 showed that the CFF was effective in removing oil and grease from the alkaline solution. In  
34 addition, the pilot test showed that membrane fouling caused by hydrocarbon contaminants is  
35 negligible, and that the membrane permeability could be restored with simple cleaning  
36 techniques. The CFF process did not remove alkaline builder salts in the cleaner formulation,  
37 but the alkaline cleaner recycling system is a means to enhance the removal of fine abrasives,  
38 metals, and inorganic particles, as well as emulsified oil, from alkaline cleaning solutions.  
39 Therefore, it prolongs the life of the alkaline cleaning solution and reduces the volume of  
40 hazardous waste generated.  
41

42 The alkaline cleaner recycling system yielded the following benefits:

- 44 • Resulted in a significant reduction of solution change-outs, thereby minimizing  
45 hazardous  
46 material purchase and hazardous waste generation.
- 47 • The pilot system reduced 97.5% of the spent cleaning solution requiring disposal during  
48 one change-out thus eliminating a corresponding amount of water use.

- 1 • Pilot-scale and laboratory data indicated a removal efficiency of greater than 99 percent  
2 for oil and grease.
- 3 • Assisted in achieving the P2 goals outlined in the NADEP Pollution Prevention Plan that  
4 was mandated by Executive Order 12856.

## 7 **Implementation and Cost Information**

8  
9 The following implementation and cost factors were considered at NADEP:

- 10 • An initial capital investment of \$50,000 is required for the alkaline cleaner recycling  
11 system. The calculated payback period for this investment is approximately 1.6 years.  
12 However, the payback period could be reduced by combining spent alkaline cleaning  
13 solutions from multiple sources at NADEP North Island.
- 14 • The proposal to design, install, and operate a full-scale CFF is expected to be fully  
15 supported by NFESC. Since the unit has not yet been installed, no installation cost data  
16 are currently available.
- 17 • Training requirements on the alkaline cleaner recycling system is minimal.
- 18 • The CFF process does not remove alkaline builder salts in the cleaner formulation, but  
19 does effectively remove oil and grease. The alkaline cleaner will require reconditioning  
20 before reuse.

## 22 **Plating, Printed Circuit Board, and Metal Finishing**

23 Cleaning metal, metal plating and surface finishing, coating plastic parts with metal, and the  
24 processing of circuit and wire boards all use similar techniques to clean and plate surfaces.  
25 Metal finishing includes all industrial operations that change the properties of metals to improve:

- 26 • Corrosion resistance
- 27 • Wear resistance
- 28 • Electrical conductivity
- 29 • Electrical resistance
- 30 • Reflectivity and appearance (e.g., brightness or color)
- 31 • Torque tolerance
- 32 • Solder-ability
- 33 • Tarnish resistance
- 34 • Chemical resistance
- 35 • Ability to bond to rubber (e.g., vulcanizing)
- 36 • Hardness

37 In these operations, the parts to be processed are either drawn through the tanks, as is the case  
38 with roles of metal to be cleaned and painted, or they are suspended on racks or placed in  
39 plastic barrels that are dipped in the tanks. All processes begin with the preparation of the parts  
40 by cleaning followed by the process. Water uses include:

- 1 • Process water
- 2 • Chemical solutions makeup
- 3 • Air scrubbers
- 4 • Water treatment
- 5 • Parts and plant cleaning
- 6 • Cooling towers
- 7 • Boilers
- 8 • Domestic use
- 9 • Irrigation

10 Processes include but are not limited to:

- 11 • Metal cleaning for painting
- 12 • Wire and circuit board processing
- 13 • Anodizing
- 14 • Electrolytic plating
- 15 • Electro less plating
- 16 • Galvanizing.

17

18 **Process water:** Water saving methods for equipment and plant cleaning, cooling towers,  
19 boilers, domestic use, and irrigation are discussed in their respective sections. The following  
20 section presents twelve ways to reduce water use in plating, PCB, and metal finishing  
21 operations.

22

23 1. Dragout Control - Dragout occurs when parts being processed are removed from one  
24 tank and transferred to another. Liquid adhering to the part contains the chemicals from  
25 that tank. Allowing this material to be carried to the next tank will contaminate that tank's  
26 contents and require that that rinse water or solution be dumped or reconstituted at  
27 some point. Minimizing this carry over is the objective of dragout control. Methods to  
28 accomplish this include:

29

- 30 • Designing racks, barrels and processes, so that liquids captured in bends and curves  
31 of the pieces being processes are minimized, allowing time for parts to drain (dwell)  
32 over tank
- 33 • Using sprays in place of dipping parts
- 34 • Using air knives, fogs or misting to remove solution
- 35 • Vibrating or " bumping" parts to knock liquid off,
- 36 • Ensuring parts are pointed down so that they drain most efficiently,
- 37 • Using wetting agents,
- 38 • Hanging bars above tanks to allow parts to drain,
- 39 • Installing drip guards between tanks
- 40 • Using drain boards.

41



- 1 2. Chemical Concentration Control – The use of conductivity meters, chemical  
2 analysis equipment, optical sensors and similar methods to control the timing of  
3 draining, rinse baths, or adding chemicals to ensure it is necessary.  
4

5 **Artistic Plating and Metal Finishing, Inc.**  
6 **Reduces Water Use by 49%**

7 Artistic Plating and Metal Finishing, Inc. of Anaheim, California plates brass,  
8 copper, nickel, and chrome of small parts. Rising water and sewer costs have  
9 led the company to explore cost reduction opportunities. In response, they  
10 have installed electrode-less conductivity controllers on nine tanks on the  
11 plating line, reducing water use by 49% and reducing chemical costs by 20%.  
12 With a total installed cost of \$14,500 and annual savings of \$13,800 per year,  
the improvement paid back in 13 months.

13 *Source: Metal Finishing Association of Southern California*

- 14 3. Multiple Tank and Countercurrent Rinsing - Countercurrent rinsing and the use of  
15 multiple tanks for rinsing allows the part to be placed in the most contaminated water  
16 first. The next rinse tank contains the cleaner water and so on. With countercurrent  
17 flow, the water from the cleanest tank is used to replace the more contaminated water in  
18 the next tank. Reactive rinsing, where the rinse water from the final tank is used for the  
19 pickle-rinse tank, can also be used in some applications. Dual purpose rinsing is an  
20 option where the same rinse tanks or spray rinses can be used for multiple purposes  
21 when water quality is not critical.
- 22 4. Mechanical Mixing, Agitation and Air Blowing - Agitation of plating liquids and rinsing  
23 solution maximizes contact of the liquid with the parts being processed, thus reducing  
24 time in each bath, extending the usefulness of plating liquids, allowing lower  
25 concentrations of the chemicals in a bath, and helping to improve uniformity of the  
26 product.
- 27 5. Cleaning Method Selection- Techniques for cleaning metals before painting have  
28 changed over the years. The classic zinc and iron phosphate cleaning processes  
29 require several rinses. New zirconium compounds and methods, such as the patented  
30 Piclex process, exemplify new strategies that eliminating one or more rinses.  
31
- 32 6. Pretreatment of Makeup Water - The treatment of the water used to make up the  
33 solutions in the tanks can be important measures to achieve the maximum use of  
34 chemicals. Many plants soften their water and most major platers use reverse osmosis  
35 (RO) to produce high quality water for their makeup to plating solutions. By using RO  
36 water, unwanted constituents that would concentrate with evaporation are no longer  
37 present.  
38  
39

- 1 7. Evaporation Control - Many processes are operated at elevated temperatures or they  
2 actually produce heat during the plating process. Foams or floating balls specially  
3 designed to retard evaporation can cut evaporative losses by as much as 50 percent.  
4
- 5 8. Air Scrubbers - Air pollution is a concern in many plating operations. Air scrubbers draw  
6 the contaminated air through a scrubbing system. The section on medical and  
7 laboratory facilities describes the scrubbing process in more detail. Installing  
8 recirculation systems with conductivity controllers, temperature probes, and fill and dump  
9 controls similar to conductivity blowdown controls on cooling towers helps reduce  
10 makeup water to the scrubbers. In plating operations, the reuse of spent rinse water and  
11 other sources of water is often an excellent alternate source of makeup water.  
12
- 13 9. Water Recovery and Recycle - Rinse water can often be used as makeup water to the  
14 process tank containing the chemicals being rinsed. This practice recovers chemicals  
15 and reduces fresh water use. Some platers have used filtration and reverse osmosis to  
16 recover chemicals and produce a very clean stream of water for reuse. Zero liquid  
17 discharge (ZLD) is becoming a goal of many platers as levels of allowable chrome and  
18 other metals in effluent become more stringent.  
19

20 **Danco Metal Surfacing Reduces Water,**  
21 **Chemical and Wastewater Costs**

22 Danco Metal Surfacing, Inc. of Ontario, California plates and dies small and  
23 medium size metal parts. It performs types 2 and 3 anodization, passivation of  
24 stainless steel, and chem-film dye colors. The facility implemented two major  
25 projects that resulted in savings of over \$500 a month with a payback of less  
26 than two years and eliminated water use of over three gallons per minute. The  
27 modifications included installation of a two-tank counter flow rinse system and a  
28 reverse osmosis (RO) system to recover nickel in a black dye process.

29 *Source:* Metal Finishing Association of Southern California

- 30 10. Plating Tank Cooling - Input of electric energy into plating operations generates heat in  
31 the plating solutions. In the past, if the tank was air agitated or mixed, this heat was  
32 dissipated into the plating building. With the need to reduce air pollution and reduce  
33 evaporation, other cooling methods have been successfully employed. Recovery of this  
34 heat for use in other operation within the facility is the optimum method. This practice  
35 recovers waste energy, does not require cooling equipment, and does not consume  
36 water. Where cooling is needed, air cooling offers a real option where bath  
37 temperatures can operate at 140°F or above. The use of a cooling tower or chilled water  
38 system represent other options, but they involve water and energy use. If cooling coils  
39 are used in the tank, some form of agitation will help ensure good heat exchange. Some

1 platers circulate tank fluids through heat exchangers with pumps, thus providing for good  
2 heat transfer and helping to agitate the tank fluids.

3  
4 11. Rectifier Selection and Cooling - Rectifiers that convert alternating current (AC) to direct  
5 current (DC) for use in plating are found in all electroplating operations. Rectifiers may  
6 be either air cooled or water cooled. Air cooled rectifiers have to be placed where  
7 corrosive fumes from plating operations are not present, which usually means they are  
8 outside the plating line building. They also have to be sized so they do not overheat.

9  
10 Many older facilities use once-through cooling to cool the rectifiers. The use of a cooling  
11 tower or chilled water loop will significantly reduce water use. The waste heat produced  
12 by the rectifiers should also be recovered where possible. In addition, many plating  
13 operations operate boilers, and the waste heat from rectifiers and tank cooling  
14 operations can be used to pre-heat boiler makeup water. Heating water for the reverse  
15 osmosis system also helps improve the productivity and efficiency of RO systems.

16  
17 12. Metering, Flow Control, and Data Acquisition - The old adage of "if you don't measure it,  
18 you can't manage it" applies to plating and metal finishing operations. Metering of  
19 makeup water to the RO system, tank filling, cooling towers, and other major water using  
20 areas will help manage the system and reduce costs. Good metering will also alert  
21 managers to potential problems.

22

# 1 7B2b: Food Processing and Beverage Manufacturing

## 2 Background

3 The Food and Beverage Industry contributes \$85 billion a year to California's economy and  
4 employs more than 180,000 people representing 15 percent of the State's manufacturing work  
5 force. Food processing and beverage manufacturing are often associated with California  
6 because of the volume and popularity of California products. California produces 89 percent of  
7 the United State's wine and is the leading producer of most of the nation's fruits and vegetables,  
8 accounting for about 21% of the fruits and vegetable products grown in the U.S. California is  
9 also a leader in dairy, beef, poultry and aquaculture production. Most of these products are  
10 processed to some degree in California before going to market.

11 Water is vital to the food processing and beverage manufacturing sector both to grow the crops  
12 that provide the input for the sector and to process its products. This chapter focuses on water  
13 used in the commercial and industrial processing of food and beverages. It does not address  
14 the water used in agricultural production or water used in the commercial food and beverage  
15 industries such as commercial food preparation and restaurants. Information on those  
16 industries appears in other sections of this report.

17 Food and beverage processing covers a wide range of products, which are not all covered in  
18 this section. Due to their size and scope, the industries that will be described as representative  
19 examples in this section include fruit and vegetable processing, chicken processing, and wine  
20 making. This section includes a description of the water uses in these industries, factors  
21 influencing the ability to conserve, best management practices, use of alternative supplies, and  
22 a summary of case studies.

23 Like all industries, food processing involves energy and water use. A 2004 study conducted by  
24 the California Energy Commission found that total food processing water use accounts for  
25 approximately 37 billion gallons of water a year (113,550 acre feet). This includes total water  
26 use by the major food processing sectors, but does not include the water used to grow the  
27 products. Due to the enormity of the fruit and vegetable processing sector in California, it  
28 accounts for a large percentage of water and energy use. California food processors produce  
29 over \$13 billion of processed fruits and vegetables a year, accounting for 20% of the nation's  
30 total and \$1 billion more than the next two states combined.

<b>Table XX</b>			
<b>Utility Use by Major Food Processing Industry in California Based on 2003-2004 Information</b>			
<b>Food Processing sector</b>	<b>Water Use (million gal/Yr.)</b>	<b>Natural Gas (Million Therms/Yr.)</b>	<b>Electricity (Million kWh/yr.)</b>
Fruits & Vegetables	30,000	300-400	600-800
Cheese	600	43	583
Milk powder/Butter	360	33	130

Beef	1200	5	88
Poultry	2000	40	360
Wine	2900	41	316
Source: <b>California Food Processing Technology Road Map</b> , California Energy Commission, 2004			

1  
2 The amount of water used and the way it is used varies by the food product being processed  
3 (Table dd). Water uses that are common to multiple industry sectors are discussed in other  
4 sections of this report:

- 5 1. Domestic uses,
- 6 2. Thermodynamic processes (cooling towers, refrigeration and air conditioning, energy  
7 recovery, and cogeneration),
- 8 3. Laboratory uses,
- 9 4. Water treatment.

10

Water Using Processes	Food Processing Industry									
	Animal Processing	Animal Food	Bakeries & Tortillas	Beverages	Dairy Products	Fruits & Vegetables	Grains & Oil Seeds	*Miscellaneous	Seafood	Sugars & Confectionaries
<b>1. Potential Water Reuse</b>	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
<b>2. Environmental Control</b>	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
• Air Pollution	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
• Area Cleaning/Dust Cont.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
• Wastewater Treatment/Reuse	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
<b>3. Process Water Use</b>	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
• Inclusion in product	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
• Fluming/transport	x	x				x		x	x	
• Product washing	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
• Cooking/Autoclaving	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
• Blanching/Pre-cook	x					x		x	x	
• Peeling & Prep.						x			x	
• Processing animal parts	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	
• Canning & bottling	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	
• Can/bottle cooling/warming	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	
• Conveyor lubrication	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	
• Pump seal water & other uses	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
<b>4. Cleaning</b>	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
• Clean in/out-or place systems	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x

• Can/bottle/package cleaning	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	X
• Transport vehicle cleaning	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	X
• Crate & pallet washing	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	X
• Other cleaning	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	X
<b>5. Domestic Uses</b>	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	X
• Sanitation	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	X
• Irrigation	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	X
<b>6. Thermodynamic Processes</b>	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	X
• Cooling towers	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	X
• Boilers	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	X
• Refrigeration	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	X
• Cogeneration & thermal recovery	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	X
• Air Conditioning	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	X
• Humidification	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	X
<b>7. Laboratory Operations</b>	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	X
<b>8. Water Treatment</b>	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	X
* Miscellaneous - Snacks, Seasonings, Coffee, Dressings, etc.											

1

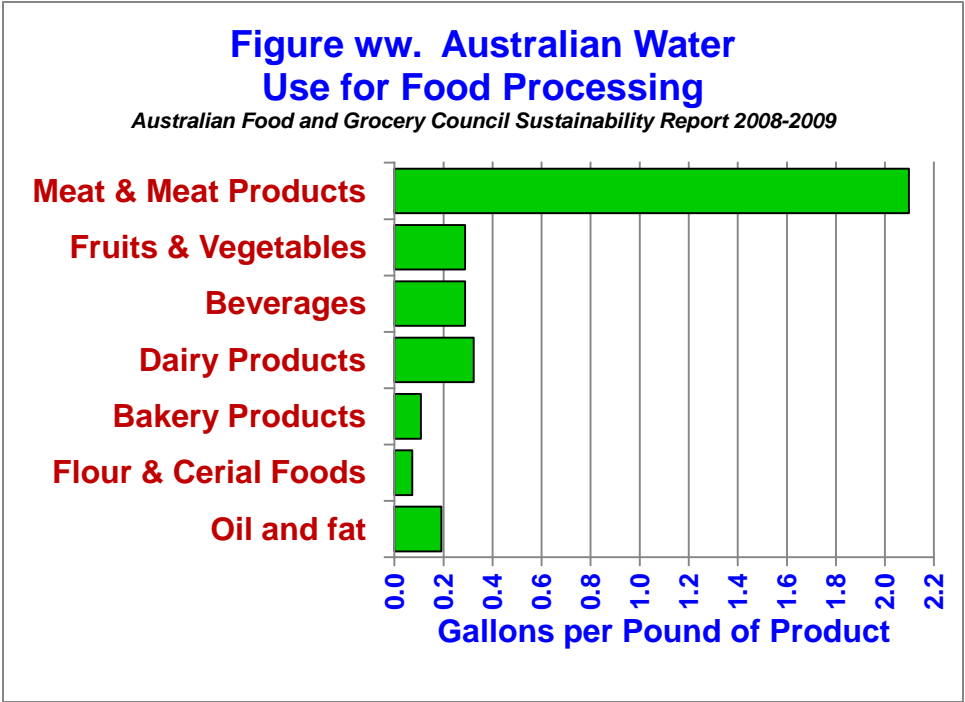
2 This chapter focuses on water uses specific to the food processing and beverage industry,  
3 specifically those uses involved in the product preparation, such as cleaning of equipment,  
4 boiler feed and cooling tower make-up, and inclusion in the product. The amount of water used  
5 per product varies depending on the product being produced.

6 Figure ww shows the result of the **Australian Food and Grocery Council Sustainability**  
7 **Report 2008-2009**. With the exception of meat and meat products, water use for most food  
8 products produced in Australia falls within 0.07 and 0.32 gallons per pound of product produced.  
9 Meat and meat products use considerably more water than other food processing industries.

10

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26

**Fruit and Vegetable Processes Water Use and Efficiency (NAICS Code 311 and 312)**

**Description**

Many fruits and vegetables are shipped directly to market from the field after an initial wash. Since they are perishable, however, many are processed to extend their life, as is the case with frozen products, juices, canned and packaged items, and pickled items.

Figures \*\*, \*\*and \*\* shown in Appendix \*\* show the steps required for processing raw fruits and vegetables, frozen fruits and vegetables, and canned tomatoes. Five major process areas that are common to all fruit and vegetable processing include:

- Cleaning and sanitation
- Product washing and sorting
- Preparation for processing (peeling, blanching, etc.)
- Food processing and cooking
- Final canning and packaging for shipment

Cleaning and sanitizing provide the most significant opportunities for water savings in many food and beverage processing facilities. Cleaning of vessels, pipes and equipment is covered in detail in the section entitled **Cleaning Industrial Vessels, Pipes and Equipment.**

1 Water use for cleaning is common to many industries, but clean-in-place and clean-out-of-place  
2 systems are unique to industries that must clean pipes and tanks from the inside for good  
3 sanitation, such as food and beverage processing.

4  
5 Product washing and sorting uses a process called fluming to transport the product. It is often  
6 the first washing process as well. Health and safety regulations determine the degree to which  
7 this water can be treated and reused. Systems designed to meet all regulatory requirements  
8 have been used to reduce water use. Water used in washing and sorting of fruits and  
9 vegetables must be treated to remove solids, color, biochemical oxygen demand (BOD), and  
10 other wastes.

11  
12 Preparation for processing involves blanching, peeling, coring, pitting, and washing of prepared  
13 items. The processes vary depending on the item being processed. In coring, pitting, and  
14 dicing operations, juices and waste are typically removed with water. Since peeling, blanching,  
15 dicing, and cutting release juices and sugars, the water used to wash produce after this  
16 operation may contain high BOD loads, thus limiting reuse options. Systems that do not use  
17 water to transport peels, cores, pits, etc. increase water reuse options.

18  
19 Food processing and cooking extends the shelf life of the food product and produces a variety  
20 of desirable products. Produce can be preserved for market in a number of ways including:

- 21 1. Refrigeration and freezing
- 22 2. Canning
- 23 3. Irradiation
- 24 4. Dehydration
- 25 5. Freeze drying
- 26 6. Salting
- 27 7. Pickling
- 28 8. Pasteurizing
- 29 9. Fermenting
- 30 10. Chemical preservation

31 With the exception of irradiation and chemical preservation, these activities all involve  
32 thermodynamic processes. The section on thermodynamic processes for cooling towers,  
33 boilers, and similar equipment provides more information on how these thermodynamic  
34 processes work.

35 Many of the cooking, autoclaving, drying, and similar operations require steam. Thus, capturing  
36 and returning steam condensate represents a water saving measure.

37 In cases where food or juices are concentrated, a number of newer food processing  
38 technologies are now available to separate solids from liquids. Thermal methods have  
39 historically dominated the industry, but they consume large amounts of energy, largely for  
40 steam. More recently developed technologies include membrane treatment processes.

41  
42 Pump seals in food processing can use significant amounts of water. In all pipe systems,  
43 pumps move the product to its destination. Food service pumps must be made of food grade  
44 materials and may not use lubricants or materials that could contaminate the food being  
45 processed. The seals on the pump must also keep out contaminants. As a result, water seals



1 are commonly used. With water seals, if the seal leaks only clean potable water will enter the  
2 food. However, water seals on pumps continuously discharge water. With multiple pumps in a  
3 typical food processing plants, pump seal water use can be significant.  
4

5 Canning and packing offers several opportunities for water conservation. First, cans must be  
6 cooled once they exit the retort or autoclave. Conversely, cold products such as bottled fruit  
7 juices, beer, and sodas must be warmed so the can or bottle does not collect condensation  
8 ("sweat"). Washing of bottles, jugs and containers after filling has historically taken place by  
9 immersion of large volume sprays that run as long as the process line operates. Electronic  
10 sensors on the line can actuate a spray system that only washes full cans and bottles when they  
11 are passing by.

12 Lubrication of conveyor belts that move cans and bottles through the process has commonly  
13 used water as the medium for lubrication. This water is softened and mixed with biocides and  
14 soaps before it is sprayed onto the conveyors. Dry lubrication systems are rapidly gaining  
15 acceptance in the industry.

16

## 17 **Beverage Manufacturing**

18 Beverage manufacturing includes the production of bottled and packaged fluids such as distilled  
19 spirits, beer and wine, soft drinks, bottled water, and related products. With a few exceptions,  
20 all of these beverage products have the same basic water uses and opportunities for water  
21 savings. They all use water for cleaning, bottling, and the common uses of boilers, cooling  
22 towers, domestic use, irrigation, and related uses.

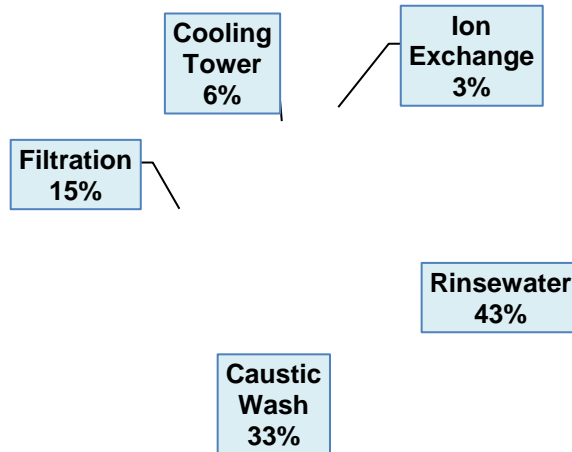
23 In light of these similarities, this document focuses on wine making as a common example.

24 Making wine is one of the oldest food processing activities on earth. While modern wineries use  
25 many of the same techniques as ancient wine makers, they also use automation, newer  
26 materials, and more advanced sanitation techniques. California produces between 85 and 90  
27 percent of the wine made in the U.S. It is a nearly \$20 billion dollar industry and a major  
28 employer.

29 The wine making process is water intensive since water is needed at every step of the process.  
30 Uses include the normal domestic and landscape uses found in all workplaces, as well as  
31 cooling towers and steam boilers in some facilities. With respect to cooling, the California  
32 winemaking industry consumes over 400 gigawatt-hours of electricity annually, making it the  
33 second largest electricity-consuming food industry in California after fruit and vegetable  
34 processing (California Energy Commission, 2004). A large portion of this electricity is used to  
35 operate refrigeration equipment that requires cooling towers, a water intensive operation. The  
36 2010 publication, Comprehensive Guide to Sustainable Management of Winery Water and  
37 Associated Energy, provides an overview of the sources of wastewater in the wine making  
38 industry. This information provides a reasonable approximation of how water is used within this  
39 sector (Figure ##).

## Example of Winery Wastewater Distribution

*Comprehensive Guide to Sustainable Management of Winery Water and Associated Energy*



1

2 Understanding the potential for water efficiency in the wine making process requires an  
3 examination of the steps in winemaking. This section examines water conservation methods  
4 and internal reuse methods unique to wine making. Subjects such as ion exchange, clean-in-  
5 place systems, cooling towers, boilers, and water used for employee sanitation are covered in  
6 their respective chapters.

7 The single largest use of water in wine making is for cleaning vessels and equipment, but there  
8 are many other uses, including:

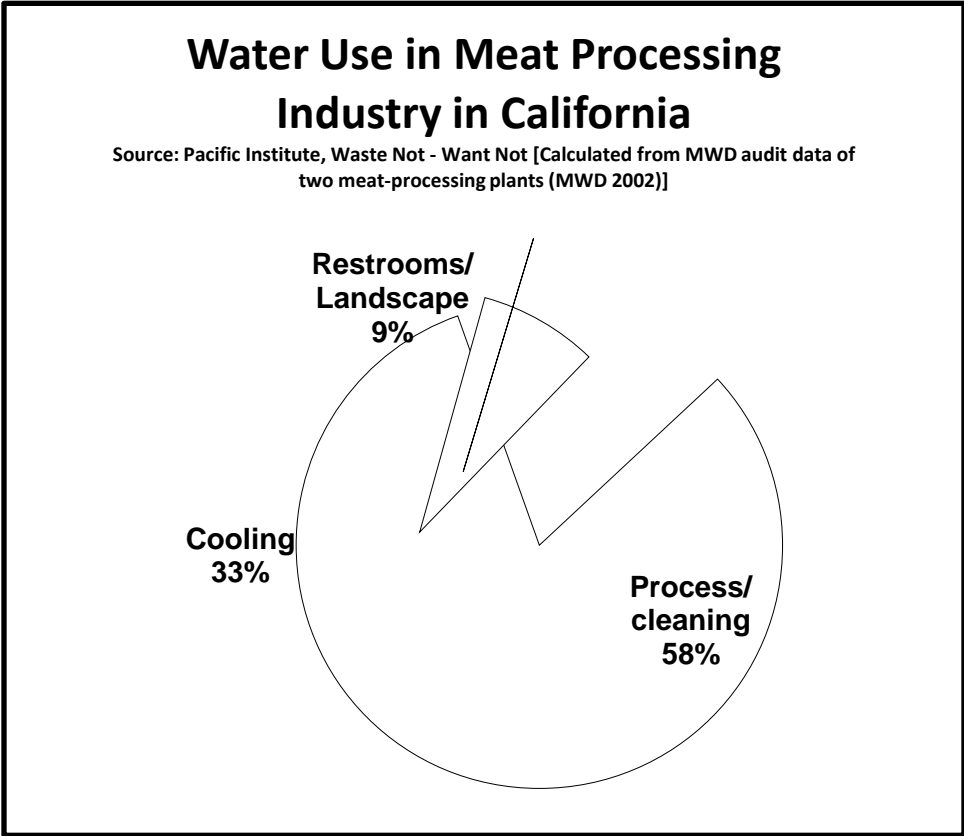
- 9
- 10 • Crush operations
  - 11 • Press operations
  - 12 • Tank cleaning
  - 13 • Transfer line cleaning
  - 14 • Barrel cleaning and soaking
  - 15 • Cellar operations
  - 16 • Distillation
  - 17 • Ion exchange
  - 18 • Bottling
  - 19 • Water softening
  - 20 • Boiler feed
  - 21 • Cooling

22 Figure dd in appendix \*\* shows a diagram of the wine making process for both white and red  
23 wines.

1 **The Meat and Poultry Industry**

2 The meat, pork, poultry and seafood industries are undergoing a historical change driven in part  
3 by consolidation in the retail food market industry and the need for increased efficiencies due to  
4 rising energy and utility costs. This change is similar to trends seen in other food processing  
5 areas, such as fruit and vegetable processing. As of 2007, the industry employed nearly 25,000  
6 Californians and produced \$8.7 billion in the value of shipments.

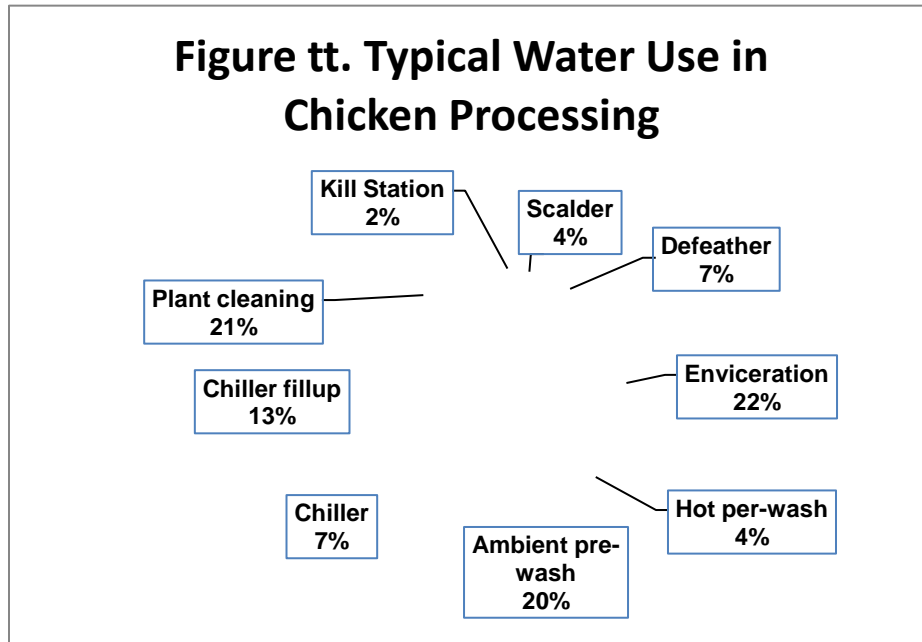
7 While each of these sectors has differences, they all involve bringing animals to a central  
8 location, processing them to remove skin, hair, scales or feathers, removing internal organs,  
9 taking the animals apart, processing the parts, and packing them for shipment. Water use for  
10 the cleaning and processing of the carcasses, cleaning and sanitizing equipment, boiler  
11 operations and cooling and refrigeration are the major water uses in these industries. Figure ee  
12 shows the breakdown of water used on meat processing in California.( Pacific Institute, Waste  
13 Not - Want Not). This document used the Poultry industry as a representative example of meat-  
14 related water use.



15  
16  
17  
18

**Poultry Processing**

- 1 Poultry processing is a major component of the animal slaughter industry in California.
- 2 According to the California Poultry Federation, 250 million chickens and almost 16 million
- 3 turkeys are processed each year in the State.
- 4 Figure tt shows typical water uses in poultry processing. There may be additional water uses if
- 5 the poultry is cooked or breaded.



- 6
- 7
- 8 Equipment found in poultry processing is unique to that industry. Table II in appendix \*\* shows
- 9 some of the types of equipment normally found in poultry processing facilities require cleaning.
- 10 The major difference between the meat processing industry and other food processing
- 11 industries is that most of the cleaning is done on the outside surfaces of equipment rather than
- 12 in pipes and the inside of vessels, tanks, casks, etc.

13

#### 14 **Regulatory Factors Effecting Water Use Efficiency**

15 Regulations governing the food processing are an integral part of the operation of food  
 16 processing facilities. Food processors must follow a number of State, Federal, and local  
 17 regulations that control every aspect of their industry to ensure protection of public health and  
 18 the environment. These regulations cover food safety, water quality, and waste disposal  
 19 regulations. These regulations affect food processors' ability to use water more efficiently by  
 20 limiting the use of recycled and reused water.

21 Water that comes in contact with food products must generally be potable water or higher  
 22 quality in order to protect public health. Although, there are many regulations related to non-  
 23 water using aspects of food and beverage processing, this document summarizes only the ones

1 related to water use. A summary of the main regulations covering these areas that relate to  
2 food and beverage processors may be found in Appendix \*\*\*.

3 The Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point (HACCP) of 1997 is a regulation that establishes  
4 stringent controls on sanitation food processing, especially meat processing, juice and raw fruit,  
5 and the vegetable industries. After its implementation, water use per chicken increased by 26  
6 percent.

7  
8 At the Federal level, four agencies – The US Department of Agriculture, the Food and Drug  
9 Administration, and the US Environmental Protection Agency – are the main Federal agencies  
10 governing food safety and processing.

- 11 • **US Food and Drug Administration** Title 21 provisions cover both processing and labeling  
12 regulations. The Current Good Manufacturing Practices guide (21 CFR Part 110) covers  
13 sanitary practices.
- 14 • **US Department of Agriculture** Food Safety and Inspection Service is responsible for  
15 inspection of most types of meat and poultry.
- 16 • **US Environmental Protection Agency** regulates water supply, wastewater treatment, and  
17 disposal and related factors.

18 Water quality represents another major concern for food processors. The State and Regional  
19 Water Quality Control Boards enforce strict water quality objectives for effluent whether it is land  
20 applied for irrigation or sent to publicly-owned treatment facilities. There are limits on the  
21 number of times water can be reused in a facility as constituent concentrations increase with  
22 every reuse. In some cases, dilution may be necessary to meet water quality objectives.

23

## 24 **Best Management Practices for Food Processing and Beverage Manufacturing**

25

26 The best management practices identified below were included based on input and expertise  
27 from representatives within the industry, experts working in the area of water conservation, and  
28 recognized studies and documents on water conservation. These BMPs are generally used and  
29 proven in industry, but they may not be applicable to every site. A specific site assessment  
30 would be needed to determine whether a particular BMP is applicable and appropriate.

31

32 General BMPs that apply commonly to the food industry can also be found in the sections  
33 entitled ***Cleaning Industrial Vessels, Pipes and Equipment, and Thermodynamic***  
34 ***Processes***. Therefore, these are not described as BMPs in this section. BMPs specific to  
35 Food Industries are presented below:

36

### 37 **Fruit and Vegetable Processing**

38

39 1. In washing operations:

40

41 a. Use vibration and air to help clear fruit and vegetables of debris and dirt before  
42 fluming or washing.

43 b. Use brushes to clean produce

- 1 c. Spray wash instead of submerging fruits and vegetables to wash them
- 2 d. Use countercurrent washing
- 3 e. Reduce overflow
- 4 f. Use can cooling water for first flush water
- 5
- 6
- 7 2. In fluming for transport of raw, peeled, or blanched products :
- 8
- 9 a. Where the fruit or vegetable will not be damaged by mechanical handling , use
- 10 conveyors belts, use pneumatic systems and totes to move product instead of water
- 11 b. Use flumes with a minimum cross section to reduce water volume
- 12 c. Recirculate flume water where allowed by code
- 13 d. Use flumes with parabolic cross-sections rather than flat-bottom troughs
- 14 e. Eliminate fluming water and use dry removal of dirt.
- 15 f. Sorting, culling and grading should occur before fluming or washing. This will also
- 16 reduce wastewater and save energy
- 17
- 18 3. When preparing for processing, use:
- 19 a. Dry peeling and blanching
- 20 b. Mechanical peeling
- 21 c. Chemical peeling
- 22 d. Steam blanching
- 23
- 24 4. When coring, pitting and dicing use dry transport and conveyor belts as an alternative to
- 25 transporting product by water.
- 26
- 27 5. When concentrating food and juices, use filtration and membrane processes as an
- 28 alternative to thermal/steam operations The following summarizes some of these
- 29 membrane applications.
- 30 a. micro-filtration for:
- 31 • cold sterilization of beverages
- 32 • clarification of fruit juices, beers and wines
- 33 • continuous fermentation
- 34 • separation of oil- water emulsions
- 35 • wastewater treatment
- 36
- 37
- 38 b. Ultra-filtration for:
- 39 • concentration of milk
- 40 • recovery of whey proteins
- 41 • recovery of potato starch and proteins
- 42 • concentration of egg
- 43 • clarification of fruit juices and alcoholic beverages.
- 44
- 45 c. Nano-filtration for:
- 46 • removal of micro-pollutants

- 1 • water softening
- 2 • wastewater treatment.
- 3
- 4 d. Reverse osmosis for:
- 5 • desalination
- 6 • concentration of food juice and sugars
- 7 • concentration of milk.<sup>111</sup>
- 8
- 9 6. Reuse pump seal waste water for washing crates and pallets
- 10 7. For rinsing and cleaning cans and beverage bottles (including wine bottles)
- 11 a. Use self closing valves and/or automatic shutoff's or sensors that only allow
- 12 timed sprays run to rinse bottles and cans when they are passing the spray
- 13 nozzle.
- 14 b. Clean bottles with air,
- 15 c. For cleaning sweep and use squeegees to remove solid waste, in place of using
- 16 a hose,
- 17
- 18 8. For clean in places processes. the list below articulates methods for reducing water use:
- 19 a. Dry recovery of refuse
- 20 b. Eliminate wet transport of wastes where possible
- 21 c. Installing drip and catch equipment to keep floor clean
- 22 d. Use squeegees to remove bulk waste from floor before cleaning
- 23 e. Use floor scrubbing and vacuum systems
- 24 f. Hand clean larger parts from equipment.
- 25 g. place level indicators on tanks and overflow alarms on vessels
- 26
- 27 9. For conveyor belt operations, investigate use of dry lubrication systems Early attempts
- 28 at dry lubrication systems were not always successful, but dry lubrication is now
- 29 becoming commonplace.
- 30

## 31 **Poultry Operations**

- 32 1. The principal opportunities for reducing water use in poultry processing by moving from wet
- 33 to dry cleaning include:
- 34
- 35 a. Dry recovery of manure, drippings, intestines, etc.
- 36 b. Eliminate wet transport of wastes where possible
- 37 c. Install drip and catch equipment to keep floor clean

---

<sup>111</sup> Nóra Pap\*, Eva Pongrácz, Liisa Myllykoski, Riitta Keiski, Waste minimization and utilization in the food industry: Processing of arctic berries, and extraction of valuable compounds from juice- processing by- products, Proceedings of the Waste Minimization and Resources Use Optimization Conference. June 10, 2004, University of Oulu, Finland.

- 1 d. Use squeegees to remove bulk waste from floor before cleaning
- 2 e. Use floor scrubbing and vacuum systems
- 3 f. Hand clean larger parts from equipment
- 4 2. If the poultry is breaded or cooked, the following water efficiency measures can be
- 5 employed:
- 6 a. Use drip pans and splash guards to catch breading or parts
- 7 b. Practice manual cleaning procedures before washing
- 8 c. Only wash equipment once dry waste has been removed.

9

## 10 **Use Alternate Sources of Water and recycled water**

11 Use of alternative sources and recycled water is a best management practice for all industries.  
12 Issues and uses specific to Food Processing and Beverage Manufacturing are discussed in this  
13 section. These BMPs may include:

- 14 • Recycling water within the plant
- 15 • Use of alternate sources for non-food processing areas
- 16 • Reuse of plant effluent for irrigation

17 One of the most important considerations is that most food processing wastewaters can be  
18 used for irrigation. Nutrients in the wastewater can help fertilize the crops, and irrigation  
19 removes pollution from receiving streams or wastewater treatment plants. In examining food  
20 processing water use, this reuse is often left out of the analysis.

21 Where water is to be used for crop irrigation, water quality – salts, especially sodium salts –  
22 becomes a major concern. Organic loading, irrigation rates, nutrient levels and other factors are  
23 important to consider. Many companies are using potassium salts for recharging softeners and  
24 pH adjustment, isolating waste streams with very high concentration of salts, and providing  
25 "end-of-the-pipe" treatment technologies to make their effluent usable for irrigation. (See the  
26 **Manual of Good Practice for Land Application of Food Processing/Rinse Water.**)

27

28 Examples of water reuse practices may be found the canning, dairy, beer and winemaking, and  
29 frozen foods industries, just to mention a few. Many canneries follow this practice as long as  
30 sodium levels and total salinity remains within bounds. Regulations specific to land application  
31 of wastewater from food processors include:

32

- 33 1. Porter Cologne Act -Reuse cannot impact beneficial uses of groundwater;
- 34 2. Basin plans - Defines the beneficial use of water for each region; and
- 35 3. Anti-degradation policy:
  - 36 a. Protects groundwater
  - 37 b. Requires the use of Best Practicable Treatment and Control

38

39 The US Federal Food and Drug Administration and the US Department of Agriculture's strict  
40 guidelines for food safety often means that much of the water used in meat and poultry  
41 processing, as well as other food processing operations, may only be used once. The use of  
42 ozone and membrane treatment of wastewaters are being experimented with in the poultry



1 industry, and the use of recovered water for non-contact uses such as cage cleaning, dust  
2 control, etc. are now common.

3 **Summary of Case Studies**

4 To be added at a later date (one paragraph per case study...details in appendix)

5

6

1

<b>California Food and Beverage Information from the U.S. Department of Commerce for 2009</b>							
<b><u>Meaning of NAICS-based code</u></b>	<b><u>NAICS-based code</u></b>	<b><u>Year</u></b>	<b><u>Number of paid employees for pay period including March 12</u></b>	<b><u>Annual payroll (\$1,000)</u></b>	<b><u>Total cost of materials (\$1,000)</u></b>	<b><u>Total value of shipments (\$1,000)</u></b>	<b><u>Value added (\$1,000)</u></b>
Animal food mfg	<u>3111</u>	2009	4,393	211,809	2,199,835	3,510,288	1,308,768
Grain & oilseed milling	<u>3112</u>	2009	3,394	198,634	3,072,253	4,683,906	1,612,932
Sugar & confectionery product mfg	<u>3113</u>	2009	6,742	337,798	1,321,768	2,549,318	1,242,968
Fruit & vegetable preserving & specialty food mfg	<u>3114</u>	2009	32,143	1,231,723	6,885,212	12,834,029	6,120,784
Dairy product mfg	<u>3115</u>	2009	17,022	871,511	8,021,191	11,847,995	3,833,542
Animal slaughtering & processing	<u>3116</u>	2009	20,868	696,639	4,291,901	7,339,875	3,028,075
Seafood product preparation & packaging	<u>3117</u>	2009	2,239	67,701	666,274	937,203	271,348
Bakeries & tortilla mfg	<u>3118</u>	2009	33,744	1,145,688	2,742,711	6,707,244	3,961,891
Other food mfg	<u>3119</u>	2009	29,539	1,135,650	6,487,987	13,081,103	6,655,519
Beverage mfg	<u>3121</u>	2009	<u>D</u>	<u>D</u>	<u>D</u>	<u>D</u>	<u>D</u>

2

3

## 7B2c: The High-tech Industry in California

### Industry Overview

Starting in the 1950s, high technology companies in California began a rise that has lasted through today. Silicon Valley saw the development of the silicon-based integrated circuit, the microprocessor, the microcomputer, and other key technologies. Products produced by high-tech include microprocessors, personal computers and peripherals, video games, and with rising demand over the past 10 years, a wide array of mobile devices such as cell phones, smart phones and tablets, and a resulting increase in networking systems and cloud computing infrastructure like datacenters.

In the 1980s and 1990s, California led the nation in the number of facilities built to fabricate semiconductors and other microelectronic components. Towards the end of the 1990s the trend began to reverse. High tech companies began building new facilities elsewhere, and the state's older facilities began to shut down. Some of the reasons for this shift include the high cost of doing business in the state, an increasingly skilled global workforce, and large incentives offered by other states and countries. As a result, a significant fraction of semiconductor manufacturing has moved out of the United States to East Asian countries, especially Japan, China, and Taiwan. By 2009, the United States semiconductor production capacity had slipped to just 17% of global capacity, down from 25% only two years earlier.<sup>112</sup> This net migration of high-tech microelectronic manufacturing has been pronounced in California, and it is true not just with semiconductors, but also with networking equipment, servers, computers, peripherals, and mobile devices.

As a result, employment in the high-tech industry – especially in manufacturing – began to decline, only to be further exacerbated during the dot-com crash of the late 1990s. According to US Department of Commerce information, overall employment in the high-tech industry in California has declined by 100,000, from 298,000 employees in 2002 to 198,000 in 2009. This trend is further explored in a recent Milken Institute report, which states that California is losing a larger share of manufacturing employment overall, and in high-tech in particular, at a faster rate than that of other states.<sup>113</sup>

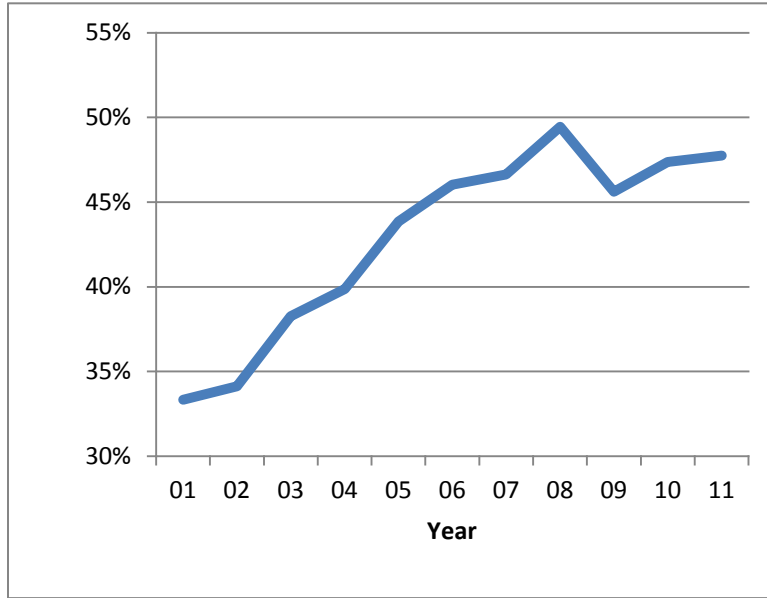
Within high-tech, California has seen a growth in services, in contrast to product manufacturing. The recent Milken Institute Report shows this transition in terms of the numbers of jobs generated by high-tech services and high-tech manufacturing in the State (Figure 1).<sup>114</sup> It is manufacturing that is the most water intensive.

**Figure 1. Percent Increase in High-tech Service versus Manufacturing Jobs in California, 2001-2011**

<sup>112</sup> <http://www.manufacturingnews.com/news/10/0212/semiconductors.html>

<sup>113</sup> Manufacturing 2.0, A More Prosperous California, Milken Institute Report. [www.milkeninstitute.org/pdf/CAManufacturing.pdf](http://www.milkeninstitute.org/pdf/CAManufacturing.pdf)

<sup>114</sup> The Milken Institute, 2011, "State of the State Conference: Blueprint for California", <http://www.milkeninstitute.org/pdf/SOS2011BriefingBook.pdf>



Source: Moody's Analytics, Milken Institute

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Most data on the composition and size of industry draws from the North American Industry Classification Systems (NAICS), but these numbers are misleading due to the fact that the NAICS code does not reflect true manufacturing numbers. Intel Corporation provides a good example. The global leader in semiconductor chip making, Intel is headquartered in California where it concentrates a large amount of its research activity. All the corporation's manufacturing sites are located in other states, including Arizona, New Mexico, Oregon, and Massachusetts, and other countries, including China, Ireland, and Israel. Intel is listed with a NAICS code of 334413 - "Semiconductor Manufacturer," but while the company has a considerable number of employees in California working in design, validation, finance, legal, etc., virtually none work in semiconductor manufacturing. Similarly, Global Foundries, the world's third largest independent semiconductor foundry is headquartered in Milpitas, California but has its fabrication plants in Singapore and Germany, with one new plant within the United States being built in New York.

Clearly the high-tech sector in California is going through a period of adjustment and evolution, shifting from the manufacture of products to the delivery of services such as software, databases, and cloud computing. Therefore, when considering its water footprint, it is important to consider the industry as it stands in California today. For the purposes of this report, this discussion of water conservation best management practices focuses on the smaller scale semiconductor and other electronic component manufacturing remaining in the state, and the research and development laboratories that support these industries.<sup>115</sup> In addition, we focus on solar energy, which is a sector that is closely related to high-tech where manufacturing is growing thanks to abundant natural resources, strong state mandates like the 33% renewable portfolio standard, and incentives like Senate Bill 71, the clean-tech manufacturing equipment tax credit.

**Figure 2 Water use in High-Tech**

<sup>115</sup> It should be noted that the R&D and design work that goes into electronics manufacturing is also moving elsewhere.

1

Life-cycle stages	Design	Raw Materials	Fabrication	Assembly	Packaging	Shipping	Operational Life	End of Life Retirement
Activities	Prototypes R&D	Silicon, gold, aluminum, lithium	Chips, board processors, drives, casing, etc.	Contract manufacturing	Cardboard? Electrostatic? Shrink wrap? Wood? Foam?	Multi-modal	Data centers/lab climate control (i.e. HVAC, CRAH)	Disassembly, smelting
In California?	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Level of Water Use	Low	High	High	Medium	Medium	Low	Medium	Low

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### The Growth of Solar Energy Systems

The industry has seen an almost 7 percent growth nationwide since 2010, and solar job growth over the next 12 months is expected to be about 24 percent for the U.S.<sup>116</sup> Figure 3 provides a value-chain breakdown for solar employment in California. Aggregate data on water used for solar power generation is not available at this nascent stage for the industry at this time.



Source: The Solar Foundation: National Solar Jobs Census 2011

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### **Water Use in the High Tech Sector**

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*Much of the water use in high-tech is for human use and for cooling, neither of which falls into the focus of this sector analysis.* For high-tech the most water-intensive activities are: (i) fabrication processes in semiconductor manufacturing, and (ii) the cooling of enterprise-scale data centers that provide access to the free flow of large amounts of data. Estimates suggest that a typical fabrication plant uses between 1,500 and 15,000 cubic meters of water per day, using around 16 gallons per chip fabricated. Much of the water is ultrapure water (UPW),

<sup>116</sup> The Solar Foundation, Oct. 2011, **National Solar Jobs Census 2011**, [http://thesolarfoundation.org/sites/thesolarfoundation.org/files/TSF\\_JobsCensus2011\\_Final\\_Compressed.pdf](http://thesolarfoundation.org/sites/thesolarfoundation.org/files/TSF_JobsCensus2011_Final_Compressed.pdf)

1 produced from local feed water. From 1.25 -2 gallons of city water is needed to produce 1 gallon  
2 of UPW.<sup>117</sup> On the other hand, a 15-megawatt data center may use up to 360,000 gallons of  
3 water per day.<sup>118</sup> However, as with semiconductor and other high-tech manufacturing, data  
4 centers, which are growing with the move to cloud computing, are also leaving the state due to  
5 a number of factors similar to those noted above. Further, while data centers require large  
6 amounts of water, this water is used for cooling and is therefore covered in the ??? section of  
7 the report that describes cooling towers.<sup>119</sup>

8  
9 Ultra pure water (UPW) is used widely in the high-tech sector. Water from a utility is not nearly  
10 pure enough for high-tech uses.<sup>120</sup> Very strict requirements for microchip fabrication and for use  
11 in the manufacturing of many stages of printed circuit boards (PCB) require that the water  
12 contain less than 27.7 parts per billion of total dissolved solids (salts and minerals), less than 10  
13 ppb of total organic carbon, and that the water be sterile. To achieve this level of purity, water is  
14 passed through particle filtration, activated carbon, softening, micron size filtration, reverse  
15 osmosis, strong cation and anion ion exchange, and post micro filtration and disinfection with  
16 ultraviolet light. Special materials, such as **Polyvinylidene Fluoride (PVDF)**, are used for  
17 **pipes and storage tanks that carry UPW. The production of UPW and the reuse of RO**  
18 **reject water offer many opportunities for water conservation in the semiconductor and**  
19 **printed circuit board computer chip insertion processes.**

20  
21 **Semiconductor processing consists of a number of water-using steps including:**

- 22 • Wet cleans
- 23 • Photolithography removal
- 24 • Dry etching
- 25 • Wet etching
- 26 • Chemical-mechanical planarization (CMP)
- 27 • Wafer backgrinding (to reduce the thickness of the wafer so the resulting chip can be put  
28 into a thin device like a smartcard or PCMCIA card.)

29  
30 Printed circuit boards, also called wire boards, are non-conducting materials such as a base  
31 made from a dielectric core impregnated with resin. A completed board with electronic  
32 components such as microchips inserted and soldered in is called a printed circuit board  
33 assembly.

34 To make a printed circuit board, the copper coated board is manipulated through a number of  
35 steps to add layers, etch away layers, and drill and plate holes to form the needed circuits on  
36 the board. The processes involved include:

- 37 • Patterning (etching)
- 38 • Chemical etching
- 39 • Lamination
- 40 • Drilling
- 41 • Exposed conductor plating and coating
- 42 • Solder resist
- 43 • Screen printing
- 44 • Testing
- 45 • Printed circuit assembly and packaging

46  

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<sup>117</sup> Based on information from Intel's annual sustainability reporting on water use (pg 43 – 46),  
<http://www.intel.com/content/www/us/en/corporate-responsibility/eco-responsible-operations.html>

<sup>118</sup> <http://www.datacenterknowledge.com/archives/2010/04/07/water-usage-the-next-disclosure-challenge/>

<sup>119</sup> For IT and data center best practices, contact the Green Grid, <http://www.thegreengrid.org/>

<sup>120</sup> Even the wastewater produced by the high-tech sector is significantly cleaner than drinking water for most constituents.

1 Manufacturing printed circuit boards is somewhat similar to metal plating and finishing. A typical  
2 circuit board process involves both electrolytic and non-electrolytic plating, acid etching, silk  
3 screening to add material or "masking," and similar processes. Between each step, multiple  
4 rinses are needed. Although water is used in the actual processing such as etching, and  
5 plating, rinsing requires the most water.  
6

7 Populating circuit boards with microchips, resistors, and other electrical components is the last  
8 step before the product is shipped. In this process, semiconductors and other electronic  
9 components such as resistors and capacitors are inserted into the PCBs. The connections are  
10 soldered to make good electrical connections, usually by passing the back of the board over a  
11 molten solder bath. The boards are then washed for a final time to remove residue  
12

13 Research and Development occurs at both the academic and corporate level. Virtually all of the  
14 nanotechnology processes and equipment used by manufacturers to create semiconductor  
15 circuitry are developed and tested by these research facilities. Relatively few of these  
16 processes involve water use; instead, they use gasses to create the structures. Water is used  
17 in chemical mechanical planarization and wafer cleaning, but because of the smaller scale of  
18 these facilities, BMPs for fabricators and foundries are generally not cost effective and would  
19 not result in any significant water savings. Nonetheless, elimination of once-through cooling by  
20 using chilled water circuits and using RO reject water for other purposes such as vacuum pump  
21 seal water or makeup for scrubbers all still apply. See the case study for examples of practices  
22 implemented.  
23

#### 24 **Metrics**

25 It is hard to normalize for different sections of the high-tech sector due to the diversity of product  
26 types and thus uses of water, which means normalization is impossible. However some  
27 possible metrics are gallons per dollar in revenue and gallons per chip manufactured.  
28

29 Please also refer to the section XX, the metrics section for overall industrial sector metrics.  
30

#### 31 **Best Management Practices for High-tech**

32 The Best Management Practices described in this section are applicable to both manufacturing  
33 facilities and research laboratories for the high tech industry. All are currently being  
34 successfully employed at various facilities. Their economic viability depends on specific facility  
35 design, cost of utilities, and a number of related factors. In other words, what works at one  
36 facility may not necessarily work or be economically practical at another similar facility.  
37

#### 38 Promoting Water Conservation: The Role of Information and Communication Technologies 39 (ICT)

40 Technology – including unified communications and the integration of telecommunications  
41 (telephone lines and wireless signals), computers, middleware as well as necessary software,  
42 storage- and audio-visual systems – enables users to create, access, store, transmit, and  
43 manipulate information. The fast development of ICT solutions is allowing us to move from a  
44 scarcity of data to a data rich world that is providing real-time information about the natural and  
45 built environment.  
46

47 ICT products, systems, and networks are the essential drivers of productivity improvements and  
48 innovation for the 21st century. ICT can bring enormous benefits to water authorities in mapping  
49 and monitoring water resources, as well as in forecasting river flows and giving advance  
50 warning of water-related emergencies such as flooding. ICT will also enable solutions in urban

1 life: buildings, energy production and use, mobility, water and sewage, open spaces, education,  
2 and public health and safety.

3  
4 In particular, smart metering technologies will play an important role in measuring water  
5 consumption in real time, identifying leaks at the consumer level and making consumers more  
6 conscious about their water usage. There are a number of benefits to adopting smart meters:

- 7 • Enabling early leak detection
- 8 • Supplying customers with tools to monitor/reduce water use
- 9 • Providing more accurate water rates
- 10 • Curbing overall water demand
- 11 • Improving the ability to conduct preventative maintenance.

12  
13 Apart from employing smart meters and other ICT technologies, high tech industries can reduce  
14 water use in a number of other ways. The following information presents some of the most  
15 common methods that have been employed by this industry to successfully accomplish  
16 reductions in water use.

17  
18 1. Reduction of Water Use for Wafer Processing - Over the years, a number of water  
19 reduction practices have been implemented to reduce water use.

- 20 • Using programmable tool features
- 21 • Installing control equipment to only use the exact amount of water needed  
22 throughout the specific operation
- 23 • Using spray rinsing in place of emersion rinsing
- 24 • Using process timers instead of dump rinser cycles
- 25 • Countercurrent rinsing
- 26 • Optimizing ion-exchange regeneration cycles

27  
28 2. Ultra Pure Water (UPW) Production - In a typical reverse osmosis operation of the  
29 magnitude found in semiconductor operations, the RO unit recovers 75 percent of the  
30 water fed to it. Many plants have employed treatment systems such as nanofiltration to  
31 recover the water from the reject stream. Because it is expensive to create UPW, there  
32 is a natural economic incentive to reduce water use for wafer processing. Savings are  
33 possible by recovering part of the fresh water processed through the ultrapure water  
34 system.

- 35 • Using RO reject water for cooling tower water

36  
37 3. Reuse of Water for Non-UPW Purposes - Much of the water used at high tech facilities  
38 does not have to be treated to UPW quality. As a result, water from the UPW waste  
39 streams, reject water from the RO unit, and other alternate on-site sources can be used  
40 in places that do not require UPW. Some of these uses include:

- 41 • Cooling tower makeup, though it is often necessary to supplement with water with  
42 dissolved solids content
- 43 • Scrubber water, though it is often necessary to supplement with water with dissolved  
44 solids content
- 45 • Toilet and urinal flushing
- 46 • Ornamental fountains and features

47  
48 Sources of non-potable water for these used can range from RO reject water and  
49 selected UPW waste streams to stormwater runoff, air conditioning condensate,



1 foundation drain water, rainwater, and others. Section ?? describes the use of these  
2 alternate sources in more detail.

3  
4 4. Heat and Energy Recovery to Reduce Water Use - If process and air conditioning waste  
5 heat can be recovered, it can be used to pre-heat incoming water making RO units  
6 operate more efficiently. This use also reduces heat load on the cooling tower thus  
7 saving water in this operation while reducing energy bills.

8  
9 5. Substitution of Non-Water Using Processes - As the size of the geometry and complexity  
10 of semiconductors shrinks, even ultra pure water begins to present problems. For this  
11 reason, the industry has investigated a number of closed-loop and "dry cleaning"  
12 methods. Some of these include:

- 13 • Pinpoint cleaning
- 14 • Supercritical fluid cleaning
- 15 • Cryogenic aerosol cleaning
- 16 • HF vapor cleaning
- 17 • Closed-loop
- 18 • Dry manufacturing

19  
20 The most important part of this discussion is that in the future, water use may decrease  
21 for technical reasons other than water efficiency. Promotion of these technologies would  
22 help promote reduced water use.  
23

**Example: Intel's Water Conservations Efforts**

Intel purchases potable water from the City of Chandler, AZ. Most of this water goes to production of ultra pure water for manufacturing processes. Cleaning silicon wafers during fabrication is one of the largest uses of water in Intel factories. Once used, the water's quality is still suitable for a number of on-site and off-site reuse and recycling programs. Intel and Chandler's strong partnership has made it possible to implement a progressive water management system over the past decade that maximizes water conservation and reduces use of potable water by a factor of millions of gallons each day.

**Chandler Reverse Osmosis Water Treatment Facility – Aquifer Recharge**

This Arizona site has a unique partnership with the City of Chandler, which operates an Intel-funded treatment process. Using reverse osmosis (RO) technologies, the wastewater from Fab 12, 22, and 32 is treated to drinking water standards and re-charged to the underground aquifer to replenish the groundwater supply in Chandler. Since 1996, this water conservation strategy alone has resulted in over 4.5 billion gallons of water put back into the aquifer by Intel.

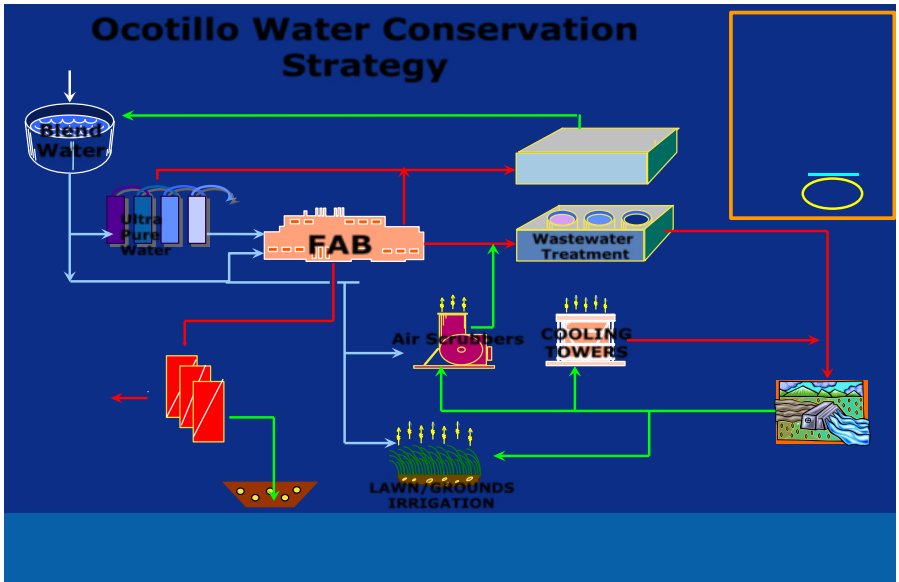
This water conservation strategy supports a key City of Chandler effort to store water in the underground aquifer to assure the city has enough water to meet the future needs of all citizens and businesses for many more years even if the drought continues.

**Reuse of wastewater – Reclaim**

Intel also uses treated wastewater from Chandler's Ocotillo Water Reclamation Facility, avoiding the use of the potable water supply. Every day of the year, the Arizona site takes back millions of gallons of processed wastewater from the City of Chandler sewage treatment plant to supply water to cooling towers, operate air abatement equipment, support the site landscaping, and irrigate the farm fields around the Ocotillo site.

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1 Opportunities for reducing water use in the plating areas area discussed in the section entitled:  
2 Plating, Printed Circuit Board, and Metal Finishing.  
3

#### 4 **Solar**

5 Although water is required to wash solar panels, the intensity of use is lower. Water is used in  
6 the production of Photovoltaic (PV) cells and associated manufacturing for all wet processing  
7 steps such as removing chemical residues from equipment and rinsing of substrate wafers and  
8 panels. In the PV manufacturing process, both standard industrial water and purified deionized  
9 water are required to manufacture wafers and cells. Up until recently, no industry standards on  
10 water quality for Photovoltaic manufacturing existed. In March 2010, Semiconductor Equipment  
11 and Materials International (SEMI) released a PV standard called SEMI PV3-0310, Guide for  
12 High Purity Water Used in Photovoltaic Cell Processing.<sup>121</sup>  
13

14 At the simplest level, there are four steps in making a crystalline solar panel.<sup>122</sup> Step one  
15 involves using molten polysilicon to grow crystals or cast blocks of polycrystalline silicon. Step  
16 two involves cutting and polishing the material into thin, smooth wafers. Step three involves  
17 chemically treating the wafer and adding electrical contacts to turn it into a solar cell. The final  
18 step involves connecting many solar cells together, covering them with glass, enclosing them in  
19 an aluminium frame and adding an electrical junction box.  
20

21 There are a number of ways that the solar industry can reduce water use, as noted in this  
22 discussion of methods that have been employed by the PV industry to accomplish reductions in  
23 water use. Adding to the effectiveness of these strategies is an understanding of the importance  
24 of the critical relationships between facility, process technology, and manufacturing equipment  
25 requirements related to water reuse strategies. Finally, characterization of water quality  
26 requirements for every step in the manufacturing process helps in identifying ways to minimize  
27 water usage.  
28

#### 29 **Best management practices for water conservation in solar energy system** 30 **manufacturing** 31

- 32 1. Use filters to produce pure water – Optimize pre-treatment upstream for RO, including  
33 employing activated carbon filtration to produce high-quality deionized water, increasing  
34 water recovery and therefore decreasing consumption as reject water is minimized.  
35
- 36 2. Employ more efficient manufacturing systems – By using faster cutting systems, solar  
37 manufacturers can use less water for lubrication as process time is decreased.  
38
- 39 3. Segregate and treat to facilitate water recovery – It is difficult to reclaim and recycle  
40 water if everything is run down one drain. However, if wastewater is segregated up front  
41 thus avoiding co-mingling, it is possible to divert the waste streams that are more  
42 desirable for recycling to a treatment system.  
43
- 44 4. Employ re-use paths for process chemicals and water – Utilize re-use paths for chemical  
45 wet baths and rinse water. Employing chemical spiking or dosing can minimize bath  
46 dump, which includes water. Whenever possible, manufacturers should eliminate

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<sup>121</sup> For more information on the standard, visit: SEMI PV3-0310 - Guide for High Purity Water Used in Photovoltaic Cell Processing

<sup>122</sup> Of course, different manufacturers have their own methods of producing solar modules and thin-film PV manufacturing is different. This is merely a high-level illustrative explanation.

1 single-pass rinse steps as this means using the water and chemicals contained in the  
2 wet baths only one time.

3  
4 5. Employ water reduction strategies for wet scrubbers and chemical abatement systems.

5 For point of use abatement systems utilize an “on demand” water flow, meaning that the  
6 system is scrubbing when process gas is being abated rather than maintaining a  
7 constant flow of water through the system. This mode of operation needs to be verified  
8 on an individual basis taking into account other potential issues related to safety,  
9 environmental emission considerations (i.e. ensure this does not decrease the efficiency  
10 of the abatement system), biological growth, fouling, etc. Utilize potable city supply water  
11 for POU abatement systems rather than RO/DI, minimizing the use of RO and  
12 associated generation and disposal of the reject stream.

13  
14 For packed bed wet scrubbers, use alternate methods to regulate the delivery of makeup  
15 water, such as conductivity or pH, rather than using a constant makeup flow. This needs  
16 to be verified investigated on an individual basis taking into account other potential  
17 issues related to safety, environmental emission considerations (i.e. ensure this does not  
18 decrease the efficiency of the scrubber), concentration of prohibited materials (i.e.  
19 metals/fluorides) that could cause violation of discharge limits, biological growth, fouling,  
20 etc. Utilize potable city water supply for scrubber systems rather than RO/DI, reducing  
21 the need for RO operation and reject stream volumes.

22  
23 ***Example: Solaria’s Water Conservations Efforts***

24 Based in Fremont, California, Solaria designs, develops, and manufactures silicon photovoltaic  
25 products. At its Fremont facility, the company manufactures solar modules. The company  
26 employs a number of methods to reduce water consumption during manufacturing.

In-line recycler Water is used as a processing lubricant. Non-toxic particulate is combined with  
the water after processing. A recycler consisting of a cascade of filters is used to purify the  
water back to its original state, thereby reducing the consumption of new water by as much as  
80-90%. The recycler consists of a stand-alone system hooked up to processing machines. A  
pump is deployed to ensure water pressure is sufficient while injecting recycled water back into  
the processing.

Water management Water systems for machines are typically for cooling and processing. Re-  
piping/plumbing of the cooling water system enable for minimized recycling needs. Depending  
on the machine design, this re-piping can decrease water consumption by 30-60%. The cooling  
water will absorb heat after passing through the machine sub-modules that needs heat  
management, but contains no solid waste, so it is ideal to just loop this back into a chiller and  
re-use it through the machine. Note: This improvement has not been deployed yet; it will be  
deployed next year.

Advanced water-free system The next step involves utilizing lasers instead of mechanical  
technology to form the ideal shape for the cells. Lasers present multiple advantages over  
current methods, but the high cost has stood in the way of implementation. Recent  
technological advances have enabled more precision and speed, thus allowing for a lower total  
cost of operation. As a bonus, employing laser technology also virtually eliminates the need to  
use water. Note: This has not been deployed yet; it will be deployed next year.

1

## 2 **7B2d: The Petroleum Refining and Chemical Industries in California**

3 This section explores the potential for water efficiency in the petroleum refining and chemical  
4 industries in California. Both industries have much in common, though the chemical industry is  
5 more diverse. While the US Department of Commerce includes the pharmaceutical industry in  
6 the chemical sector, for the purposes of this report, the pharmaceutical industry is discussed in  
7 its own chapter.

8 **Petroleum Refining Industry:** California has approximately 11.3 percent of the refining  
9 capacity in the United States, currently refining 2.1 million barrels of crude oil a day. It ranks  
10 third behind Texas and Louisiana in refining capacity. According to the US Department of  
11 Commerce, in 2009 the petroleum refining sector employed 12,426 Californians, had a Value  
12 Added of \$11.9 billion, and total shipments valued at \$65.9 billion.

13 **Figure ww** shows that oil refineries in California are primarily located in three areas, the San  
14 Francisco Bay area, the Los Angeles area, and the Bakersfield area.



15

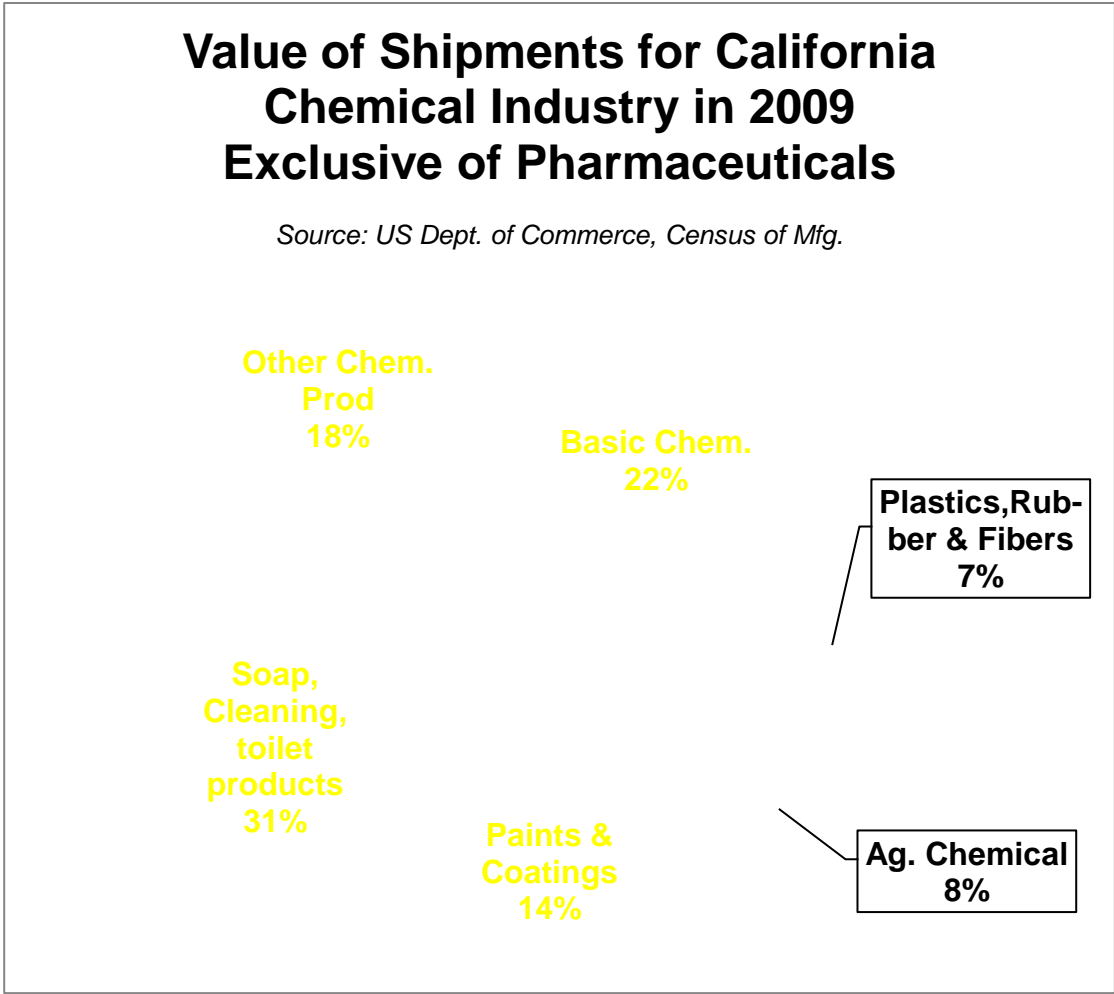
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17

1 The petroleum refining industry separates crude oil, a mixture of many organic molecules, into  
2 useful products, or it rearranges molecules into useful products. **Figure pp in Appendix xxx**  
3 shows the basic processes involved in refining oil. Water is used within the refinery to cool and  
4 condense oil fractions, provide steam to heat fluids, for use in reactions such as hydrogen  
5 synthesis and catalytic cracker operations, for air pollution control, washing of crude to remove  
6 salts, for fire and safety, and for equipment testing and maintenance.

7 **Chemical Industry:** The California chemical industry sells and consumes significant  
8 amounts of chemicals in the State, but actual production of these chemicals often occurs  
9 elsewhere. According to the definitions of the North American Industrial Classification System  
10 (NAICS) basic chemicals include petrochemicals, synthetic dyes, inorganic chemicals, industrial  
11 gases, and other organic compounds that often serve as the building blocks for other products.  
12 Most basic petrochemicals, such as ethylene, are produced in other states.

13 **Figure bb** shows that only 22 percent of the value of shipments in California is for basic  
14 chemicals. The rest are "downstream" products that use the basic chemicals. In addition,  
15 California produces many inorganic minerals and chemicals.



16

1 These chemicals are often used in industries such as aerospace, textiles, computers, and retail  
 2 products. In fact, the largest non-pharmaceutical segment of the industry is the production of  
 3 soaps, cleaners, polishes, and toiletries.

4 Employment in the chemical sector (excluding pharmaceuticals) has followed the national  
 5 declining trend. In 2000, California had 32,312 workers in the chemical sector (excluding  
 6 pharmaceuticals). By 2009, this number had declined to 28,396 according to the US  
 7 Department of Commerce. **Table CC** summarizes the non-pharmaceutical chemical industry in  
 8 California in 2009. As the table shows, only 15 percent of employment in the sector is in basic  
 9 chemicals while the largest sector of employment is for the soaps - toilet preparations areas and  
 10 "other chemical products and preparations." The largest dollar and employment sectors are  
 11 primarily using chemicals produced elsewhere to make consumer products sold in bottles,  
 12 tubes, vials, and jars in retail and commercial establishments.

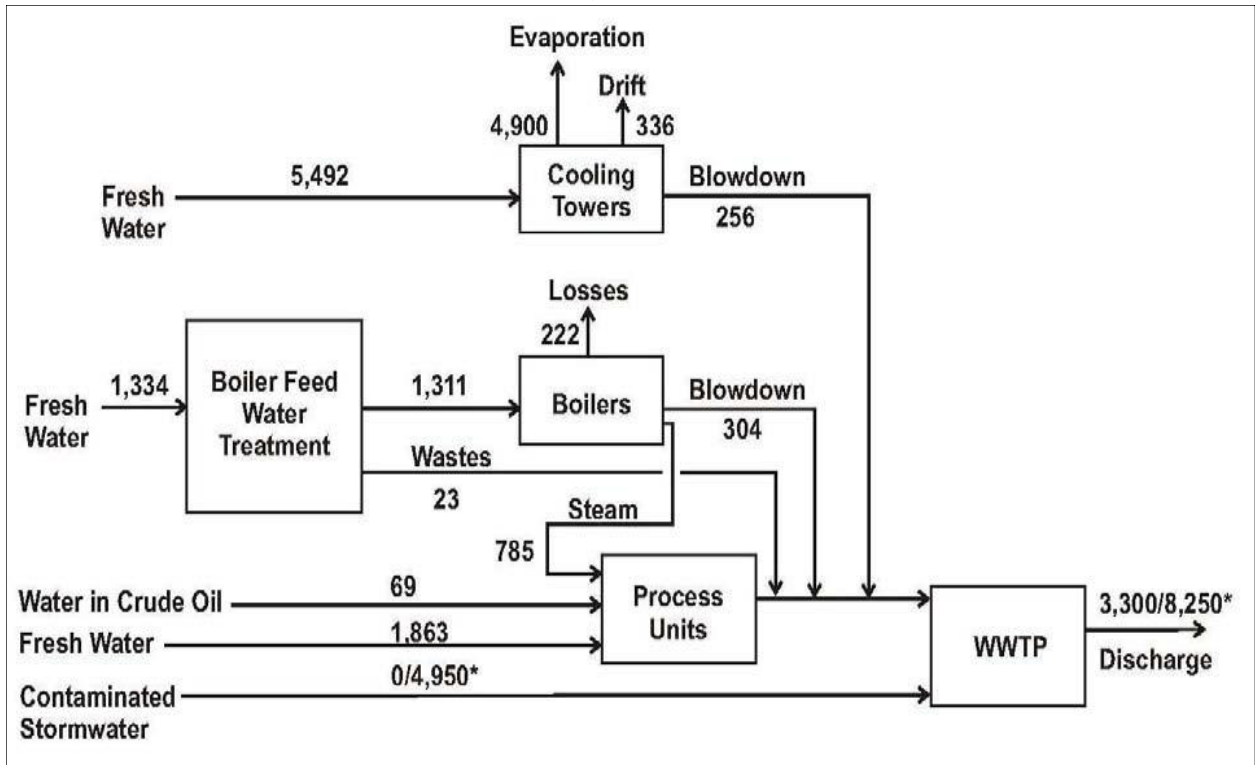
<b>Table CC. California Chemical Industry Statistics in 2009*Excluding the Pharmaceutical Sector</b>				
<i>Source: US Department of Commerce - Census of Manufacturers</i>				
<b>NAICS Code</b>	<b>Category of Chemicals</b>	<b>Number of Paid Employees</b>	<b>Total value of shipments (\$1,000)</b>	<b>Value added (\$1,000)</b>
<b>3251</b>	<b>Basic chemicals</b>	<b>4,149</b>	<b>\$2,831,095</b>	<b>\$1,332,074</b>
<b>3252</b>	<b>Resin, synthetic &amp; artificial rubber, fibers &amp; filaments</b>	<b>3,542</b>	<b>\$943,571</b>	<b>\$463,760</b>
<b>3253</b>	<b>Pesticide, fertilizer, &amp; other agricultural chemicals</b>	<b>1,699</b>	<b>\$1,023,483</b>	<b>\$479,630</b>
<b>3255</b>	<b>Paint, coating, &amp; adhesives</b>	<b>3,712</b>	<b>\$1,726,426</b>	<b>\$854,818</b>
<b>3256</b>	<b>Soap, cleaning compound, &amp; toilet preparation</b>	<b>9,111</b>	<b>\$3,893,498</b>	<b>\$2,346,906</b>
<b>3259</b>	<b>Other chemical product &amp; preparation</b>	<b>6,183</b>	<b>\$2,266,708</b>	<b>\$1,030,322</b>
<b>TOTAL FOR CALIFORNIA</b>		<b>28,396</b>	<b>\$12,684,781</b>	<b>\$6,507,510</b>
<i>* Pharmaceuticals is part of the NAICS Chemical Sector, but will be covered in its own chapter.</i>				

13

14

1 **Water Use in the Petroleum Refining:** Water use in the petroleum refining industry is  
 2 dominated by cooling and boiler feed water requirements. In fact, according to information from  
 3 the American Petroleum Institute, some 75 percent to 90 percent of all water used in a refinery  
 4 is for these two purposes. **Figure rr** illustrates water use in a typical refinery.

5 **Figure rr. Typical Water Balance for a 160,000 Barrel a Day Refinery**  
 6 *Flow rates in gallons per minute*



7  
 8 Source: Council of Great Lakes Industries - Water Footprinting -  
 9 [www.cgli.org/waterfootprint/.../SlideDeck5-PetroleumRefining1.pdf](http://www.cgli.org/waterfootprint/.../SlideDeck5-PetroleumRefining1.pdf)

10  
 11 According to the Pacific Institute study entitled "Waste-not, Want-not," 57 percent of the water  
 12 use in petroleum and coal processing is for cooling, 34 percent is boiler feed, 6 percent is  
 13 process use, and 3 percent goes toward other uses. It is obvious from this information, that  
 14 energy conservation and reusing water for cooling tower and boiler makeup are major ways to  
 15 reduce water use. Cooling towers, boilers, and cogeneration are covered in the section titled  
 16 "Thermodynamic Processes," which covers the best management practices for the operation of  
 17 these processes. However, it is important to recognize that energy efficiency and the choice of  
 18 energy efficient processes will minimize water requirements for cooling towers, boilers and  
 19 energy systems. **Table II** summarizes energy efficiency measures for refineries.  
 20



1

**Table II, Technologies for Energy Efficiency in Refineries in California**

Technology Area	Technology Examples
Process Control	Neural networks, knowledge based systems
Process Optimization and Integration	Analytical tools, site integration
Energy Recovery	Hydrogen recovery and integration, flare gas recovery
Catalysts	Higher selectivity, increased lifetime
Reactor Design	Process intensification, membranes, reactive distillation, dividing-wall column
Biotechnology	Biodesulfurization, bio-feedstocks
Combustion Technology	Low NOx burners, high-efficiency burners
Utilities	Membranes, low-maintenance pumps
Power Generation	Advanced cogeneration, Gasification (IGCC), power recovery

Source: Profile of Petroleum Refining Industry in California, Lawrence Berkley National Laboratories, LBNL 55450

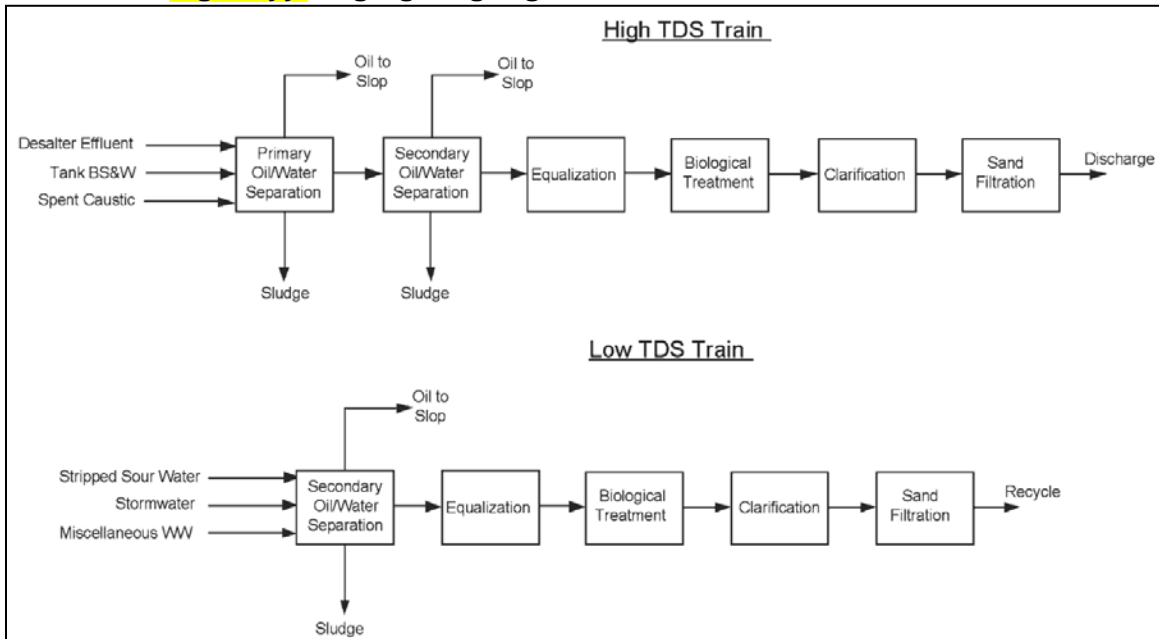
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**Best Management Practices for Water Conservation in Petroleum Refining**

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Segregate and reuse water within the refinery. Segregating wastewater streams by total dissolved solids content is one way to make sure that salty streams are not mixed with fresher water that can be reclaimed (Figure YY).

**Figure yy. Segregating High TDS streams from Other Water**



14  
15

Source: IPIECA, Petroleum Refining Water/Wastewater Use and Management, 2010, www.ipieca.org

1

2 **Table qq** provides a summary of the major water reusing opportunities within the refinery its self.

3

**Table qq. Water Reuse Options for Oil Refineries**

Water category	Contaminant specification	Potential source of re-use water
Desalter makeup	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sulphide: &lt; 10 mg/l</li> <li>• Ammonia: &lt; 50 mg/l</li> <li>• Total dissolved solids (TDS): &lt; 200 mg/l</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stripped sour water</li> <li>• Vacuum tower overhead</li> <li>• Crude tower overhead</li> </ul>
Coker quench water	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Total suspended solids: &lt; 100 mg/l</li> <li>• Biological solids: none</li> <li>• H<sub>2</sub>S and other odorous compounds: none</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stripped sour water</li> </ul>
Coke cutting water	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Total suspended solids: &lt; 100 mg/l</li> <li>• Biological solids: none</li> <li>• H<sub>2</sub>S and other odorous compounds: none</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stripped sour water</li> </ul>
Boiler feedwater makeup (quality required is highly dependent on the pressure of steam being produced)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conductivity: &lt; 1 µS/cm</li> <li>• Hardness: &lt; 0.3 mg/l</li> <li>• Chlorides: &lt; 0.05 mg/l</li> <li>• Sulphates: &lt; 0.05 mg/l</li> <li>• Total silica: &lt; 0.01 mg/l</li> <li>• Sodium: &lt; 0.05 mg/l</li> <li>• Dissolved oxygen: &lt; 0.007 mg/l</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Treated and upgraded refinery wastewater</li> </ul>
Cooling tower makeup	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conductivity: &lt; 6,000 µS/cm</li> <li>• Alkalinity: &lt; 3,000 mg/l</li> <li>• Chlorides: &lt; 1,500 mg/l</li> <li>• Suspended solids: &lt; 150 mg/l</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Treated and upgraded refinery wastewater</li> </ul>

4

5

Source: IPIECA, Petroleum Refining Water/Wastewater Use and Management, 2010, www.ipieca.org

6

Stormwater and other on-site sources: Refineries on the East and Gulf Coasts have successfully used storm water and other on-site sources for a number of uses including fire protection, water for boilers and utilities after proper treatment, pump seals, and cooling tower makeup. In areas with low rainfall, like much of California, the feasibility of capturing, treating and reusing storm water is not likely to be practical and will need to be examined for cost effectiveness. Condensate from refrigeration and air conditioning processes, treated wastewater from restrooms and showers, and similar sources may provide inexpensive but small quantities of water for the refinery operation.

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15

The use of municipal recycled water is another way to reduce use of freshwater supplies that could be used for potable purposes. Recycled water can be used for cooling tower makeup, boiler feed, and all other uses except potable use. However, it may need additional treatment

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1 and its availability may be limited due to lack of public infrastructure to produce and deliver the  
2 recycle water to industrial users. Use of recycled water has significant potential to reduce  
3 potable use and is already being successfully used by a number of California refineries and  
4 being considered by other refineries and recycled wastewater providers. Recycled water is a  
5 freshwater source and like all freshwater sources should be use efficiently. The section in this  
6 report concerning recycled water has additional information.

7  
8 Other areas of potential water conservation include:

- 9 • Meter, sub meter, and install automated data recording systems to follow water use at all  
10 major use points;
- 11 • Converting pumps to mechanical seals;
- 12 • Where packing glands are required, using alternate sources of water for seal water;
- 13 • Using dry vacuum pumps;
- 14 • Where liquid ring pumps are required, either installing a water recirculation system or  
15 use wastewater for the seal;
- 16 • Installing automatic cutoffs and solenoids on all water using equipment to ensure that  
17 water flow is stopped when the equipment is not working;
- 18 • Instituting training programs for employees;
- 19 • Installing water efficient plumbing fixtures and appliances; and
- 20 • Following vessel washing and pipe cleaning procedures. (See **Cleaning Industrial**  
21 **Vessels, Pipes and Equipment.**)  
22

### 23 **Potential Metrics for Evaluating Water Conservation in Petroleum Refining**

24 Unfortunately, simple generic metrics, such as gallons of water used per some unit of  
25 production, are not particularly suitable for petroleum refineries, especially if the intent of those  
26 metrics is to compare one refinery to another. Although most refineries may produce gasoline,  
27 diesel or jet fuel, they do it in different manners, using different processes that may be tailored  
28 to achieve a certain product array, for a certain product specification, and volume from different  
29 input crudes. As the IPIECA Operations Best Practice Series 2010 for Petroleum Refining  
30 Water/Wastewater Use and Management states “Petroleum refineries are complex systems of  
31 multiple operations that depend on the type of crude refined and the products desired. For  
32 these reasons, no two refineries are alike. Depending on the size, crude, products and  
33 complexity of operations, a petroleum refinery can be a large consumer of water, relative to  
34 other industries and users in a given region. Within the refinery, the water network is as unique  
35 to the refinery as its process.” Hence, a simple generic metric designed as a benchmark for all  
36 refineries is neither practical nor appropriate.

37 However, it may be appropriate for an individual refinery to measure and monitor its own water  
38 use for the different processes and operations so as to evaluate trends, to develop and evaluate  
39 BMPs, and to achieve cost-effective water use management within the context of operational,  
40 equipment, and production needs. The IPIECA Operations Best Practice Series 2010 for  
41 Petroleum Refining Water/Wastewater Use and Management is a good starting point for  
42 refineries to evaluate potential options to measure and evaluate water use. At this time  
43 however, the CII Task Force cannot recommend simple, generic metrics for the refining sector.

1

## 2 **Collection of Process Condensate and Refrigeration Condensate**

3 Refineries and chemical plants produce various types of condensate in their operations. Clean  
4 steam condensate from sources such as steam heaters and reboilers can be recycled back to  
5 the boiler feedwater treatment plant deaerator to reduce the need for fresh water makeup.

6 Recovering hot condensate also provides a side benefit of energy savings at the deaerator.

7 Other forms of steam condensate are also formed through chemical reaction and by heating of  
8 fluids containing water. The condensate produced in these processes can also be evaluated for  
9 reuse within the process. Refrigeration processes also produce very clean condensate. Both of  
10 these condensates should be evaluated for reuse.

11 **Water Use in the Chemical Industry:** Water use in the chemical sector varies by type of  
12 product produced. For basic petrochemicals, cooling water and boiler feed uses dominate, but  
13 for end-use products such as cosmetics, cleaning of vessels and equipment, inclusion in the  
14 product, and sanitary water use by employees can represent large uses in a facility along with  
15 cooling water and boiler feed. In addition,

16 1. Stormwater and other on-site sources have been successfully used by facilities on the  
17 East and Gulf Coasts. Uses include fire water, boiler and utility water after proper  
18 treatment, pump seal, and cooling tower makeup. However, in areas of lower rainfall,  
19 such as California, the feasibility of capturing, treating and reusing storm water is  
20 unlikely to be practical and will need to be examined for cost effectiveness. Condensate  
21 from refrigeration and air conditioning processes, treated wastewater from restrooms  
22 and showers, and similar sources may provide inexpensive but small quantities of water  
23 for the facility's operation.

24  
25 2. The use of municipal recycled water is another way to reduce the use of freshwater  
26 supplies that could be used for potable purposes. Recycled water can be used for  
27 cooling tower makeup, boiler feed, and all other uses except potable use. However, it  
28 may need additional treatment. Use of recycled water has the highest potential to  
29 reduce potable use. It is already being successfully used by a number of California  
30 plants and is being considered by other plants and recycled wastewater providers.  
31 Recycled water is a freshwater source and like all freshwater sources should be use  
32 efficiently. The section in this report **Recycled Water** contains additional information.  
33

34 Other areas of potential water conservation include:

- 35 3. Metering, sub-metering, and installing automated data recording systems to follow water  
36 use at all major US points;
- 37 4. Converting pumps to mechanical seals;
- 38 5. Where packing glands are required, using alternate sources of water for seal water;
- 39 6. Using dry vacuum pumps;

- 1 7. Where liquid ring pumps are required, either installing a water recirculation system or
- 2 using wastewater for the seal;
- 3 8. Installing automatic cutoffs and solenoids on all water using equipment to ensure that
- 4 water flow is stopped when the equipment is not working;
- 5 9. Instituting training programs for employees; and
- 6 10. Installing water efficient plumbing fixtures and appliances.

7 For many of the industries in this sector, such as pesticides, cosmetics, soaps, and toiletries,  
8 cleaning of vessels, pipes and equipment is a major water user. The chapter entitled **Cleaning**  
9 **Industrial Vessels, Pipes and Equipment** covers cleaning in detail, but cleaning methods  
10 specific to the chemical industry are covered in **Table aa**. (This information was gathered from  
11 publications of the British Government for use in its industries.)

12

13

**Table aa. Vessel-Washing Equipment****for Chemical Manufacturing**

- Communication - Make sure your staff understands the most effective washing methods.
- Batch formulation - Processing the same types of chemical in batches can reduce the frequency of vessel washing.
- Mixing outside the vessel - This practice may reduce the need for vessel washing.
- Dedicated equipment - Using specific vessels for specific products can reduce cleaning requirements.
- Production scheduling - Batching compatible products together will minimize the washing needed between them.
- High-pressure cleaning - Systems that direct dense sprays and jets of wash liquor can help reduce the amount of water used, while improving wash efficiency by 90 percent.
- Automated vessel washing - You can use this process to control water use more precisely and reduce emissions, especially in enclosed vessels.
- Optimizing cleaning levels - Ensure that you use only the required level of cleaning for particular products. You may not need to wash at all, or you might be able to reuse wash liquor.
- Optimizing cleaning agents and solvents - Using different cleaning agents and solvents may reduce washing.
- Using wash liquor in product - Look into using wash liquor to dilute subsequent product batches where required.
- Material recovery – In areas where you cannot reuse wash liquors, look at ways of recovering materials from the effluent.

Source: British Government Web Site - Business Link  
<http://www.businesslink.gov.uk/bdotg/action/detail?itemId=1083098743&r.i=1083098500&r.l1=1079068363&r.l2=1082900032&r.l3=1083098121&r.t=RESOURCES&type=RESOURCES>

1 **Water Savings and Cost Effectiveness**

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The two case studies below show the potential for water and cost savings from implementation of water conservation BMPs in the Refining and Petrochemical Sector.

**Water-conservation technology at Dow plant  
saves one billion gallons of water**

Water conservation programs have enabled Dow to become more energy- efficient and decrease its global footprint. In alignment with Dow's commitment to water, the Company partnered with Nalco to implement water-reduction and cost-saving technology at Dow's largest manufacturing site globally in Freeport, Texas. The power plant has been designed to use seawater instead of freshwater for cooling. The 3D TRASAR Cooling Water Technology has been recognized with a United States Presidential Green Chemistry Challenge Award. The use of seawater saves \$600,000 per year in avoided treatment, energy, and water costs.

Dow's long-term commitment to water conservation programs has resulted in reducing the amount of water used per pound of product by more than 35 percent since 1995. Dow is harnessing its expertise in science and innovation toward becoming a global leader in water efficiency, conservation, and treatment – striving to incorporate a zero liquid discharge design philosophy into new design and construction of plants, minimizing water impacts, and continuously improving the efficient use of water resources.

Source: Dow Chemical, [www.dow.com/sustainability/stories/operations/water.htm](http://www.dow.com/sustainability/stories/operations/water.htm)

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## RECLAIMED WATER FOR CHEVRON IN CALIFORNIA

- Operating Responsibly Building Capacity Designing sustainable water systems
- Active membership of stakeholder groups
- Developing more efficient production

Chevron has a number of refineries in areas of the US where conflicting demands on water resources are acute. Chevron has responded to these pressures by seeking new ways to both manage and conserve water. In El Segundo, California, for instance, a severe drought in the 1980s saw the local Water District transform from a fresh water wholesaler to an authority that also supplied specially produced reclaimed water.

Chevron's El Segundo refinery now takes eight million gallons a day of this reclaimed water – with four million gallons going to cooling tower makeup water, and four million gallons a day to boiler feed water. Reclaimed water now accounts for some 80% of the refinery's overall water consumption.

Further north in California, the drought also prompted the East Bay Water District to find ways of supplying more reclaimed water to relieve the pressure on fresh water demand. Chevron's Richmond refinery currently uses three million gallons a day of reclaimed water in its cooling towers. The refinery is also exploring the possibility of using another three million gallons a day as boiler feed water – which would see its overall consumption of reclaimed water account for more than 50% of daily usage.

*Source: Water Resource Management in the Petroleum Industry, IPIECA, 2005*

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## 7B2e: The Pharmaceutical and Biotech Industries

The Pharmaceutical/Biotech industry produces a wide variety of products. It is one of the largest industries in California, and California's Pharmaceutical/Biotech industry is the largest in the nation. The industry includes research, diagnostic chemical, Pharmaceutical/Biotech substances produced by the conversion of organic and natural substances, products produced by fermentation or synthesis, and the formulation and production of final products. In great part, the biotechnology revolution was birthed in California, and many people see it as the next "big thing" to revive the California economy after the "high tech" bust. A 2005 report by Junfu Zhang and Nikesh Patel, titled "The Dynamics of California's Biotechnology Industry," points out that although the biotechnology industry is still small compared to the rest of the Pharmaceutical/Biotech industry, it is the fastest growing sector in the industry.

Based on 2009 data from the US Department of Commerce, the pharmaceutical/biotech sector employs 40,989 Californians, and it has a total value of shipments of \$30,840,359 and a value added of \$25,335,967. The last year the US Department of Commerce published information at the six digit NAICS level for California is 2007; Table 1 presents this information. Approximately 75 percent of value of shipments and 61 percent of employees in the California Pharmaceutical/Biotech industry work in the area of the preparation and manufacturing of products for the industry. Overall, California represents 11 percent of the United States industry. Historically, this sector has spent fifteen to twenty percent of its revenues on research according to Congressional Budget Office estimates.

**Table 1. US Census of Manufacturers Information for Pharmaceutical/Biotech Industry in California in 2007**

Pharmaceutical/ Biotech Product	NAICS Code	Number of Establishments in California	Value of Shipments in California (\$1,000's)	Number of Employees in California	Number of Establishments in USA	Value of Shipments in USA (\$1,000's)	Number of Employees in USA
Medicinal and botanical manufacturing	325411	64	\$945,161	3,346	410	\$11,316,752	24,626
Pharmaceutical/Bi otech preparation manufacturing	325412	170	\$20,082,378	26,762	991	\$142,876,257	158,531
In-vitro diagnostic substance manufacturing	325413	71	\$3,131,798	8,960	259	\$12,407,704	29,080
Biological product (except	325414	50	\$2,740,830	4,767	350	\$21,798,314	36,163

<b>diagnostic) manufacturing</b>							
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>355</b>	<b>\$26,900,167</b>	<b>43,835</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>\$188,399,027</b>	<b>248,400</b>

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The three basic tools of the Pharmaceutical/Biotech/biotech industry are chemical synthesis, natural product extraction, fermentation, and Pharmaceutical/Biotech.

- Chemical synthesis, including reaction, separation, purification, and drying, is used to produce many of the pills and other products found on pharmacy shelves;
- Extraction of natural products from organisms ranges from plants and roots to fungus and animal parts as well as blood fractionation;

Fermentation is a fundamental process for many of today's medical products.

- Formulation processes convert bulk chemicals into refined products that include: tablets, capsules, liquids, patches and ointments. Typical formulation operations include mixing, blending, granulating, drying, coating, polishing, tablet pressing, capsule filling, sorting, and packaging.

Major water uses in the pharmaceutical/biotech/biotech industry are:

- cooling
- boilers
- clean steam boilers (fed with ultrapure water)
- ultrapure water treatment systems
- inclusion in product
- fermenters
- cleaning of equipment and containers
- autoclaves and sterilizers
- air pollution - scrubbers
- vacuum pump seal water
- pump seal water
- humidification
- used in reaction
- sanitation
- irrigation

All aspects of production are covered under the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (FD&C Act), Food and Drug Administration Amendments Act (FDAAA) of 2007, and other legislation, rules and regulations. Water used or pharmaceutical/biotech production must meet Food and Drug Administration (FDA) standards. The FDA has established eight categories of water, ranging from non-potable water for outdoor uses, potable water, and six USP (United States Pharmacopeia) categories of purified water.

1 **US Federal Food and Drug Administration Classification of Water for use**  
2 **in the Pharmaceutical/Biotech Industry**

- 3 2. Potable (drinkable) water  
4 3. USP purified water  
5 4. USP water for injection (WFI)  
6 5. USP sterile water for injection  
7 6. USP sterile water for inhalation  
8 7. USP bacteriostatic water for injection  
9 8. USP sterile water for irrigation

Source: <http://www.fda.gov/ICECI/Inspections/InspectionGuides/InspectionTechnicalGuides/ucm072925.htm>

7 The non-potable water can be used for irrigation of landscapes, cooling tower makeup, and  
8 similar uses. Potable water can be used for much of the in-plant general cleaning, but USP  
9 must be used in the production of medicines and for much of the cleaning of equipment.

10 The production of ultra-pure water offers some unique opportunities for water efficiency in the  
11 pharmaceutical/biotech, nanotechnology, and microelectronics industries. In this process,  
12 potable water is passed through a series of water treatment operations to produce water that is  
13 almost completely pure, purer, in fact, than distilled water. Depending on the quality of water  
14 needed, water is passed through a sediment filter and activated carbon, softened, filtered with a  
15 micro filter, disinfected with ultraviolet light, and then passed through a reverse osmosis (RO)  
16 system. In some cases these processes still do not produce pure enough water. In those  
17 cases, the water is then passed through strong acid - strong base ion exchange resins that  
18 remove all but about 20 parts per billion of total dissolved solids. The wastewater produced by  
19 the use of this water for washing and similar operations is often "cleaner" than the tap water  
20 supplying the plant and can be reused in other areas.

21 The operation of the RO system offers many opportunities for both water use reduction and  
22 reuse. Modern RO units recover more than 75 percent of the water fed to the system. The  
23 remaining 25 percent, called reject water, is soft, particle free, and of good enough quality to  
24 use in cooling towers and similar applications. In some facilities, the reject water is again  
25 passed through either a saltwater RO membrane or a nanofiltration system, and that product  
26 water is recycled to the front of the RO system.

27 If ion exchange is used, the facility can choose to regenerate the resins on- or off- site, which  
28 will shift water use from one site to another, but water will still be used.

29 Most new biotechnology industries use biological fermentation bioreactors to produce antibiotics  
30 and similar products. **Figure rr in appendix xx** shows a diagram of such a reactor.

31 Cross contamination is a major concern of the industry. To prevent it, cleaning involves  
32 thorough washing, rinsing, and sterilizing. In addition, steam and strong oxidizing agents are  
33 often used in the sterilizing phase of the clean-in-place system. Much of the cleaning operation  
34 used in the Pharmaceutical/Biotech industry is similar to the processes used food processing  
35 and chemical manufacturing cleaning.

1 For years, the general trend in the industry was toward larger reactors, but for some specialty  
2 biotechnology companies, the use of smaller reactors with disposable plastic liners has gained  
3 some acceptance. These smaller reactors lessen the need for the thorough cleaning now  
4 practiced and significantly reduce the potential for cross contamination. They reduce water use  
5 while producing a recyclable plastic waste.

6 Cooling tower makeup, boiler feed water, and water used for processing product are the main  
7 uses of water in a Pharmaceutical/Biotech manufacturing operation. **Figure kk in the appendix**  
8 shows an actual water balance for such a facility.

9 For water uses common to many CII facilities such as employee sanitation, cooling towers, and  
10 irrigation, the reader is referred to those sections elsewhere in this document.

### 11 **Best Management Practices for Water Conservation**

- 12 1. Reusing RO reject water in production cycles, cooling tower makeup water, boiler feed  
13 water, and irrigation.
- 14 2. Metering, sub-metering, and installing automated data recording systems to follow water  
15 use at all major use points;
- 16 3. Converting pumps to mechanical seals;
- 17 4. Where packing glands are required, using alternate sources of water for seal water;
- 18 5. Using dry vacuum pumps;
- 19 6. Where liquid ring pumps are required, either installing a water recirculation system or  
20 using wastewater for the seal;
- 21 7. Following vessel washing and pipe cleaning procedures (see **Cleaning Industrial**  
22 **Vessels, Pipes and Equipment;**
- 23 8. Installing automatic cutoffs and solenoids on all water using equipment to ensure that  
24 water flow is stopped when the equipment is not working;
- 25 9. Instituting training programs for employees; and
- 26 10. Installing water efficient plumbing fixtures and appliances.
- 27 11. Stormwater and other on-site sources have been successfully used for firewater, and for  
28 boiler and utility water after proper treatment. Pump seal water is another possibility, as  
29 is cooling tower makeup. In areas of lower rainfall, such as California, the feasibility of  
30 capturing, treating and reusing storm water will need to be examined to determine cost  
31 effectiveness. Condensate from refrigeration and air conditioning processes, treated  
32 wastewater from restrooms and showers, and similar sources may provide inexpensive  
33 but small quantities of water for the refinery operation.
- 34 12. The use of municipal recycled water is another way to reduce the use of freshwater  
35 supplies that could be used for potable purposes. Recycled water can be used for  
36 cooling tower makeup, boiler feed, and all other uses except potable use. However, it  
37 may need additional treatment. The section in this report concerning recycled water has  
38 additional information.
- 39 13. Seawater can be used for cooling purposes for plants located along the coast, entirely  
40 eliminating the use of fresh water for cooling. However, power plants using seawater for  
41 cooling are now being required to eliminate once-through or pass-through cooling, which

1 will further require them to install recirculating systems to reduce the volumes of water  
2 they withdraw.

3

4

**Summary of Water Conservation Audits off  
Pharmaceutical/Biotech Manufacturing and Research Facilities**

During 2009 and 2010, four biotechnology companies, including a research facility, and three manufacturers in the San Diego, California area, received water efficiency audits. All four entities used half or more of their water for a combination of cooling tower makeup, landscape irrigation, and boiler makeup. Since the audits were targeted at process water uses, they did not address domestic plumbing fixtures and irrigation system efficiencies. The single largest non-irrigation use by far for all four facilities was for cooling tower makeup. The auditors examined all process water uses listed and identified five areas where the most water could be saved.

1. Installing water tempering devices on autoclaves.
2. Increasing cycles of concentration in cooling towers.
3. Using recycled water for cooling.
4. Recovering and reusing high quality rinse water from cleaning of vessels and water from still reject and clean steam discharge for boiler makeup.
5. Eliminating once-through cooling.

# 1 7B2f: Preliminary Working Draft - Power Plants

## 2 Background

3 This section has not yet been reviewed by the Task Force.

4 Electric Power subsector (NAICS 2211) comprises power generation (22111), transmission and  
5 distribution (22112). Most of water use is concentrated on the power generation subsector  
6 which will be the focus of discussion in this section.

7 Electric Power generation is further divided into four subsectors in NAICS as Hydroelectric  
8 power generation (221111), Fossil fuel electric power generation (221112), nuclear electric  
9 power generation (221113), and other electric power generation (221119). Most of renewable  
10 energy plants should be included in the last subsection, such as solar, wind, biomass, and  
11 geothermal energy plants. Table 1 shows some basic statistics in Electric Power Generation  
12 Subsector quoted from U.S. Census Bureau, 2007 Economic Census which is the latest data  
13 available to the public. Not all the survey data are reported by the U.S. Census Bureau that  
14 suppresses data to protect the identity of any business or individuals.

**Table 1. Background of Power Plant Sector**

NAICS Code	Subsector	Employers (191)	Revenues (\$)	Payrolls (\$1,000)	Employees
221111	Hydroelectric Power Generation	32	NA	NA	NA
221112	Fossil Fuel Electric Power Generation	87	NA	209,738	2,187
221113	Nuclear Electric Power Generation	3	NA	NA	NA
221119	Other Electric Power Generation	69	NA	NA	NA

15 Data sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2007 Economic Census.

16

17 Hydroelectric power generation (NAICS 221111) converts the hydrostatic (gravitational) or  
18 kinetic flow energy to electric energy. It deals with water directly but it usually does not consume  
19 a lot of water or the water consumption involved in the process is hard to be evaluated. In the  
20 renewable energy subsector, wind turbines do not use water; geothermal power plants and  
21 solar energy facilities may use some water. Biomass energy production may involve a lot of  
22 water consumption from the point of view of Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) because the plant  
growth and energy generation both need a lot of water. However, the current energy generation

1 from the biomass processing still accounts for a very small percentage. The most water use and  
2 water consumption is concentrated in the fossil fuel power generation and nuclear electric  
3 power generation.

#### 4 **Water Use in Power Plants**

5 Fossil fuel power electricity and nuclear power electricity are usually generated through  
6 thermoelectric process in which the heat energy or radioactive energy released through either  
7 fission or fusion process is converted to the electric energy. Water is extensively used in  
8 thermoelectric power plants to produce steam, and water is also widely used in many other  
9 power generation industries to cool equipment. In a report, *Estimated Use of Water in the*  
10 *United States in 2005*, the United States Geological Survey (USGS) reported that 49% of the  
11 water withdrawal (both fresh and saline water which included; Public supply, Domestic fresh,  
12 Irrigation fresh, Livestock fresh, Aquaculture fresh, Industrial fresh and saline, Mining fresh and  
13 saline and Thermoelectric Power fresh and saline supplies) was used in thermoelectric power  
14 sector nationwide. In California the thermoelectric power sector used 12,650 million gallons per  
15 day (MGD) which consisted of 12,600 MGD of saline water and 50 MGD of fresh water. As the  
16 total water withdrawal statewide in the year 2005 was 45,770 MGD (32,900 MGD of fresh water  
17 and 12,900 MGD saline water), the thermoelectric power sector in California took nearly 28% of  
18 the statewide total, a percentage less than the nationwide average. One of the reasons for this  
19 lower percentage is because California annually has imported about 35% of its electricity from  
20 other states. Also note that the California thermoelectric power plants used more than 99.6% of  
21 saline water and less than 0.4% of fresh water.

22 Water is used in power plants mainly for two purposes – heating water to produce steam or  
23 using water for cooling. The cooling system uses far more water than the heating system in the  
24 whole power generation industry. In general, water is used in two types of cooling process –  
25 once-through cooling (or open cycle wet) or recirculation cooling (or closed cycle wet). The  
26 once-through cooling uses a lot of water but most of the water used is discharged back to the  
27 water system. On the other hand, recirculation cooling needs less water supply but it consumes  
28 more water in the cooling process. There are several other cooling systems which use less or  
29 almost use no water at all, such as wet surface air cooler (WSAC), hybrid wet/dry system, and  
30 dry cooling tower (Electric Power Research Institute, 2007).

#### 31 **SWRCB Policy Proposal (2008)**

32 On May 4 of 2010 the California State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) adopted  
33 Resolution No. 2010-0020 – “*Water Quality Control Policy on the Use of Coastal and Estuarine*  
34 *Waters for Power Plant Cooling*” – and associated certified regulatory program environmental  
35 analysis. The Resolution has stated that there are 19 electrical power plants (including two  
36 nuclear-fueled plants) located in the state that use marine or estuarine waters as a source of  
37 cooling water in a single-pass system, known as once-through cooling system (OTC). These  
38 power plants combined have the capacity to withdraw over 15 billion gallons of water per day.  
39 The withdrawal of marine and estuarine water for the purpose of OTC results in the  
40 impingement and entrainment of marine life to the detriment of the marine environment. The  
41 Resolution establishes uniform requirements for the implementation of Clean Water Act (CWA)  
42 Section 316(b), using best professional judgment in determining best technology available (BTA)

1 for cooling water intake structures at existing coastal and estuarine power plants that must be  
2 implemented in National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permits. Resolution  
3 No. 2010-0020 intends to ensure that the beneficial use of the state's coastal and estuarine  
4 waters are protected while the electrical power needs essential for the welfare of the citizens of  
5 the states are also met. To conserve the state's scarce water resources, the State Water Board  
6 encourages the use of recycled water for cooling water in lieu of marine, estuarine or fresh  
7 water.

## 8 **BMPs in water use in power plants**

9 USEPA and other federal and California state agencies recommended many water saving  
10 methods or the best management practices (BMP) of water use in industries general and in  
11 electricity power generation in particular. Those methods include use of reclaimed water or  
12 treated municipal wastewater for power plant cooling; adaptation of innovative water use and  
13 water recovery, water reuse and water recycling measures; implementation of advanced cooling  
14 technologies; take water survey and water audit, etc. Electricity generation from the renewable  
15 energy sources, such as solar, wind, and geothermal energies, generally use far less water than  
16 from traditional thermoelectric power plants. (Electricity generation from biomass may consume  
17 more water than from the traditional method.)

18 Electric Power Research Institute (2007) summarized the following strategies to increase fresh  
19 water use efficiency in the electricity power generation.

- 20 1. Increase electricity generation efficiency
- 21 2. Use dry/hybrid cooling
- 22 3. Recycle water within plant
- 23 – Increase closed cooling cycles
- 24 – Use blowdown
- 25 – Capture vapor produced in wet cooling tower
- 26 4. Use degraded/impaired waters
- 27 – Waste water treatment plant discharge
- 28 – Water produced in oil/gas extraction
- 29 – Storm water flow
- 30 – Mine drainage
- 31 – Agricultural runoff
- 32 – Saline aquifers
- 33 – Coastal waters

34 (Refer to Section 7 for the BMPs in the Thermodynamic Process Section)

## 35 **Case Studies**

36 Electric Power Research Institute (2007) reported at the First Western Forum on Energy &  
37 Water Sustainability March 22 – 23 2007, some water saving examples in electricity power  
38 generation. One is the Bighorn 530 MW combined-cycle which is air-cooled. Another example is  
39 the 1,800 MW Southwest Coal-fired steam plant which adopted internal plant water reuse. The  
40 table below shows the water-into-plant, water-out-of-plant, and make-up allocation of water  
41 (Table 2).



**Internal Plant Water Reuse:  
1,800 MW Southwest Coal-fired Steam Plant**

Water Stream	Flow <sup>(1)</sup>	
	gpm	%
<b>Water into plant</b>	13,270	100%
<b>make-up application</b>		
cooling tower	12,120	91.3%
Scrubber	90	7.0%
Ash handling	960	7.2%
Plant service water	100	0.8%
<b>Water out plant</b>		
Cooling tower (evap/drift)	11,355	85.6%
FGD cake	100	0.8%
Scrubber evap.	1,430	10.8%
Ash system	90	0.7%
Steam loss	180	1.4%
Evap. pond	115	0.9%

1  
2 gpm - gallons/minute; evap. - Evaporation; FGD – Flue Gas Desulfurization;  
3 Flow<sup>(1)</sup> - @ capacity factor of 76.2% for 22,000 acre-feet/year.  
4  
5  
6  
7

1 **7C: Common Devices, Processes, and Practices Applicable to the CII**  
2 **Sectors**

3

4 **7C1: Alternate On-Site Sources of Non-Potable Water**

5 **Introduction**

6 One of the most rapidly developing areas of increased water use efficiency is the use of  
7 alternate sources of water collected on-site for non-potable use. In the past, the use of alternate  
8 on-site sources has been hindered by an absence of a regulatory framework and a lack of  
9 readily available technologies to help facilitate their use. These obstacles are rapidly  
10 disappearing as a result of a number of changes: the two major plumbing code bodies  
11 (International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials and the International Code  
12 Council) are developing "green codes," the National Sanitation Federation is developing water  
13 quality criteria for gray water reuse, organizations are forming to promote the use of alternate  
14 sources, and California is moving to begin the development of state level guidance and  
15 regulations.

16 **Underlying Concepts**

- 17 1. The use of an alternate on-site source of water is a best management practice (BMP) in  
18 and of its self.  
19 2. Alternate on-site sources of non-potable water are freshwater resources, and they  
20 should be used efficiently.  
21 3. Any water source can be treated to meet the needs and conditions of a desired end use.  
22 Economics and volume of water available are the major limiting factors.  
23 4. These sources of water are perfect candidates to use in conjunction with potable water,  
24 recycled water, and self-supplied fresh water.  
25 5. The potential of this resource is only limited by the limits of the amount available and the  
26 ingenuity of the user.

27

28 **Codes, Standards, Regulations, Organizations, and Rating Systems**

29 Many factors have converged to encourage the use of the alternate on-site non-potable sources  
30 of water. The most important among these are summarized below:

31 **Codes** provide officials with building standards to follow. In the past, without written national  
32 codes, each jurisdiction had to approve projects on a case-by-case basis, thus having to invent  
33 code each time a project arose. Two national codes now or will soon allow builders to build  
34 many types of on-site systems to code. Currently both codes are supplements that must be  
35 adopted locally.

36 The current code of the International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials (IAPMO)  
37 only addresses untreated graywater defined as water from the bathtub and shower, clothes  
38 washer, and hand washing lavatories. IAPMO's new Green Plumbing and Mechanical Code

1 Supplement was adopted in 2010 and is now being revised for a 2012 edition. It is the first such  
2 code. California follows the current IAPMO plumbing codes. The new supplement is designed  
3 to be incorporated directly into existing IAPMO codes. This code recognizes four types of non-  
4 potable, alternate on-site sources of water. They are:

- 5 1. Recycled (Reclaimed) water - water from municipal wastewater treatment facilities;
- 6 2. Graywater - Untreated water from showers, bathtubs, clothes washers, and hand  
7 washing sinks that is used for subsurface irrigation;
- 8 3. Rainwater that is water collected from roofs and elevated surfaces;
- 9 4. On-site Treated Non-Potable Water - all other on-site sources that are treated to the  
10 level required for their intended use.

11 The International Code Council (ICC) is currently developing the International Green  
12 Construction Code, which will have similar provisions

13 **Standards** set criteria that must be followed. The National Sanitation Federation (NSF) has  
14 established NSF Standards 350 and 350-1 for graywater reuse. They provide water quality  
15 parameters for graywater for use above ground for irrigation and toilet flushing (350) and for  
16 subsurface irrigation (350-1).

17 **Regulations** by the State of California for commercial graywater use are under development  
18 and will be incorporated into code for commercial and institutional water users. Currently under  
19 Chapter 16A of the Department of Housing and Community Development, *residential* graywater  
20 use is allowed, but this allowance does not yet extend to commercial users. The new IAPMO  
21 Green Plumbing Code has been coordinated with current California Chapter 16A regulations for  
22 untreated graywater.

23 Regional water control boards and local jurisdictions are also considering local ordinances and  
24 regulations such as the guidelines available from Los Angeles, but they remain "works in  
25 progress."

26 **Organizations** such as the American Rainwater Catchment Systems Association, American  
27 Water Works Association, and others are working to promote the use of alternate sources of  
28 water. All environmental organizations such as the Sierra Club also promote alternate sources  
29 use.

30 **Rating Systems** such as the US Green Building Council's LEED (leadership in energy and  
31 environmental design) and the Green Globes' Green Build Initiative (GBI) provide points toward  
32 certification for use of alternate on-site, non-potable sources of water.

### 33 **The Potential Sources of Alternate On-Site Sources of Non-Potable Water**

34 Many diverse sources of water are produced on every type of property. Most of the time, this  
35 water is discharged to sanitary sewers or it becomes part of the stormwater system. The  
36 capture and use of these resources is growing as conventional potable freshwater rise in cost.  
37 These on-site sources offer real opportunities to stretch limited resources and have positive

1 impacts on the environment. The following section provides a brief description of some of the  
2 most commonly used sources:

3 Rainwater harvesting is the catching of water from roofs and other elevated structures and  
4 stored in cisterns for future use. (By contrast, stormwater is collected off of more contaminated  
5 surfaces such as parking lots and lawns. Stormwater is covered below. )  
6

7 Rainwater harvesting is one of the oldest forms of alternate on-site sources of water. Although  
8 rainwater has been use for drinking purposes in some homes in the past, this document only  
9 discusses the non-potable uses in commercial, institutional, and industrial settings.

10  
11 Approximately 0.62 gallons of water can be collected per square foot of collection surface per  
12 inch of rainfall. In practice, however, most installers assume an efficiency of 80 percent. Some  
13 rainwater is lost to first flush, evaporation from the roof surface, or splash-out from the gutters.  
14 Rough collection surfaces are less efficient at conveying water, and water captured in pore  
15 spaces is lost to evaporation.

16  
17 The inability of the system to capture all water during heavy storms also affects practicable  
18 efficiency. For instance, spillage may occur if the flow-through capacity of a filter-type roof  
19 washer is exceeded, and overflow rainwater will be lost after storage tanks are full. The use of  
20 rainwater collection systems, also referred to as cisterns, is most practical in regions with  
21 periodic precipitation throughout a plant's growing season. For example, in California, since  
22 most regions don't receive precipitation during the summer, early fall, or late spring, cisterns are  
23 far less practical than in other parts of the country, because very large storage capacities are  
24 needed to capture enough water  
25 to use at any length into the irrigation season. Stated another way, the more frequent the  
26 precipitation, the smaller the needed storage facility and the less the capital costs.

27  
28 Stormwater harvesting is catching runoff water from parking lots, roofs, landscape, etc. This  
29 water can either be captured in storage structures such as holding ponds or storage tanks for  
30 future use after proper treatment, or it can use the soil profile of the landscape as a storage  
31 medium. If storage structures are used, economics and design considerations are similar to  
32 that for rainwater, except that stormwater generally contains higher levels of contaminates than  
33 rainwater.

34  
35 The recent symbiotic development of stormwater management and the collection and storage of  
36 water in the soil profile harkens back to the oldest form of rainwater harvesting for agricultural  
37 practices by native American tribes in the Southwest. Storing water in the soil profile is almost  
38 always the least expensive form of storage. It also allows for water to percolate into local  
39 aquifers and helps support local wildlife. An example of this practice may be found in the County  
40 of San Diego's handbook on stormwater management. An excerpt from this document is  
41 presented below to illustrate this point.

42  
43  
44  
45  
46

## Stormwater Management Strategies

*Integrated Management Practices (IMPs) help developers mimic the site's natural hydrological function. IMPs may include directing runoff to natural and landscaped areas, man-made filtration devices such as small vegetated swales, rain gardens, and permeable pavements and pavers. Other basic principals include dividing and sectioning impervious surfaces (no large continuously paved areas), eliminating runoff pathways and re-dispersing runoff (no downspouts connected to storm drains), and, where feasible, harvesting of rain water in rain barrels or cisterns and using runoff as an irrigation source. These LID techniques can be applied to areas of residential, commercial, industrial, and municipal development.*

The capture and use of stormwater in the landscape by simply using the landscape is a significant opportunity, but the site must be designed to take advantage of this resource.

Air conditioner condensate is the water formed on inside air conditioning coils from dehumidification of air being cooled. Since the source of this water is the atmosphere, it does not contain minerals and salts, but it does collect bacterial and particulates from the air that is being cooled.

Estimating the amount of condensate produced requires a psychrometric evaluation of makeup air, climatic data, and operation of the air conditioning systems. This evaluation will determine the amount of condensate that may be available. The best time to incorporate condensate collection systems is in the design phase of a facility.

Swimming pool filter backwash water from the backwash of sand filters can be used for landscape irrigation and other uses if properly treated. Backwash water can contain high levels of suspended solids and bacteria. Sedimentation, filtration, and disinfection may be needed before use. Swimming pool water also may contain fairly high dissolved solids levels. Chlorine may be a factor if it is too high for the plants being irrigated. Algaecides can also damage plants, but in most cases, it can be used for irrigation after minimal treatment.

Cooling tower blowdown is the water discharged to keep minerals from building up in cooling towers. It is usually high in total dissolved solids, but it can be used to irrigate salt tolerant plants. Blowdown can also be used for other purposes such as toilet flushing, but special attention would need to be given to total dissolved solids levels and the type of treatment needed to bring it to the level needed for those uses.

Reverse osmosis (RO) and Nanofiltration (NF) Reject Water is purge water rejected from this type of treatment equipment. This water has typically been treated and disinfected. In the case of RO reject water, the water has almost always been softened. One constituent of concern with RO or NF reject water is total dissolved solids. Where nanofiltration is used for softening, the reject water can also be very hard.

Graywater is water from laundries, bathing, and hand washing fixtures. See the NSF 350 and NSF 350-1 standards for this type of water. If the IAPMO Green Plumbing and Mechanical

1 Code is followed, gray water refers to untreated water from graywater sources that is only used  
2 for subsurface irrigation.

3  
4 On-site treated wastewater systems are sewage treatment plants located on the premise where  
5 the wastewater is generated. When treated properly, this effluent can be as viable source of  
6 fresh water from municipal facilities.

7  
8 Foundation drain water is water pumped from under foundations, French drain systems,  
9 basement sumps, and from under slabs to prevent flooding of basements or buildings below the  
10 land surface. This water can vary significantly depending on the type of soil and ground it  
11 comes in contact with. This water should have a major cation and anion analysis performed on  
12 it prior to use to determine its makeup. Normally, this type of water is an excellent candidate for  
13 landscape irrigation and often for cooling tower makeup.

14  
15 Boiler blowdown - The quality of blowdown from boilers varies considerably depending on the  
16 quality of steam needed. Most commercial low -ressure boilers produce a blowdown that is high  
17 in total dissolved solids, but high pressure boiler blowdown is often low in total dissolved solids  
18 and can be used for non-potable purposes.

19  
20 There are many potential sources not covered in this document. Each site should look at all of  
21 its possible alternate sources to determine if there is an opportunity to capture and use it.

## 22 23 **Potential Uses of Alternate On-Site Sources for Non-Potable Purposes**

24  
25 Many potential uses exist for these alternate non-potable sources. The most important concept  
26 to use in the evaluation of these possible uses is what is the minimum water quality needed by  
27 the intended use.

28  
29 Some of the potential uses include:

- 30
- 31 • irrigation
  - 32 • green roofs
  - 33 • cooling tower makeup water
  - 34 • toilet and urinal flushing
  - 35 • makeup for an ornamental pond/fountain
  - 36 • swimming pools
  - 37 • laundry
  - 38 • industrial process use
  - 39 • any other use not requiring potable water.

40  
41 These sources can even be used for aquifer recharge and meeting environmental needs for in-  
42 stream flow and wetlands maintenance.

1 Making these sources usable often requires; however, these sources do not need to be treated  
2 to more than that required for the intended use. Table 1 illustrates some of the water quality  
3 considerations that must be taken into account when using alternate sources.  
4

1  
2

Table 1. - Water Quality Consideration for Alternate On-site Sources of Water						
Possible Sources	Water Quality Considerations					
	Sediment	(TDS)	Hardness	Organic (BOD)	Pathogens	Other considerations
Rainwater	1-2	1	1	1	1	None
Storm water	3	?	1	2	2	Pesticides & fertilizers
Air conditioner condensate	1	1	1	1	2	May contain copper when coil cleaned
Pool filter backwash	3	2	2	1	2	Pool treatment chemicals
Cooling tower blowdown	2	3+	3	2	2	Cooling tower treatment chemicals
RO & NF reject water	1	3+	3	1	1	High salt content
Untreated Gray water	For subsurface application only. May need lint screening					Detergents and bleach
On-site wastewater treatment	3	2	2	3+	3+	Human waste
Foundation Drain Water	1	?	?	2	2	Similar to stormwater
Other Sources	?	?	?	?	?	Depends on source
<p>The use of pass-through (once-through) cooling water is also a possible source of on-site water, but it should be discouraged because of its huge potential to waste water. While it does provide a very clean source of wate, it is not included in this list.</p>						
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Low level of concern</li> <li>2. Medium level and may need additional treatment depending on end use</li> <li>3. High concentrations are possible and additional treatment likely</li> <li>? Dependent on local conditions</li> </ul>						

3  
4  
5  
6

The type of treatment that may be needed will depend on the ultimate use of the alternate water source. For example, if the water is to be sprayed into the air for irrigation in areas where



1 human contact is possible, disinfection is needed if the water contains pathogens. However, if  
 2 the water is to be used for subsurface irrigation or cooling tower makeup where there is  
 3 biological control already, disinfection may not be needed. Each situation must be evaluated  
 4 separately. The National Sanitation Federation (NSF) recently released its Standard 350 that  
 5 addresses end use quality for graywater for aboveground irrigation and toilet and urinal flushing  
 6 and 350-1 for subsurface irrigation. These standards may be used as a guide of end-use water  
 7 quality from any on-site source. Table 2 summarizes the more stringent above ground use  
 8 parameters and Table 3 summarizes parameters for subsurface irrigation. Again, these are  
 9 treatment levels for the use of water for irrigation and toilet and urinal flushing. Treatment levels  
 10 for cooling tower use, boiler feed, etc. should be determined on a case-by-case basis.

11

<b>Parameter</b>	<b>Overall Test Average</b>	<b>Single Sample Maximum*</b>	<b>Description</b>
CBOD <sub>5</sub> (mg/l)	10	25	Carbonaceous biochemical oxygen demand
TSS (mg/l)	10	30	Total suspended solids
Turbidity (NTU)	2	5	<b><i>Nephelometric turbidity units</i></b>
E. Coli <sup>2</sup> (MPN/100 ml)	2.2	200	Most probable number of colonies
pH (SU)	6-9	NA	7.0 in neutral: >7 - basic, < 7 - acetic
Storage Vessel Chlorine Concentration (mg/l of Cl)	>0.5 & <2.5	NA	Other disinfectants can be used
Color	MR	NA	Measured and reported
Odor	Non-O	NA	Non-offensive
Oily film and foam	ND	ND	None detectable
Energy Consumption	MR	NA	Measured and reported

\* NA - Not applicable

12

13

14

<b>Parameter</b>	<b>Standard</b>	<b>Description</b>
CBOD <sub>5</sub> (mg/l)	25	Carbonaceous biochemical oxygen demand
TSS (mg/l)	30	Total suspended solids
pH (SU)	6-9	7.0 in neutral: >7 - basic, < 7 - acetic
Color	Non-O	Measured and reported
Odor	ND	Non-offensive
Oily film and foam	MR	None detectable
Energy Consumption	Non-O	Measured and reported

15

16 Treatment technologies described in Section ? (Water Treatment) can be used to treat any on-  
 17 site source to the quality specified in the tables above. Table 4 illustrates possible treatment

1 technologies that may be needed to treat various sources to meet the NSF Standard 350 criteria  
 2 for above ground irrigation. These treatment levels are only to be used as guides since the end  
 3 use will determine the treatment needed. Explanation of treatment methods can be found in the  
 4 section on Water Treatment.

**Table 4. - Types of Treatment That May Be Employed  
Depending on Intended End Use Quality Needs**

Source	Filtration	Sedimentation	Disinfection	Biological Treatment	Softening & Other	Other Considerations
<b>Rainwater</b>	?		?			Depends on end use
<b>Storm water</b>	X	?	X	?	?	Oils and heavy metals
<b>Air conditioner condensate</b>	?		X		?	Copper and bacteria
<b>Pool filter backwash</b>	X	?	X		?	Sediment, bacteria, & pool chemicals, salts
<b>Cooling tower blowdown</b>	X		X		X	High dissolved solids, bacteria, sediment
<b>RO &amp; NF reject water</b>			?		?	High dissolved solids
<b>Gray water</b>	X	X	X	?		Bacteria, BOD, sediment
<b>On-site wastewater treatment</b>	X	X	X	X	?	Bacteria, BOD, sediment
<b>Foundation Drain Water</b>	X		X		?	Hardness, bacteria, sediment

5

6 **Multiple Sources**

7 Plumbing of rainwater, gray water, drain water, and blowdown from various sources to common  
 8 end uses, like landscape irrigation, or non-potable indoor uses, such as toilet flushing, is not  
 9 common, but it is recommended. The cost effectiveness of such “hybrid” systems is improved  
 10 by diversifying the sources of water and improving the consistency of water availability, since  
 11 rainfall episodes, often the largest and most significant single source of water, are sometimes  
 12 separated by long dry periods.

13

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## 7C2: Building Meters, Submeters, and Management Systems

### Overview

An important axiom in building and property water management is that you cannot manage what you don't measure. The absence of water meters is one of the biggest obstacles to measurement faced by facility managers. While most properties contain one or more main source meters that are provided and serviced by the water utility, additional meters (submeters) for tracking water use *within* the property and at specialized end-uses do not exist. Yet, such meters are generally easy to install, easy to monitor, and easy to maintain.

Tracking total property water use as well as specific uses with the building(s) is a key component of facility management efforts and essential to managing water costs and maintaining systems and processes on the property.

In addition, meters are used extensively in industrial and other process operations within the facility to track and manage water consumption and act as an alarm bell when processes fail.

#### Technical Feasibility

All of the practices, products, and technologies described within this report section have been in existence for an extended period of time and found to be technically feasible. In each case, however, economic feasibility must be evaluated within the context of the physical condition and demands of the specific process, property, or building being considered for metering and management.

#### Locating submeters

Where submeters should be installed is unique to each application, yet there are some locations that are typically recommended for most CII properties and operations. In some cases, the selection of these locations will be based entirely upon those building elements with high water use, while other submetered operations may be selected because of their vulnerability to failure, leakage, or other maintenance issues.

For example, submeters are commonly employed to measure usage for specific activities such as cooling towers, processes of all types, and landscape irrigation, where the water consumption at these activities is sufficient to warrant a meter. In the case of the latter two, a failure in these systems could quickly lead to substantial water waste. As such, measuring water use in real time can help facility managers identify water consumption anomalies that demand immediate attention by maintenance staff. Measuring also helps to identify areas for targeted reductions, track progress achieved with water-efficiency upgrades, and manage water and sewer costs.

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1 Centralized building management systems

2 Meters and submeters can be integrated into a centralized building management system,  
3 making it easy to track usage and implement a full water management plan. These  
4 management systems are capable of electronically storing data from meters and submeters,  
5 reporting hourly, daily, monthly, and annual water use. They also trigger alerts upon detecting  
6 leaks or other operational anomalies. Real time monitoring and management systems are  
7 essential where there are multiple water using activities that consume large amounts of water,  
8 such as in certain industrial processes and large campus operations with diverse activities and  
9 building types.

10 Meter selection

11 Installing the correct meter and ensuring it continues to function properly are critical to accurate  
12 water measurement. There are many types and sizes of meters intended for different uses, so  
13 it is important to choose correctly. Improper sizing or type can cause problems for the system.  
14 For example, an undersized water meter can cause excessive pressure loss, reduced flow, and  
15 noise, among other problems. Oversized meters are not economical and do not accurately  
16 measure minimal flow rates.<sup>123</sup> Regarding the quality of products, all source meters provided by  
17 the water utility for domestic water service are considered utility grade water meters, and they  
18 must comply with American Water Works Association (AWWA) standards. However, submeters  
19 used for the purposes described above and not used for revenue purposes are not subject to  
20 such standards.

21

22

23 **Best Practices**

24 **Consider the following best practices for metering water use:**

25 Determine What to Meter and Submeter

26 The following recommendations are based on the U.S. Green Building Council's proposed 2012  
27 Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) rating system:

28 Source meters

- 29 • Meter all water conveyed to the facility, regardless of source. For example, even if a  
30 building's water is solely supplied by an alternative source (e.g., municipally supplied  
31 reclaimed water), a source meter should be installed.<sup>124</sup>

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<sup>123</sup> Smith, Timothy A. 2003. *Plumbing Systems and Design*. Water-Meter Selection and Sizing.  
<[www.ctaspe.com/docs/techarticles/Water%20meter%20selection%20and%20sizing.pdf](http://www.ctaspe.com/docs/techarticles/Water%20meter%20selection%20and%20sizing.pdf)>.

<sup>124</sup> U.S. Green Building Council. 2010. Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design—November 2010 Draft Rating System for Building Design & Construction <[www.usgbc.org/ShowFile.aspx?DocumentID=8182](http://www.usgbc.org/ShowFile.aspx?DocumentID=8182)>.

- 1 • If multiple sources of water are provided to a facility, each source should be metered and  
2 tracked separately.

3 Submeters

- 4 • Consider installing separate submeters to measure the following uses if they are  
5 permanently plumbed:<sup>125</sup>
- 6 ○ Freestanding building with projected annual water use of 100,000 gallons or  
7 more.
  - 8 ○ Tenant space with projected annual water use of 100,000 gallons or more.
  - 9 ○ Cooling tower with projected annual make-up water use of 100,000 gallons or  
10 more. Make-up water added to the system and blowdown water discarded from  
11 the system should be separately metered. A single make-up meter and a single  
12 blowdown meter may record flows for multiple cooling towers if they are  
13 controlled with the same system. Separately controlled cooling towers, should  
14 have separate make-up and blowdown water meters.
  - 15 ○ Heating, ventilating, and air conditioning (HVAC) systems with aggregate annual  
16 water use of 100,000 gallons or more. If the facility has 50,000 square feet or  
17 more of conditioned space, the following systems should be submetered  
18 individually or collectively: (1) evaporative coolers, humidifiers, and mist cooling  
19 devices; and (2) recirculating water systems with a fill water connection, such as  
20 chilled water, hot water, and dual temperature systems.
  - 21 ○ Any boiler with aggregate projected annual water use of 100,000 gallons or  
22 more, or a boiler of more than 500,000 British thermal units per hour (BtuH). A  
23 single make-up meter may record flows for multiple boilers.
  - 24 ○ Landscape irrigation that is automated and permanent.
  - 25 ○ Water use from alternative water sources such as rainwater, air handler or boiler  
26 condensate, or other sources.
  - 27 ○ Make-up water used to supplement rainwater, graywater, and other onsite water  
28 collection and treatment systems plumbed to receive supplemental water  
29 (reclaimed, raw, or potable) from municipal supply, on-site treatment systems, or  
30 a groundwater well.
  - 31 ○ Manmade ornamental and recreational bodies of water including pools, spas,  
32 and ornamental water features. Make-up water provided to such water bodies  
33 with a combined surface area of 500 square feet or more should be metered,  
34 regardless of the projected amount of water use. Do not meter individual features  
35 of less than 50 square feet that cannot be reasonably metered collectively.
  - 36 ○ Any other process with a projected annual water use of 100,000 gallons or more.

37  
38 In addition, also recommended for consideration are the following<sup>126</sup>:

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<sup>125</sup> *ibid*

<sup>126</sup> Huff, Winston, American Society of Plumbing Engineers (ASPE), 2009. *Water Meters: A Facility's Cash Register*, Plumbing Systems & Design Magazine, December.

- 1 • Other nonpotable water uses (process water) from sterilizers, air compressors, water  
2 filtration systems, laundry, and vehicle wash systems.
- 3 • Commercial food service water heaters, with another meter for all food service water.

4

### 5 Meter Selection

- 6 • First, determine the meter's use and select the appropriate meter from the meter types  
7 listed below.<sup>127</sup>
  - 8 ○ *Positive displacement meters* are best suited for small commercial or institutional  
9 applications because they have high accuracy at low flows and can precisely  
10 measure peak flows. Costs range from under \$50 to over \$1,000 depending on  
11 size, not including installation cost, meter box and piping, and related costs.
  - 12 ○ *Compound meters* are good for large commercial or institutional facilities  
13 because they accurately measure low flows and high flows with their multiple-  
14 measuring chamber design.
  - 15 ○ *Turbine and propeller meters* are most appropriate for continuous, high flow  
16 applications and are inaccurate at low flows. These types of meters are not  
17 usually recommended for commercial, institutional, or residential buildings  
18 because water flows are in constant fluctuation, with very low minimum flow  
19 rates. Their costs are similar to positive displacement meters.
  - 20 ○ Electromagnetic flow meters have no moving parts and do not obstruct flow.  
21 They have electronic outputs that are easy to connect to automated systems and  
22 data management systems. Meters between 2" and 10" cost from \$1,000 to  
23 \$2,500 depending on size.
  - 24 ○ Ultrasonic and time-flight meters can be attached to the outside of the pipe and  
25 are excellent for temporary flow measurement such as a water conservation  
26 audit. These meters cost from \$3,000 to \$7,000 depending on the system.
- 27 • Next, select the appropriate size of the meter. It is important to understand the building's  
28 size, function, fixture types, usage occupancy, and peak population in order to select the  
29 appropriately sized meter. These statistics determine the minimum and maximum flow  
30 rates and should result in the selection of a properly sized water meter.<sup>128</sup> AWWA  
31 Standard M22, *Sizing Water Service Lines and Meters*, provides additional guidelines for  
32 selecting and sizing utility-owned and installed water meters.<sup>129</sup>

### 33 Meter Installation and Maintenance

- 34 • When installing a meter, follow the manufacturer's instructions. Improper installation can  
35 lead to metering inaccuracies.

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<sup>127</sup> Smith, Timothy A. 2003. *Plumbing Systems and Design*. Water-Meter Selection and Sizing.  
<[www.ctaspe.com/docs/techarticles/Water%20meter%20selection%20and%20sizing.pdf](http://www.ctaspe.com/docs/techarticles/Water%20meter%20selection%20and%20sizing.pdf)>.

<sup>128</sup> *ibid*

<sup>129</sup> American Water Works Association. 2004. *Sizing Water Service Lines and Meters* (AWWA Manual, M22).

- 1 • Meters should be installed in an accessible location to allow for repair and calibration. In  
2 addition, the meter location should be protected from potential damage by surrounding  
3 equipment.
- 4 • To ensure uniform flow entering the meter, do not install the meter near pipe bends. In  
5 general, place the meter with at least 10 inch pipe diameters downstream and 5 inch  
6 pipe diameters upstream of straight pipe.<sup>130</sup>
- 7 • Create a map indicating the location of all source meters and submeters.
- 8 • Include a strainer on all meters and submeters. It is possible that debris and sediment  
9 will enter a meter with the flow of water and can have an adverse effect on accurate  
10 measurement. An in-line strainer on the meter's inlet will collect debris and sediment and  
11 prevent them from entering the meter body.<sup>131</sup>
- 12 • Meters deteriorate with age and should be tested for accuracy and calibrated on a  
13 regular basis. Sub-meters, however, may be subjected to more frequent inspection and  
14 calibration, depending upon the type and size of the meter and its application.

### 15 *Water Use Tracking and Integration Into a Water Management Plan*

16 Meters, in themselves, do not yield efficiencies. Instead, meters are a tool used to provide the  
17 data that can be monitored to aid in the efficient operation of a facility. This value includes  
18 discovering and correcting water use anomalies, and helping the organization allocate the cost  
19 of water to the appropriate tasks or processes. In addition to staffing the facility with motivated,  
20 aware, and trained monitoring personnel, best practices to be considered are:

- 21 • Consider installing a 'real time' centralized building management system with remote  
22 communication capabilities to the meters and submeters.
- 23 • If not integrating metering data into a centralized system, consider the following:<sup>132</sup>
  - 24 ○ Assign responsibility to track water use on a monthly or more frequent basis.
  - 25 ○ Train staff on meter reading and data recording.
  - 26 ○ Plot total water use and submetered data monthly and examine data for  
27 unexplained fluctuations.
  - 28 ○ Evaluate trends and investigate and resolve any unexpected deviations in water  
29 use.

### 30 **Additional Resources**

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<sup>130</sup> American Water Works Association. 1999. *Manual for Water Meters—Selection, Installation, Testing, and Maintenance* (AWWA M6). Fourth Edition.

<sup>131</sup> Smith, Timothy A. 2003. *Plumbing Systems and Design. Water-Meter Selection and Sizing*.  
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26

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# 1 7C3: Thermodynamic Processes

## 2 Introduction

3 The use of energy in commercial, institutional, and industrial (CII) processes is a key element to  
4 our modern civilization. Thermodynamics is the term physicist use to describe the dynamics of  
5 energy, in this case the use of energy to perform work and transfer energy from one place or  
6 substance to another. Single pass (once-through) cooling, cooling towers, evaporative coolers,  
7 and boilers are examples of water dependent thermodynamic processes technologies found  
8 throughout the CII sectors. Water is the key substance used by these two technologies to affect  
9 heat and energy transfer and transformation. This section covers both heating and cooling  
10 systems that use water. The Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning and Heating (HVAC) industry  
11 is directly involved in providing heating, hot water, and cooling to the commercial and  
12 institutional sectors. The North American Industrial Classification System (NAICS) code for that  
13 industry is 238220. For industrial operations, cooling tower construction and installation can be  
14 classified under NAICS 333415 or 332313, while boilers can be classified under NAICS 238290  
15 or 332400.

## 16 Cooling Systems Terms and Definitions

17 Cooling systems remove "unwanted" energy in the form of heat. They dissipate that heat to the  
18 environment. Examples of cooling systems include air conditioning, process cooling,  
19 dehumidification, and refrigeration. Cooling is either achieved by evaporating water, by the  
20 direct use of water, or by the use of a mechanical refrigeration system. To begin this discussion  
21 two terms need to be defined.

- 22 1. **Heat Pump** - A heat pump is a machine or device that "moves" thermal energy from one  
23 location to another. In the case of refrigeration or air conditioning, heat is moved from the  
24 "source," which is at a lower temperature, to location of higher heat, called the "heat sink."  
25 Mechanical air conditioners and refrigeration systems are heat pumps. In the air  
26 conditioning or refrigeration mode, heat pumps are used to cool a space. If reversed, the  
27 heat pump moves heat from the outside to the inside to warm a space.  
28
- 29 2. **Heat Sink** - A heat sink in this context is the environment – air, water or earth – that holds  
30 the unwanted heat.

31  
32 Air as a heat sink - An example of air as a heat sink is the typical home air conditioner.  
33 The outside unit contains the compressor, cooling coils, and fan. The compressor pump  
34 compresses the working fluid, such as Freon gas, which becomes very hot from the  
35 energy put into it though the compression. A fan then cools the gas by drawing in outside  
36 air and forcing it over the coils, thus returning the working fluid to a liquid phase. The heat  
37 from the motor and the heat from liquefying the Freon is rejected to the atmosphere. The  
38 liquid then flows back inside air conditioning coils where it expands as it passes through a  
39 small valve. As it turns back into a gas, it becomes very cold, able to absorb the heat from  
40 the room being cooled as the inside air handler (fan) blows over the coils. The gas returns

1 to the compressor, and the process repeats over and over again. The heat in the room is  
2 therefore pumped to the outside environment and discharged to the outside air (heat sink).

3  
4 Air coolers for removing process heat provide another example. They work like car  
5 radiators. A fan draws outside air over coils as the warm fluid is pumped through the coils.  
6 The air acts as the "heat sink" to remove heat from (cool) the liquid in the tubes.

7  
8 Earth as a heat sink - Some air conditioning units use the ground as a heat sink. These  
9 "geothermal" units run coils into the earth and the earth absorbs the heat rejected by the  
10 unit.

11  
12 Water as a heat sink - Water is passed over the coils or through a "heat exchanger" where  
13 the working fluid or material being cooled transfers that heat to the water. The water can  
14 also be used in direct contact with the air to cool it through evaporation, such is the case  
15 with an evaporative cooler, which is sometimes called a swamp cooler.

16  
17 A variation of this system is the chilled water loop. Water is cooled mechanically and circulated  
18 through a building to cool air (air conditioning) or equipment and then returned to the chiller unit.

19 Cooling towers represent a combined case where water is used to remove heat from a  
20 compressor or from a manufacturing process. The warmed water is then sent to a cooling tower  
21 where the waste heat is "rejected" to the atmosphere by evaporating that water.

22 There are five basic types of cooling systems that rely on water.

- 23 1. Single -pass cooling
- 24 2. Once-through cooling on natural bodies of water
- 25 3. Cooling reservoirs
- 26 4. Evaporative cooling
- 27 5. Cooling towers

## 28 **COOLING SYSTEMS**

### 29 **Single - Pass - Cooling**

30 Single-pass cooling uses water to remove heat, thus cooling equipment components. The water  
31 passes through a coil within or casing around a piece of equipment and then discharged to the  
32 sewer.

33  
34 For the purposes of this report, single - pass cooling refers to the use of water to cool non-  
35 industrial type equipment. Types of equipment that often use single-pass cooling include:

- 36
- 37 • Chillers or other refrigeration systems
- 38 • Condensers
- 39 • Air compressors
- 40 • Hydraulic equipment
- 41 • CAT scanners

- 1 • Degreasers
- 2 • Welding machines
- 3 • Vacuum pumps
- 4 • X-ray equipment
- 5 • Ice machines
- 6 • Wok stoves

7  
8 Vacuum pumps, X-ray equipment, ice machines, and wok stoves use water for processes in  
9 addition to the water used for single-pass cooling. Such equipment and its associated water  
10 use, apart from single-pass cooling, are discussed in BMPs within this Guidebook.

11  
12 Large industrial operations, including manufacturing facilities and power plants, sometimes use  
13 "once-through" cooling with water from a natural body of water. This type of cooling is  
14 discussed in the next two sections.

15  
16 The flow rate needed to cool the equipment depends on the amount of heat rejected by the  
17 equipment. Manufacturer specifications generally provide a flow rate. If not, the measured  
18 energy rejected by the equipment can be used to calculate flow rates.

19  
20 **Example1.:**

21  
22 A piece of equipment has a recommended flow rate of 2.5 gallons per minute. How much  
23 water does it use in a day?

24  
25 **Equation 1.**

26  
27 
$$\text{Water use} = \text{flow rate (gpm)} \times 1,440 = 2.5 \times 1,440 = \underline{\underline{\mathbf{3,600 \text{ gallons per day}}}}$$

28  
29  
30 **Once-through Cooling on Natural Bodies of Water and Cooling Reservoirs**

31 Once-through cooling on natural bodies of water refers to the use of a river, natural lake, or  
32 saltwater body as a source of cooling water. Water is directly returned to the natural body of  
33 water from which it was withdrawn. Since enormous volumes of water are typically involved,  
34 these withdrawals can impact aquatic wildlife by both entrapping them in the flow of water and  
35 by creating thermal barriers with the warm water that is discharged. To put this into perspective,  
36 one 750-megawatt power plant can withdraw as much as 1.5 billion gallons of water per day.  
37 For these reasons, the State of California no longer allows power plants to employ once-through  
38 cooling using sea water and freshwater sources that are not sufficient to support this type of  
39 flow rate. Smaller industrial facilities and some air conditioning systems can use this type of  
40 cooling, but permitting requires careful consideration. Because of its limitations, no further  
41 consideration is given in this document. Once-through cooling is not recommended as a best  
42 management practice.

43 Cooling reservoirs, sometimes called cooling ponds, are manmade reservoirs used by industries  
44 and power plants for process cooling. Water is pumped through heat exchangers and  
45 recirculated through the reservoir where it cools through natural processes. If water is pumped

1 from a natural body of water such as a river, lake, or saltwater body, it is a form of once through  
2 cooling.

3 The amount of water evaporated from a cooling reservoir is a combination of natural  
4 evaporation and evaporation from the added heat from the cooling process ("forced  
5 evaporation"). These systems do not find wide use in California and are not discussed further.

## 6 **Evaporative Cooling**

7 One of the oldest technologies used to cool an occupied space is an evaporative cooling  
8 system, sometimes called a swamp cooler. These coolers simply pump water over wet pads  
9 that have air drawn through them. The evaporation of the water cools the air passing through it.  
10 This air is then blown into the space to be cooled (Figure 1.). These systems are inexpensive  
11 and use less energy than a refrigerated air system common to most residential and light  
12 commercial applications. However, they can consume significant volumes of water if not  
13 controlled properly.



14

**Figure 1. Evaporative "Swamp" Cooler**

15

*[www.ose.state.nm.us/water.../conservation/evap-coolers-brochure.pdf](http://www.ose.state.nm.us/water.../conservation/evap-coolers-brochure.pdf)*

16

17 Another technology uses a heat exchanger arrangement. Part of the air is humidified and thus  
18 cools. This cool air is passed through a metal "heat exchanger." This device passes the humid  
19 cool air on one side of metal sheets and discharges the cooler, more humid air back to the  
20 atmosphere. On the other side, air from the occupied space is circulated where it contacts the  
21 cooler metal surfaces, where it absorbs heat from circulating air. The cooled air is returned to  
22 the living space and the humid, cooler air is exhausted to the outside. This system is called  
23 indirect evaporative cooling.

24 In recent years, a new form of evaporative cooler has entered the market. It works by "pre-  
25 cooling" air that is being used to cool conventional air-cooled air conditioning coils. These  
26 systems are also used to pre-cool air for gas turbines and other industrial operations. These  
27 pre-cool systems use the same evaporative technology and have the same considerations as

1 conventional "swamp coolers." The cool, humid air is then drawn through conventional air coils  
2 of an air conditioning system.

3 The effectiveness of this type of cooling depends on the relative humidity of the outside air and  
4 the outside temperature. They only work well in relatively dry climates. Under perfect  
5 conditions, the amount of water that must be evaporated to provide one ton of air conditioning is  
6 1.48 gallons based on the latent heat of water of 970 BTUs per pound of water evaporated.  
7 Water is also needed to flush out dissolved solids in the supply water so these salts do not build  
8 up and precipitate out on the pads and in the cooler basin. Current models can use from 3 to 15  
9 gallons of water per ton-hour according to the Alliance for Water Efficiency.

10 These evaporative ("swamp") coolers can either be of the once through type in which water,  
11 usually from a potable water supply, is continuously run over the pads and allowed to drain  
12 either to the yard or to a storm or sanitary drain. These systems are very wasteful. Most  
13 modern evaporative ("swamp") coolers have recirculating pumps that continuously pump water  
14 from a basin over the pads when the system is on. They use a float valve similar to that in a  
15 toilet tank to maintain the level in the basin. Water is "bled-off" to flush salts from the system  
16 either by a valve left partially open or with the use of a conductivity probe and solenoid valve  
17 system, as is the case in larger more sophisticated systems.

## 18 **Cooling Towers**

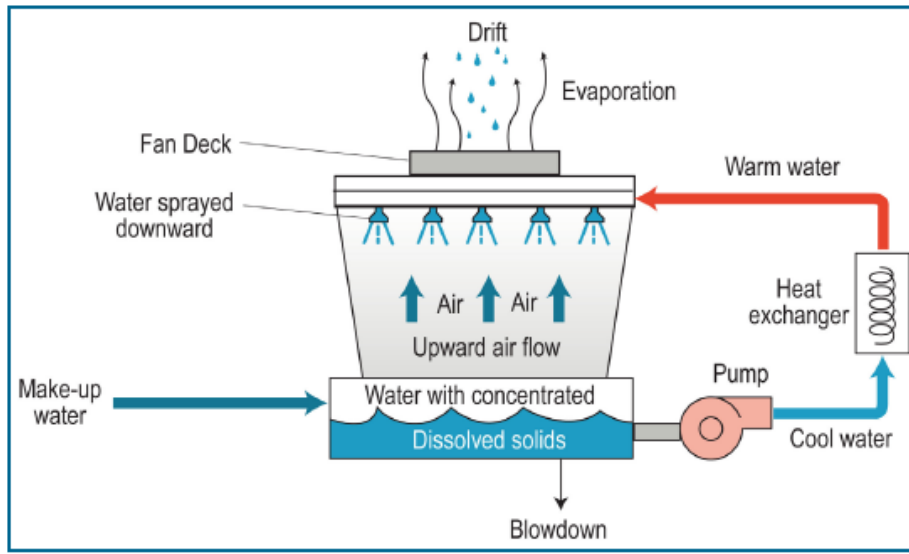
19 Cooling towers reject heat (unwanted energy). Their most common applications in the CII  
20 sectors are to remove heat generated by a manufacturing process and for air conditioning and  
21 refrigeration equipment. Warm water from process or cooling equipment is introduced at the  
22 top of a cooling tower and allowed to trickle over a packing material, such as plastic  
23 corrugated fill. The water breaks up into a film or droplets to maximize surface area, which  
24 maximizes evaporation. The water collected in the basin at the bottom of the tower is  
25 recirculated to the process or cooling compressor unit. The recirculating water undergoes a  
26 temperature change of about 5°F to 15°F through this process. The water is usually cooled to  
27 within 10°F of the wet-bulb temperature. The total amount of water circulating in the cooling tower  
28 loop is called the mass flow, and it can vary from 100 to 200 gallons per ton hour depending on the change  
29 in temperature. At a 10°F change in temperature as the water is pumped through the heat  
30 exchanger, the flow is just under 150 gallons per ton hour.

31 There are two basic tower configurations. Counter-flow towers draw air from the bottom,  
32 while water is sprayed onto the top of fill material in the tower. With cross-flow towers, air is  
33 drawn in from the sides and across the fill, while water is sprayed in from the top in a manner  
34 identical to counter-flow configurations. Fans can be located at either the outside or the  
35 bottom of the towers (forced-draft) or on top of the tower to draw the air out the top (induced-  
36 draft). Figure 2. shows the general operation diagram for cooling towers and Figure ww  
37 shows an actual cooling tower in operation.

38

1

**Figure 2. General Water Flow Diagram for a Cooling Tower**



2

3

4

5

6

Source: US. Department of Energy, Federal Energy Management Program  
**Cooling Towers: Understanding Key Components of Cooling Towers and How to Improve Water E**  
[http://www1.eere.energy.gov/femp/program/waterefficiency\\_bmp10.html](http://www1.eere.energy.gov/femp/program/waterefficiency_bmp10.html)





1



Figure 3. Marley Counter-flow Towers

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7

8 The amount of water used by a cooling tower (makeup water) depends on the amount of heat  
 9 dissipated by evaporation, the amount that must be discharged to prevent the buildup of  
 10 dissolved minerals and salts (blowdown), and the amounts lost through drift, leaks, overflows,  
 11 and other losses. This can be expressed in a simple equation (Equation 4).

12

Equation 4.

$$M = E + B + D + L$$

Where

M = Make-up

E = Evaporation

B = Blowdown

D = Drift and wind loss

L = Leaks, overflows, and other losses

13  
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**Evaporation and Blowdown**

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33

When warm water from a process or an air conditioning compressor is returned to a  
 cooling tower, its energy is dissipated to the atmosphere primarily by evaporation. The  
 amount of heat removed by evaporating one pound of water is approximately 973 BTUs  
 and is known as the latent heat of evaporation. One gallon of water weighs 8.34 pounds  
 so the evaporation of one gallon removes 8,114.8 BTUs. One ton-hour of cooling is  
 equal to 12,000 BTU's by definition. Therefore, 1.48 gallons of water is evaporated for  
 every ton-hour rejected to the cooling tower.

34 As the water evaporates, the dissolved minerals and salts in the make-up water remain  
 35 behind. Additional water must be added (make-up) and some of the water in the basin

1 periodically discharged (blowdown) to keep these minerals from building up and causing  
2 scaling and corrosion.

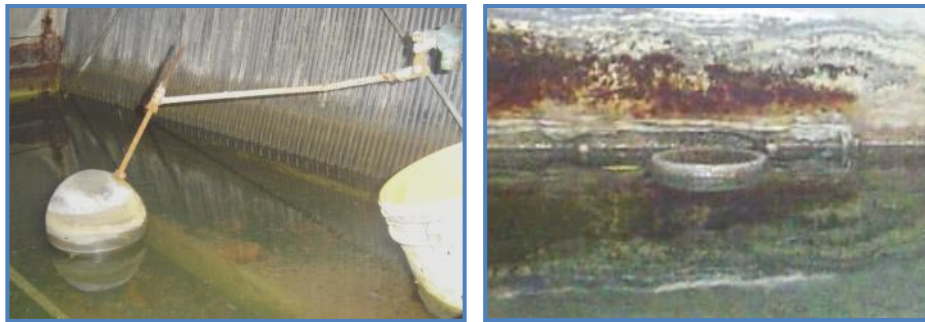
### 3 4 **Drift and Wind Losses**

5  
6 Another type of water loss derives from drift and wind. It is caused by the entrainment of  
7 small droplets of water in the air stream as the fans force air through the tower or from  
8 wind blowing through the tower. If no drift eliminators are used, drift loss could be as  
9 high as 0.3% of circulation

10  
11 Modern towers are equipped with very effective drift eliminators. Many manufacturers  
12 report that drift losses can be reduced to under 0.003 percent of the mass flow of the  
13 tower. For a typical cooling tower, mass flow is in the range of 150 gallons per hour per  
14 ton-hour of cooling. This would mean that with a modern drift elimination system, drift  
15 loss would be in the order of only 0.004 gallons per ton hour or under 0.3 percent of  
16 evaporation. This makes drift loss almost **negligible**. Drift eliminators also  
17 significantly reduce aerosols containing bacteria such as legionella, as well as  
18 particulate deposition and salt deposits. ***The implication of this is that drift term***  
19 ***(D) in equation 4.  $[M = E + B + D + L]$  can be dropped as part of the***  
20 ***calculation***

### 21 22 **Leaks and Other Losses**

23  
24 Leaks and other losses are primarily a maintenance issue. Well-maintained systems  
25 have little or no leak loss. One common source of loss is an improperly set water level  
26 in the basin of the cooling tower.



29  
30 Figure 4. Cooling Tower Float Valve and Overflow Pipe

31  
32 An alternative to a float valve is an ultrasonic level detector such as the one shown in  
33 Figure 5.

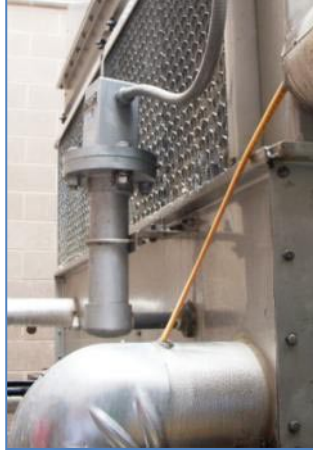


Figure 5. Ultrasonic Cooling Tower Level Control Valve

Regardless of the type of level controller used, one of the most common types of water loss is an improperly adjusted float, or level controller. Leaks can also be a problem. Properly maintaining the float or level controller, eliminating leaks, and installing modern drift eliminators, simplifies Equation 4 to Equation 5:

Equation 5.

$$M = E + B$$

### Cycles of Concentration

The concentration of the minerals (salinity) in the blowdown divided by the concentration of the minerals in the make-up water is called the cycle of concentration. This concentration of minerals is often called "total dissolved solids (TDS)" and is reported in milligrams per liter (mg/l) or parts per million (ppm).

Since the electrical conductivity of the water is related to the TDS, conductivity can be used to estimate TDS. The units of measure used for these conductivity reading are microSiemens. For example, if the conductivity of the make-up water is 100 microSiemens and the conductivity of the blowdown is 500 microSiemens, the tower would be operating at five cycles of concentration (CC).  $\{500/100 = 5\}$

Equations 6 and 7 show the calculation of cycles of concentrations.

Equation 6.

Cycles of Concentration (CC) = Total Dissolved Solids (TDS) in Blowdown ÷ by TDS in Makeup Water

$$CC = \text{TDS (blowdown water)} \div \text{TDS (makeup water)}$$

Where conductivity is used in place of TDS, as it is for all cooling tower controllers, the following equivalent equation should provide the same results.

1 Equation 7.

2  
3 Conductivity can be used as an approximate substitute

4  
5 
$$CC = \frac{\mu S \text{ (blowdown water)}}{\mu S \text{ (makeup water)}}$$

6  
7 If leaks, overflows, and drift are truly negligible, Equation 5 can be rearranged to provide  
8 an estimate of cycles of concentration:

9  
10 Equation 8.

11  
12 
$$CC = M/B$$

13  
14  
15 and therefore:

16  
17 Equation 9.

18 
$$B = M \div CC$$

19  
20 Equation 10.

21  
22 
$$M = E + (M \div CC)$$

23  
24 Equation 8 provides an important check to determine how well the tower is operating. If  
25 the results of Equation 8 vary from the results of either Equations 6 or 7 by more than 5  
26 percent, something is wrong. Either the conductivity probe or meter are not calibrated  
27 correctly, or there is a leak or failed drift eliminator. As cycles of concentration increase,  
28 the amount of makeup needed and thus the amount of water used by a cooling tower  
29 decreases, but only to a point.

30  
31 **Cooling Tower Water Use**

32  
33 The amount of water a cooling tower uses depends on two factors:

- 34  
35
  - The amount of heat discharged to the tower
  - The cycles of concentration

36  
37  
38 Heat is the driving force for evaporation. Table 1. summarizes the amount of evaporation  
39 that will occur per ton-hour of heat rejected. For most situations, the actual amount of heat  
40 rejected to the tower is known. In those cases, the process row in Table ww should be  
41 used. It shows that one ton-hour of rejected heat energy results in 1.48 gallons of  
42 evaporation.

1 Air conditioning chillers – chilled water systems – present an interesting challenge. The  
 2 more efficient the chiller system is as a whole, the lower the total heat load to the tower will  
 3 be and thus the lower the evaporation per **ton-hour of actual heat removed in the**  
 4 **refrigeration process.** When a chilled-water cooling system – chiller – works, it pumps  
 5 heat from the building out to the cooling tower. The energy used by all the equipment  
 6 involved in the system also counts towards the amount of heat rejected to the tower. It  
 7 takes energy to pump the water in both the chilled water and cooling tower loops, to  
 8 operate the air handling units in the buildings, and of course, to operate the compressor. A  
 9 compressor may be rated at 0.5 kilowatt-hours per ton-hour, but when all of the other  
 10 pump and air handling unit energy is added, an additional 0.1 to 0.15 kWh of energy is  
 11 typically needed per ton-hour. Table ww shows the impact of this "additional" energy on  
 12 the amount of water evaporated per ton-hour of actual cooling achieved for comfort inside  
 13 a building. The point is that the higher the energy efficiency of the system, the less water  
 14 it needs. Compressor efficiency has improved significantly over the last few decades.  
 15 Compressors with an efficiency rating of 0.5 kWh/ton-hour or less are available, but even  
 16 with these very efficient systems, total loads per ton-hour of actual cooling will be in the  
 17 0.6 to 0.7 kWh/ton-hour range. Most total system energy efficiencies are currently under  
 18 1.0 kWh per ton hour even for less efficiency systems. Nonetheless, the amount of water  
 19 evaporated per ton-hour of actual cooling in a building can range from 1.67 gallons per ton  
 20 hour to 1.86 gallons per ton hour of **TOTAL CHILLER SYSTEM OPERATION.**

21  
22  
23  
24  
25

Table 1. Impact of Air Conditioning System Efficiency on Water Evaporation				
System Efficiency  <i>(kWh / ton-hr.)*</i>	Energy Efficiency Ratio (EER)  <i>BTU's/Watt-hr</i>	Coefficient of Performance (COP)  <i>BTU's Removed/ BTU's Input</i>	BTU's Rejected to Tower per / ton-hr	Gallons Evaporated per Ton Hour
1.50	8	2.3	16,608	2.05
1.00	12	3.5	15,072	1.86
0.75	16	4.7	14,304	1.76
0.50	24	7.0	13,536	1.67
Process	N/A	N/A	12,000	1.48
One ton-hour = 12,000 BTU's per hour = 12.66 Million Joules per hour = 3.52 kWh of heat energy to the tower.				
* kWh / Ton-hr. is often abbreviated to kW/Ton				

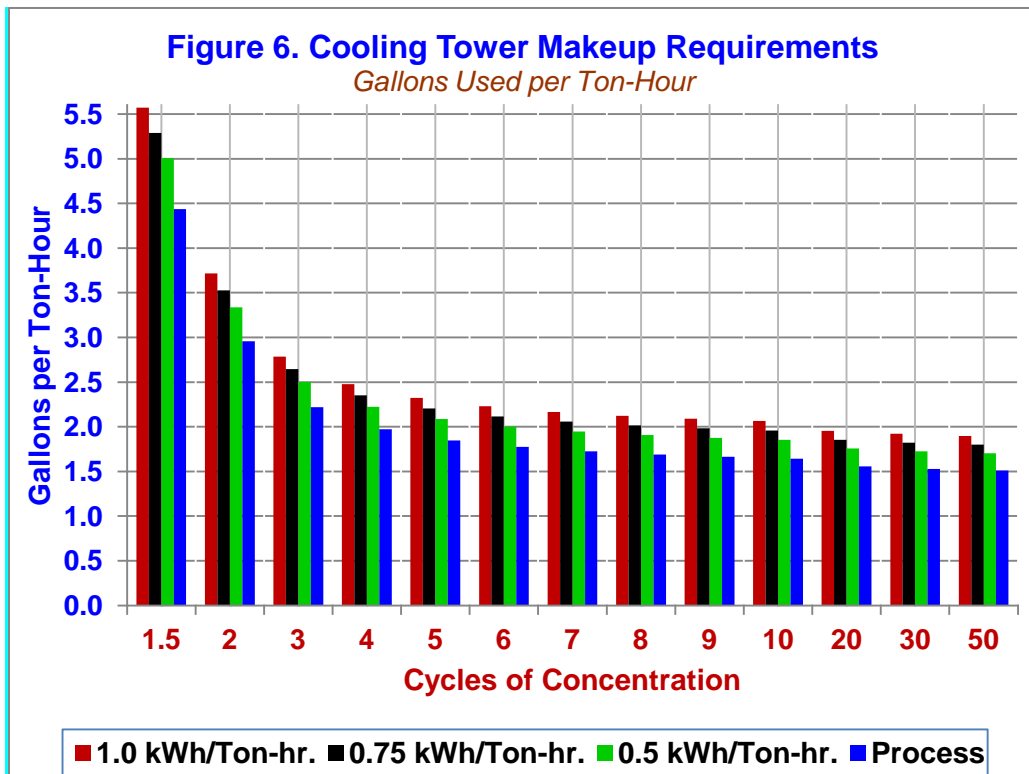
26  
27 The gallons evaporated per ton-hour of cooling times the hours of operation will equal the  
28 actual amount of water that will be evaporated. This will provide the "E" in Equation 10.

29  
30

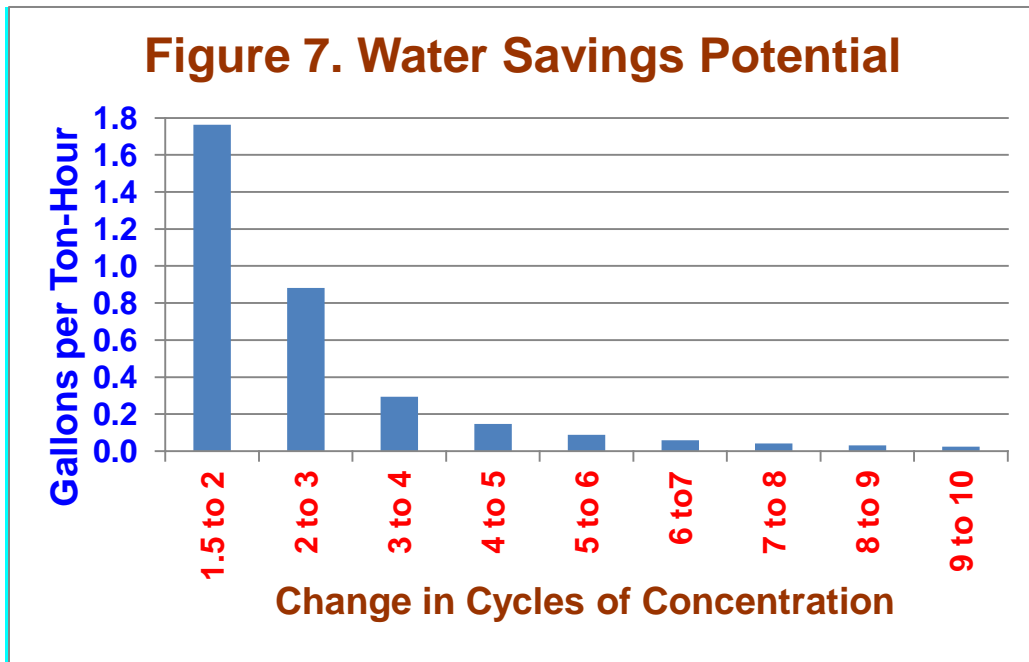
$$M = E + (M \div CC)$$

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The next step in estimating water use for a cooling tower is to take the cycles of concentration. Figure aa shows the impact of increasing the cycles of concentration on the total makeup water needed per ton-hour of actual heat removal based on system efficiency. Figure 6. makes two major points. First, energy efficiency saves water. Second, after achieving six to ten cycles of concentration, additional water savings are minimal. Figure 7. shows this decreasing impact more dramatically. Going from 10 to 20 cycles of concentration only saves 0.10 gallons, while going two to five cycles of concentration saves 1.3 gallons of makeup water.



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#### Water Quality Considerations

Water quality considerations for the water circulating in the cooling tower are critical. Biological growth can foul the heat exchanger tubes and tower fill material; scaling compounds such as hardness or silica can precipitate out; and under the right conditions, the water can become corrosive to all metals in the tower. The materials that the tower and heat exchanger equipment are made from, the quality of the makeup water, and the type of treatment provided determine the tower's safe cycles of concentration. Calcium carbonate will begin to precipitate out above 750 to 850 mg/l, and silica can form a very hard scale on hot surfaces at concentrations as low as 120 mg/l. Towers also act as huge air scrubbers as they operate, capturing dirt in the air, insects, and other blown debris.

As the conductivity increases (salt concentrations increase), metals become more susceptible to corrosion. The type of material that the tower and exchanger are made of determine this susceptibility. Based on the author's many years of experience, most commercial operations operate towers at 3,500 microSiemens or less. The standards for pretreatment established by various authorities represent other considerations. These include total dissolved solids limits and limits for metals, such as copper and zinc in the blowdown from the tower.

Over the years, many treatment methods have been developed to control these factors including:

- 1           1. Scaling - the buildup of calcium, magnesium, or silica deposits on tower surfaces  
2           and more importantly, the heat exchanger surfaces. These deposits restrict flow and  
3           significantly reduce thermal efficiency.
- 4           2. Corrosion - the oxidation of metals due to rusting and other forms of corrosion  
5           causes pitting, rusting, and deterioration of metal surfaces.
- 6           3. Biological fouling - the growth of algae and bacteria causes fouling of heat  
7           exchanger surfaces and of cooling tower fill and basin material. It also promotes  
8           corrosion and deterioration of tower surfaces.

9           Managing the water chemistry of cooling tower water is not simple. Corrosion and scaling  
10          can easily damage both the cooling tower and the condenser equipment if not properly  
11          controlled. The balance between water chemistry that corrodes metal and water chemistry  
12          that allows calcium carbonate and other minerals to deposit on metal surfaces is a delicate  
13          balance. Over the years, a number of indexes have been developed to help predict the  
14          corrosion/scaling balance points. These include the:

- 15           • Langelier Saturation Index
- 16           • Ryznar Stability Index
- 17           • Puckorius Scaling Index
- 18           • Larson-Skold Index
- 19           • Stiff-Davis Index
- 20           • Oddo-Tomson Index.
- 21           •

22          The type of treatment depends on the quality of the makeup water supplied to the tower  
23          and the desired cycles of concentration. The water can be treated (1) before it is fed to  
24          the cooling tower, (2) while the water is in the tower or piping system, or (3) by "side  
25          stream" systems that treat a portion of the circulating water in the tower.

- 26           1. The treatment of makeup water depends on the water chemistry and biology of the  
27           makeup water. The most common methods of treatment of makeup water before it  
28           is fed to the tower include:
  - 29           • Filtration where particulates are an issue
  - 30           • Biocides such as chlorine if biological growth is an issue
  - 31           • Softening if hardness is an issue
  - 32           • Chemical treatment to remove precipitants and silica where applicable
  - 33           • Demineralization such as nanofiltration or reverse osmosis where total  
34           dissolved solids are an issue.

35          Treatment of makeup water before it enters the cooling tower can significantly  
36          simplify in-tower treatment and allow for the use of tower chemical and physical  
37          treatment devices that may not otherwise be effective.

- 38           2. Treatment of cooling tower water circulating in the tower depends on the type of  
39           problem to be addressed.



1            Scale Control: For scale-forming substances, the following types of treatment to  
2 reduce or prevent deposition are common:

- 3            • Deposition inhibitors that prevent scale by solubilizing it, preventing  
4 precipitation or modifying precipitates to prevent adhesion, and
- 5            • Dispersants that use polymers and large molecules that adsorb solids and  
6 keep them in suspension.

7            Examples of chemicals used include phosphonates to prevent scale formation, acids to  
8 increase solubility, chelents, and polymers. The use of acid should be carefully  
9 considered. Most commercial sites do not have the trained staff needed to handle these  
10 dangerous chemicals. Where used, pH controllers are recommended to control the  
11 addition of acid. Special storage must also be provided.

12           Corrosion Control: Corrosion is a major concern to metal components. For concrete  
13 basins, many of the same conditions that cause corrosion can also cause the concrete  
14 to deteriorate. Phosphate-based compounds (ortho-phosphate, polyphosphate, etc.)  
15 and similar chemicals are often used for steel surfaces. In the past, other metals  
16 ranging from chromates to zinc and molybdate compounds were used. Chromates were  
17 banned years ago and zinc and molybdenum compounds are now phased out since  
18 these can cause environmental contamination, and they can be toxic. For copper,azole  
19 compounds have been used.

20           Salinity and pH levels are also important. Some treatment techniques maintain pH  
21 levels in the range of 8.0 to 9.0 to help reduce corrosion. Conductivity controllers help  
22 by keeping salinity levels at acceptable levels for the tower's materials of construction.  
23 Ceramic and plastic materials are often used because they do not corrode.

24           Biological Control: Bacteria can cause slime growth on heat exchange and cooling  
25 tower surfaces, promote certain types of corrosion, and cause significant chemical  
26 imbalances. Algae grow wherever sunlight is present and can cause similar problems.  
27 Cooling towers are also classic sources of pathogen growth, such as legionella.  
28 Common methods of biological control include chlorine and bromine compounds and  
29 ozone to control bacteria and algae in the water column. Even the use of shade to keep  
30 sunlight from entering the tower can help limit algae growth. Many new methods such  
31 as the use of ultraviolet light are now on the market.

- 32           3. Side-stream treatment of cooling tower water has been used for years and is  
33 effective for control of sediment, hardness, silica and other constituents that may  
34 impact water quality. Filtration, softening, chemical precipitation, and other  
35 methods are available on the market.

36           Choosing the optimal treatment process or combination of processes requires specific  
37 scientific knowledge. Entities with cooling towers are strongly encouraged to consult  
38 reputable cooling tower treatment experts.

39

## 1 **Best Management Practices to Reduce Water Use for Cooling**

2 Best management practices for cooling systems occurs as several levels:

- 3
- 4 1. Ways to reduce energy input to cooling system
- 5 2. Choice *heat sink* (water, air or ground based)
- 6 3. Use of alternate sources of water
- 7 4. Water Cooled Systems Best Management Practices.

### 8 9 **Reducing Energy Input**

10  
11 Simply put, the purpose of a cooling system is to *get rid of unwanted energy*. Any action  
12 that can reduce the amount of energy to be "gotten rid of" will reduce heat rejected to a  
13 cooling system. Where water is the cooling medium, these actions will reduce water use.  
14 There are three ways to reduce the load on a water-based cooling system.

- 15
- 16 • Energy conservation reduces the amount of waste heat generated and thus the  
17 cooling load regardless of the type of cooling system used. For example, for every  
18 ton-hour of energy savings for an air conditioning system using a cooling tower,  
19 1.48 less gallons of water are evaporated and at five cycles of concentration, about  
20 2.25 gallons of makeup water are saved. Recovery of energy for water or space  
21 heating, operation of a desiccant drying operation as part of a desiccant cooling  
22 system, and preheating of material in an industrial operation are all examples of  
23 this strategy.
- 24
- 25 • Replacing processes or equipment with systems that do not require water cooling  
26 is the most obvious and one of the best ways to eliminate water use and save  
27 energy.

28  
29 Discussion of the technology and technical feasibility of energy efficiency measures and  
30 their cost is beyond the scope of this document.

### 31 32 **Choice of Heat Sink**

33  
34 Waste or unwanted energy can be discharged to the air, ground, or water. It is common to  
35 use cooling systems that reject waste heat (unwanted energy) directly to the atmosphere  
36 or to the ground. Direct expansion (DX) air conditioning, technologically similar to home  
37 air conditioning, is the most common type of system used worldwide. The DX systems  
38 cost less than chilled water - cooling tower systems per ton, but they are limited in size  
39 and have lower energy efficiency. A commercial example of the use of DX systems would  
40 be for a large department store. Multiple units would most likely be mounted on the roof.  
41 Because there are multiple units, only the units needed to achieve comfort in the building  
42 would be operated, so the units that are operating would be working at their optimal  
43 operational level. If one unit needs repair, the other units can continue to operate. With  
44 large cooling tower systems, either expensive excess capacity must be installed or the

1 facility must take the risk of being without adequate cooling if one chiller or tower must be  
2 taken out of service.

3  
4 Ground source heat exchange, often call geothermal heat exchange, is a rapidly growing  
5 segment of the air conditioning and heat pump market. According to the US Energy  
6 Information Administration, sales tripled between 2004 and 2009. The ground can absorb  
7 significant amounts of thermal energy (hot or cold). In addition, summertime ground  
8 temperatures are always below daytime air temperatures. In California, average ground  
9 temperatures increase from below 60°F in the north to the mid 70°F range in the south.  
10 Ground source heat pumps are being used for a multitude of commercial operations  
11 ranging from schools to hospitals. These systems offer energy efficiencies similar to  
12 cooling towers in many cases, but they do not have the maintenance and liability issues  
13 associated with cooling towers. These systems can be operated in reverse in the winter  
14 for heating, thus eliminating the need for a dual cooling tower and boiler system. For  
15 office, school, and similar commercial operations, ground source heat exchange offers  
16 both convenience and energy savings combined with no evaporative water use.

17  
18 In recent years, variable refrigerant volume systems have come on the market. These  
19 systems use a working fluid such as Freon in place of the chilled water loop. They can be  
20 air cooled, ground cooled or water cooled, and they offer larger capacity and more  
21 application in commercial settings. The whole system is more efficient than older DX  
22 systems but less efficient than systems with cooling towers. These systems can also be  
23 used with ground source heat exchange systems making their energy efficiency levels  
24 similar to that of cooling tower systems without the use of water.

25  
26 **World's Largest GHP System**

**U.S. Department of Energy (DOE)**  
Office of Geothermal Technologies

**Geothermal Heat Pumps for  
Medium and Large Buildings**

The Galt House East Hotel and Waterfront Office Buildings in Louisville, Kentucky, use a 4,700-ton GHP system to meet the heating and cooling needs of the complex. Completed in 1984, the 750,000-square-foot (70,000 m<sup>2</sup>) hotel uses a 1,700-ton GHP system that cost \$1,500 per ton to install. In comparison, a conventional system would have cost between \$2,000 and \$3,000 per ton. As a bonus, the system saves about \$25,000 per month in reduced energy costs and frees up about 25,000 square feet (2,323 m<sup>2</sup>) of additional commercial space that would have been needed to house conventional HVAC equipment. The Waterfront Office Buildings, built in 1994, add about 960,000 square feet (89,000 m<sup>2</sup>) of office space and almost 3,000 tons of GHP capacity to the project, making it the world's largest commercial GHP project. According to Marion Pinckley, Galt House designer and construction manager, "Galt House East has been running for 15 years with no system problems. The GHP system has performed even better than expected."

## 1 **Water Cooled Systems Best Management Practices**

2 If air-cooled or ground-cooled systems are not used, and cooling with water is the only  
3 option, it is important to choose the correct system. Water based cooling systems include:

- 4 • Single -pass cooling,
- 5 • Evaporative cooling
- 6 • Cooling towers.

### 7 Single-pass systems Best Management Practices

8 The Best Management Practice (BMP) for single-pass systems should be eliminated  
9 entirely. The only possible exceptions should be in the case of medical emergencies.  
10 These systems can be connected to a chilled water or cooling tower loop, or a standalone  
11 reticulating refrigeration system may be used. Recirculating refrigeration systems (Figure  
12 8) are commonly found in laboratory and medical settings. They simply cool and  
13 recirculate water.



14  
15 **Figure 8. Recirculating Refrigeration**  
16 **System in a Chemistry Laboratory**  
17

18 These systems typically use 0.5 to 1.0 kWh per hour of energy. Water use, based on  
19 actual audit data for such uses, averages 1.0 to 3.0 gallons per minute or 60 to 180  
20 gallons per hour. Based on combined water and sewer rates for the six largest cities  
21 in California for 2010, water costs an average of \$7.77 per thousand gallons. Thus,  
22 the value of the water saved by installing a chiller system ranges from \$.47 to \$1.40,  
23 while cost of the electricity to operate the system equals only \$.05 to \$.15.

1 **Evaporative Coolers Best Management Practices**

2 The US Environmental Protection Agency's 2009 WaterSense Single-Family New Home  
3 Specification sets specific standards for evaporative coolers. WaterSense  
4 recommendations are as follows:

5 *Evaporative cooling systems – Evaporative cooling systems shall:*

- 6 1. Use a maximum of 3.5 gallons (13.3 liters) of water per ton-hour of cooling when  
7 adjusted to maximum water use;
- 8 2. Blowdown shall be based on time of operation, not to exceed three times in a  
9 24-hour period of operating (every 8 hours);
- 10 3. Blowdown shall be mediated by conductivity or basin water temperature-based  
11 controllers;
- 12 4. Once-through or single-pass cooling systems, systems with continuous  
13 blowdown/bleedoff, and systems with timer-only mediated blowdown  
14 management shall not be used.

15 In addition to the WaterSense Best Management Practices, for large systems of more than  
16 50,000 cubic feet of air per minute, it is recommended that the systems be equipped with  
17 the following:

- 18 • Makeup meter on water supply
- 19 • Overflow alarms for water level in the basin
- 20 • Automatic water and power shutoff systems for freezing.

21 **Cooling Towers Best Management Practices**

22 Operational considerations are the first consideration in the efficient operation of a tower. For  
23 towers larger than 500 tons, a continuous electrical record of operations should be available for  
24 downloading. If that record is not available, the operator should maintain a written shift log. A  
25 logbook also provides a written shift log. At a minimum, the shift log should contain:

- 26
- 27 • Details of make-up and blowdown quantities, conductivity, and cycles of concentration;
- 28 • Chiller water and cooling tower water inlet and outlet temperatures;
- 29 • A checklist of basin levels, valve leaks, and appearance;
- 30 • A description of potential problems.

31  
32 Above all, ensure that the employee responsible for the cooling tower operations, is  
33 knowledgeable of what to look for when examining records and what to look for when  
34 visually examining the cooling tower.  
35

36 Choose a Water Treatment Vendor that will work with your facility.

- 1
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- 13
- Select a water treatment vendor that focuses on water efficiency. Request an estimate of the quantities and costs of treatment chemicals, volumes of make-up and blowdown water expected per year, and the expected cycles of concentration that the vendor plans to achieve. Specify operational parameters such as cycles of concentration (CC) in the contract. Increasing cycles from three to six reduces cooling tower make-up water by 20 percent and cooling tower blowdown by 50 percent.
  - Work with the water treatment vendor to ensure that clear and understandable reports are transmitted to management in a timely manner. Critical water chemistry parameters that require review and control include pH, alkalinity, conductivity, hardness, microbial growth, biocide, and corrosion inhibitor levels.

14 Design and Retrofit Best Management Practices include proper instrumentation and tower  
15 design and operation.  
16

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- Install a conductivity controller that can continuously measure the conductivity of the cooling tower water and will initiate blowdown only when the conductivity set point is exceeded. Working with the water treatment vendor, determine the maximum cycles of concentration that the cooling tower can sustain, then identify and program the conductivity controller to the associated conductivity set point, typically measured in microSiemens per centimeter ( $\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}$ ) necessary to achieve that number of cycles. Conductivity controller systems cost from \$3,500 to \$100,000 depending on the nature of the facility in which it is installed. Possible savings possible depend on the increase in cycles of concentration.
  - Install flow meters on make-up and blowdown lines. On most cooling towers, meters can be installed at a cost of between \$1,000 and \$50,000.<sup>1</sup> Manually read meters can be used for smaller towers, but if the tower is 500 tons or more, meter readings should be automated and be connected to an electronic data management system.
  - Install automated chemical feed systems on large cooling tower systems of 100 tons or more. The automated feed will monitor conductivity, control blowdown, and add chemicals based on make-up water flow. These systems minimize water and chemical use while protecting against scale, corrosion, and biological growth.
  - Install overflow alarms on cooling tower overflow lines, and connect the overflow alarm to the central location so that an operator can determine if overflows are occurring. This alarm can be as simple as a flashing light in the control area. More sophisticated systems may include a computer alert.
  - Consider contacting the water utility to determine if the facility can receive a sanitary sewer charge deduction from the potable water lost to evaporation. If the utility agrees to provide this deduction, calculate the difference between the city-supplied potable water make-up and the blowdown water that is discharged to the sanitary sewer.

## 1 **Alternate Sources of Water**

2 The use of alternate sources of water, especially for cooling towers and cooling reservoirs,  
3 is one of the most effective ways to reduce the use of potable water in commercial,  
4 institutional and industrial (CII) operations. The sections on Recycled Water and on  
5 Alternate On-Site Sources of Water describe how these freshwater sources can be used in  
6 place of potable water. In all cases, it must be remembered that these freshwater sources  
7 should also be used efficiently.  
8

9 Air conditioning condensate is of specific interest since it is produced as part of the air  
10 conditioning process.

## 11 **Boilers**

### 12 **Introduction**

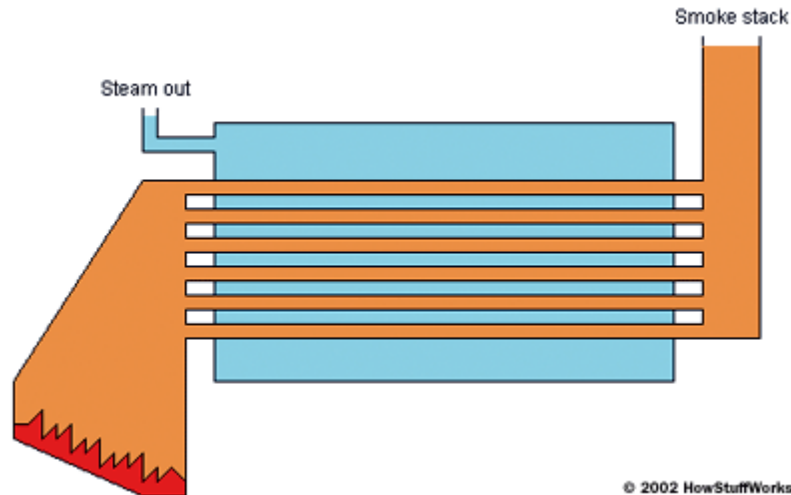
13  
14 The term boiler can mean several things in the CII setting. Large water heating systems  
15 that do not "boil" water but simply heat it are often called boilers even though no steam is  
16 produced. These are not the focus of this discussion. The focus of this section is steam-  
17 producing boilers.

18 For hot water "boilers," energy and water conservation for equipment, appliances, and  
19 fixtures that use hot water is the first major component to reducing hot water use. Most hot  
20 water boilers in use are of the fire tube configuration. The simplest example is the gas- or  
21 oil- type home water heater with the fire tube (smoke stack) running through the middle of  
22 it. The heat generated by burning the fuel is transferred through the tube directly into the  
23 water. Fixing leaks and reducing other losses is the second most important factor. With the  
24 exception of the use of hot water for space heating and equipment heat transfer, most hot  
25 water is consumptively used and not returned to the boiler. Where a recirculating loop is  
26 used for space or equipment heating, it is also important to place a meter on the makeup  
27 line to determine if that line is leaking.

28 Steam boilers are used in large building heating systems for cooking, operating steam  
29 turbine, or heating industrial operations. There are two main configurations for boilers.  
30 Water tube boilers are found in very large operations such as power plants. In these  
31 facilities, the water is contained in tubes that line a combustion chamber where gas, oil, or  
32 coal are burned. The second and most common type is the fire tube boiler. Water  
33 surrounds a bundle of tubes. The heat from the fuel's combustion passes through the  
34 tubes and turns the surrounding water to steam (see Figure 9).<sup>133</sup> Waste heat boilers are  
35 most often of the fire tube type in smaller operations. The basic water conservation  
36 considerations for these two types of boilers are the same.

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<sup>133</sup> New Mexico Office of the State Engineer. July 1999. *A Water Conservation Guide for Commercial, Institutional and Industrial Users*. Page 68.



## Boiler Water Use

To understand how to maximize water efficiency for a steam boiler, it is first necessary to understand how water is used in a typical boiler operation. Eight separate water uses and losses are typically associated with a steam boiler. These include:

1. Makeup water to deaerator - fresh water makeup to boilers is heated in a "deaerator" to remove air that can cause corrosion prior to feed to boiler.
2. Condensate return to deaerator or boiler - Condensed steam that is returned to the boiler.
3. Condensate loss - Condensed steam that is not returned to the boiler
4. Steam loss - Steam that is lost through leaks and other avoidable losses
5. Boiler water blowdown - Water from just below the top of the water level in the boiler that is discharged to control the buildup of dissolved minerals in the boiler.
6. Flash tank cooling water - When the boiler water is discharged, it must be cooled to under 140°F before it can be sent to a sanitary sewer. Once-through cooling is often used for this purpose.
7. Sampler cooling water - The boiler blowdown must be cooled so it will not damage the conductivity controller probes. Single-pass cooling is often used for this.
8. Mud blowdown - Sediments that collect at the bottom of the boiler need to be periodically purged by opening a valve at the bottom of the boiler. The frequency of this operation depends on the rate at which these sediments collect.

The water balance for the actual boiler can be written as a simple mass balance:

### Equation 1.

$$M = BD + CL + L$$

Where:

M = Freshwater Makeup



1 BD = Blowdown  
2 CL = Condensate Loss  
3 L= All other losses  
4

5 Equation 1 does not address the water used to cool blowdown or to cool the sampler.  
6 These factors must be considered separately. As with cooling towers, the ratio of the  
7 minerals in the makeup water to the boiler water is used to determine the cycles of  
8 concentration (CC).  
9

10 It can be expressed as:

11 Equation 2.

12  
13  
14 Cycles of Concentration (CC) = Total Dissolved Solids (TDS) in Blowdown ÷ TDS in  
15 Makeup Water

$$16 \quad CC = \text{TDS (blowdown water)} \div \text{TDS (makeup water)}$$

17  
18  
19 Where conductivity is used in place of TDS, as it is for all cooling tower controllers, the  
20 following equivalent equation should provide the same results.

21 Equation 3.

22  
23  
24 Conductivity can be used as an approximate substitute

$$25 \quad CC = \mu S \text{ (blowdown water)} \div \mu S \text{ (makeup water)}$$

26  
27  
28 If leaks, and other losses are negligible, Equation 1 can be rearranged to provide an  
29 estimate of cycles of concentration:

30 Equation 4.

$$31 \quad M = BD + CL$$

32  
33  
34  
35 In most cases, some condensate loss is inevitable. This loss is typically expressed as a  
36 percent of actual makeup to the boiler that is supplied by steam condensate. The  
37 calculation of the impact of this requires that the pounds of steam produced be known.  
38 The facility may wish to consult an engineer to help with these calculations. In many  
39 cases, condensate loss is known. In those situations, the cycles of concentration provide  
40 the percent of blowdown.  
41

## 42 **Best Management Practices for Boilers**

43  
44 This discussion of best management practices (BMPs) for boilers contains two sections.  
45 The first is a discussion of reducing water use by controlling cycles of concentration,  
46 condensate return, and energy efficiency. The second involves a discussion of water  
47 efficiency with blowdown and sampler cooling tempering water.

1  
2 Energy efficiency is the first BMP for consideration. Steam is used to provide energy. Any  
3 reduction in energy use will result in reduced steam use and thus reduced water use.  
4

5 Steam management is an area where significant reductions in both energy and water use  
6 can be observed. BMPs in this area include:  
7

- 8 • Maximizing condensate return
- 9 • Steam trap maintenance
- 10 • Proper insulation of pipes

11  
12 From a water-efficiency standpoint, installing and maintaining a condensate recovery  
13 system to capture and return condensate to the boiler for reuse is the most effective way  
14 to reduce water use. Recovering condensate:  
15

- 16 • Reduces the amount of make-up water required.
- 17 • Eliminates or significantly reduces the need to add tempering water to cool  
18 condensate before discharge.
- 19 • Reduces the frequency of blowdown, as the condensate is highly pure and adds  
20 little to no additional TDS to the boiler water.

21  
22 In addition, since the steam condensate is relatively hot when it is added back to the  
23 boiler, it requires less energy to re-heat to produce steam again.  
24  
25

26 Metering, Measurement, and Control are critical to good boiler operations and to minimizing  
27 water use. The following are BMPs recommended for boilers:  
28

- 29 • Install an automatic blowdown control system, particularly on boilers greater  
30 than 200 horsepower, to control the amount and frequency of blowdown rather  
31 than relying on continuous blow down.<sup>134</sup> Control systems with a conductivity  
32 controller will initiate blowdown only when the TDS concentrations in the boiler  
33 have built up to a certain concentration.  
34
- 35 • Install a flow meter on make-up water line to monitor the amount of make-up  
36 water added to the boiler. Refer to the Operation, Maintenance, and User  
37 Education section of this BMP for recommendations on how to use the meter  
38 once it is installed.
- 39 • Install condensate return meters for all boilers of 200 horsepower or more.  
40
- 41 • Install automated chemical feed systems to monitor conductivity, control  
42 blowdown, and add chemicals based on make-up water flow. These systems  
43 minimize water and chemical use while protecting against scale and corrosion.  
44  
45

---

<sup>134</sup> East Bay Municipal Utility District. 2008. *WaterSmart Guidebook—A Water-Use Efficiency Plan Review Guide for New Businesses*.

<[www.allianceforwaterefficiency.org/uploadedFiles/Resource\\_Center/Library/non\\_residential/EBMUD/EBMUD\\_WaterSmart\\_Guide\\_Photo\\_Film\\_Processing.pdf](http://www.allianceforwaterefficiency.org/uploadedFiles/Resource_Center/Library/non_residential/EBMUD/EBMUD_WaterSmart_Guide_Photo_Film_Processing.pdf)>.

1 Significant water savings can result from improving the boiler system management  
2 scheme. A key mechanism to reducing water use is to maximize the cycles of  
3 concentration. Installing an automatic blowdown control system is one way to minimize  
4 blowdown and maximize cycles of concentration.

5 Switching to an automatic control system can reduce a boiler's energy use by 2 to 5  
6 percent and reduce blowdown by as much as 20 percent. A system can cost between  
7 \$2,500 and \$100,000. In some facilities, the water and energy savings can provide  
8 payback within one to three years.

9 Proper control of boiler blowdown water is also critical to ensure efficient boiler operation  
10 and minimize make-up water use. Insufficient blowdown can lead to scaling and corrosion,  
11 while excessive blowdown wastes water, energy, and chemicals. The optimum blowdown  
12 rate is influenced by several factors, including boiler type, operating pressure, water  
13 treatment, and quality of make-up water. Generally, blowdown rates range from 4 to 8  
14 percent of the make-up water flow rate, although they can be as high as 10 percent if the  
15 make-up water is of poor quality with high concentrations of solids.<sup>135</sup>

16 Operation, Maintenance, and User Education - To improve water efficiency of boiler and  
17 steam systems, consider the following:

18  
19 *Choose a Water Treatment Vendor*

- 20
- 21 • Select a water treatment vendor that focuses on water efficiency. Request an  
22 estimate of the quantities and costs of treatment chemicals and the volumes of  
23 make-up and blowdown water expected per year. Choose a vendor that can  
24 minimize water use, chemical use, and cost while maintaining appropriate water  
25 chemistry for efficient scale and corrosion control.

26 *Read Water Chemistry Reports*

27 Ensure the water treatment vendor produces a report every time he or she  
28 evaluates the water chemistry in the boiler. Upon receiving these reports, read  
29 them to ensure that monitoring characteristics such as conductivity and cycles of  
30 concentration are within the target range. Problems within the system can be  
31 identified quickly if proper attention is paid to the water chemistry reports.

32  
33 *Maintain Boilers, Steam Lines, and Steam Traps*

- 34
- 35 • Regularly check steam lines for leaks and make repairs promptly.
  - 36 • Regularly clean and inspect boiler water and fire tubes.
  - 37 • Develop and implement an annual boiler tune-up program.

---

<sup>135</sup> U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S. Department of Energy, Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, Federal Energy Management Program. June 2001. Energy Tips—Steam. [www1.eere.energy.gov/industry/bestpractices/pdfs/steam9\\_blowdown.pdf](http://www1.eere.energy.gov/industry/bestpractices/pdfs/steam9_blowdown.pdf) and [www1.eere.energy.gov/industry/bestpractices/pdfs/steam8\\_boiler.pdf](http://www1.eere.energy.gov/industry/bestpractices/pdfs/steam8_boiler.pdf).

- Provide proper insulation on piping and the central storage tank to conserve heat.
- Implement a steam trap inspection program for boiler systems with condensate recovery.

When steam traps exceed condensate temperature, this program can indicate that the trap is leaking. Temperature can be monitored using an infrared temperature device.<sup>136</sup> Repair leaking traps as soon as possible.

*Minimize Blowdown*

- Calculate and understand the boiler’s cycles of concentration. Check the ratio of conductivity of blow down water and the make-up water. (Use a handheld conductivity meter if the boiler is not equipped with permanent meters.) This ratio should match the target cycles of concentration.
- Work with the water treatment vendor to prevent scaling and corrosion and to optimize cycles of concentration.

*Improve Make-Up Water Quality*

- Consider pre-treating boiler make-up water to remove impurities, which can increase the cycles of concentration the boiler can achieve. Water softeners, reverse osmosis systems, or demineralization are potential pre-treatment technology options.

The American Boiler Manufacturers Association (ABMA) publishes maximum recommended concentration limits for makeup water for boilers (Table 2).

**Table 2. Recommended Maximum Concentration of Constituents in Boiler Feed Water**

Boiler Operating Pressure (psig)	Total Dissolved Solids (ppm)	Total Alkalinity (ppm)	Total Suspended Solids (ppm)
0 - 50	2,500	500	N/A
51 - 300	3,500	700	15
301 - 450	3,000	600	10
451 - 600	2,500	500	8
601 - 750	1,000	200	3
751 - 900	750	150	2
901 – 1,000	625	125	1

<sup>136</sup> North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources. May 2009. *Water Efficiency Manual for Commercial, Industrial and Institutional Facilities*. Pages 49-52. [www.p2pays.org/ref/01/00692.pdf](http://www.p2pays.org/ref/01/00692.pdf).

1 Boiler water must be treated before use for all but the very low-pressure-type boilers. Table 3.  
2 summarizes recommend boiler water concentrations from the American Boiler Manufacturers Association  
3 (ABMA).

4

5 **Table 3. ABMA Standard Boiler Water Concentrations for Minimizing**  
6 **Carryover**

Drum Pressure (psig)	Boiler Water		
	Total Silica* (ppm SiO <sub>2</sub> )	Specific** Alkalinity (ppm CaCO <sub>3</sub> )	Conductance (micromhos/cm)
0-300	150	700	7000
301-450	90	600	6000
451-600	40	500	5000
601-750	30	400	4000
751-900	20	300	3000
901-1000	8	200	2000
1001-1500	2	0	150
1501-2000	1	0	100

7

8 Refer to the *Water Purification BMP* for more information.

9

### 10 **Tempering of Sampler and Blowdown Water**

11

12 Conductivity Probe Cooling Water - To properly control blowdown, measure the  
13 conductivity of the water in the boiler with a conductivity probe, bearing in mind that the  
14 boiler water is very hot and can damage the probe. Use a sampler cooler to cool the water  
15 to a temperature that is suitable for the probe. These simple devices simply pass water  
16 through a heat exchanger that takes a small side stream of boiler water from the boiler  
17 either on a continuous or intermittent basis (Figure 10).



1  
2 **Figure 10. Boiler Water Sampler Device**  
3

4 Most samplers are simple single-pass cooling systems. Flow rated in the literature ranges  
5 from 1.0 to 2.5 gallons per minute. This water should be captured and used as boiler feed  
6 water, which may require constructing a collection tank to hold the cooling water until the  
7 system needs to send makeup water to the deaerator tank.

8 Blowdown Tempering Water is water used to cool the water discharged from the boiler to  
9 control dissolved solids buildup. For smaller boilers, it is the author's experience that large  
10 holding tanks that allow the blowdown to cool to below 140°F may be used. For larger  
11 systems, heat recovery systems are commercially available that capture the heat and thus  
12 eliminate the single pass cooling entirely.

13 Both sampler and blowdown heat recovery systems save water and energy. The following  
14 example is from the US Department of Energy's Energy Efficiency and Energy Renewable  
15 publication entitled

16  
17 **Recovery Heat from Boiler Blowdown** - [www.eere.energy.gov](http://www.eere.energy.gov).

18  
19 Example: In a plant where the fuel cost is \$8.00 per million Btu (\$8.00/MMBtu), a  
20 continuous blowdown rate of 3,200 pounds per hour (lb/hr) is maintained to avoid the  
21 buildup of high concentrations of dissolved solids. What are the annual savings if a  
22 makeup water heat exchanger is installed that recovers 90% of the blowdown energy  
23 losses? The 80% efficient boiler produces 50,000 pounds per hour (lb/hr) of 150-pounds  
24 per-square-inch-gauge (psig) steam. It operates for 8,000 hours per year. The blowdown  
25 ratio is: Blowdown Ratio =  $3,200 / 50,000 = 6.0\%$  From the table, the heat  
26 recoverable corresponding to a 6% blowdown ratio with a 150-psig boiler operating  
27 pressure is 1.7 MMBtu/hr. Since the table is based on a steam production rate of  
28 100,000 lb/hr, the annual savings for this plant are:

29 **Annual Energy Savings** =  $[1.7 \text{ MMBtu/hr} \times (50,000 \text{ lb/hr} / 100,000 \text{ lb/hr}) \times 8,000$   
30  $\text{hr/yr}] / 0.80 =$

1 **8,500 MMBtu Annual Cost Savings = 8,500 MMBtu/yr x \$8.00/MMBtu = \$68,000.**

Table 4. Recoverable Heat from Boiler Blowdown					
Blowdown Rate % Boiler Feed water	Steam Pressure, PSIG				
	50	100	150	250	300
2	0.45	0.5	0.55	0.65	0.65
4	0.90	1.0	1.1	1.3	1.3
6	1.3	1.5	1.7	1.9	2.0
8	1.7	2.0	2.2	2.6	2.7
10	2.2	2.5	2.8	3.2	3.3
20	4.4	5.0	5.6	6.4	6.6

**Source: Recovery Heat from Boiler Blowdown - [www.eere.energy.gov](http://www.eere.energy.gov)**  
Based on a steam production rate of 100,000 pounds per hour, 60°F makeup water & 90% heat recovery.

2

3

## 1       **Additional Resources**

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3       *Feedwater/Boiler Water Chemistry in Modern Industrial Boilers.*

4       Council of Industrial Boiler Owners. November 1997. *CIBO Energy Efficiency Handbook.*  
5       <[www.cibo.org/pubs/steamhandbook.pdf](http://www.cibo.org/pubs/steamhandbook.pdf)>.

6       East Bay Municipal Utility District. 2008. *WaterSmart Guidebook—A Water-Use Efficiency Plan Review Guide*  
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15       Energy, Federal Energy Management Program. June 2001. Energy Tips— Steam.  
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28

## 1 **7C4: Cleaning Industrial Vessels, Pipes and Equipment**

2 Proper cleaning and sanitation represent a critical practice for such industries as food  
3 processors and pharmaceutical and cosmetics manufacturers. For food and pharmaceutical  
4 facilities, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and State and  
5 local health agencies all have regulations overseeing these processes.

6 Cleaning and sanitizing is one of the more human-interactive operations within a facility. The  
7 use of hoses and spray equipment, physical removal of waste materials, timing of cleaning  
8 cycles, and the way in which cleaning equipment is used are all controlled by the employees  
9 responsible for the operation. Any modification of these cleaning and sanitizing procedures  
10 requires that employees are part of the improvements. They must be trained, be aware of the  
11 need to reduce water use, and most importantly, be allowed to participate in the  
12 accomplishments. Some cleaning techniques, such as hand cleaning, the use of spray hoses,  
13 'manual scrub and wash down,' and 'fill and flush' are effective, but they can use excessive  
14 amounts of water. This section examines ways to design facilities for ease of cleaning while  
15 reducing water use in the process.

16 Cleaning in these industries can be divided into several different areas:

- 17 • **Clean in place** (cleaning of pipes, tanks, processing vessels and transport tanks and  
18 trucks without taking them apart.)
- 19 • **Clean out of place** (removing and cleaning and sanitizing parts)
- 20 • **Can/bottle/package cleaning**
- 21 • **Crate and pallet washing**
- 22 • **Equipment and Floor Cleaning**
- 23

### 24 **Clean in place:**

25 *Process Description* - Clean in place (CIP) systems use water, chemicals, and recirculation  
26 systems to clean pipes and vessels. Factors that determine the cleaning effectiveness include  
27 circulation time, temperature, degree of agitation or spray action, and the formulation of cleaning  
28 solutions. Modern, efficient CIP systems typically include multiple tank including chemical  
29 solutions tanks, and rinse water and water recycle vessels. Single- and two-tank systems are  
30 not considered to be as water efficient as multiple tank systems and are therefore not  
31 recommended as a BMP. The versatility and ability for water and chemical solution recovery of  
32 multi-tank systems (three or more tanks), mean that these multi-tank CIP system are now  
33 considered the norm for most efficient facilities.

34 An example would be a five tank system in a brewery. It would include a caustic/surfactant  
35 tank, a phosphoric acid tank, caustic and acid wash recovery tanks, and a rinse water tank.  
36 Filtration and even membrane processes can be used to clean washing fluids for reuse.

37

1 Multi-tank CIP systems are available on the market. Costs depend on the size of the equipment  
2 needed, the nature of the substances to be cleaned, and the type of vessels and pipes to be  
3 cleaned. Costs range from \$20,000 to over \$1,000,000 depending on the application.  
4 Literature indicates that water use reductions of 30 percent to 50 percent are possible.

5 Best Management Practices for CIP Systems - One of the most common cleaning and  
6 sanitizing operations is the cleaning of pipes, tanks, mixing vessels, cooking vessels and other  
7 equipment that is permanently installed. Three factors that promote water efficiency are:

- 8 1. Good design,
- 9 2. Product recovery, and
- 10 3. Efficient cleaning methods.

11

12 Good design in the layout of the process, type of materials used and construction will make  
13 "clean in place" operations more efficient. These include:

- 14 • Ensuring that piping systems do not have sharp curves, joints, bolts and protrusions, and  
15 areas where materials being processed can accumulate. Butt and flange welding, ball  
16 valves, and long radius elbows are examples of good piping systems. Tanks and  
17 vessels should also be easy to clean.
- 18 • Eliminating "low places" in systems where material can accumulate.
- 19 • Using only easy-to-clean materials.
- 20 • Providing good access to all areas of equipment so it can be inspected and hand  
21 cleaned where necessary.
- 22 • Automating cleaning procedures to ensure constant operation.

23

24 Product recovery for clean in place systems refers to methods of recovering product from  
25 vessels, pipes, and tanks so that sellable product is recovered and the amount of material that  
26 must be cleaned is reduced. In food processing, options for product recovery include  
27 recovering edible product, recovering product for animal feed, and recovering product for other  
28 uses. All of these have the impact of reduce the amount of water needed to clean and sanitize  
29 and reduce wastewater loading. Cost considerations for clean in place include cost of product  
30 lost, cost of water, solvent, chemicals, energy used, and waste disposal. In chemical and  
31 cosmetics plants, solvent use can also lead to air quality issues.

32 Methods to increase product recovery from large vessels including transport trucks and tank  
33 cars include:

- 34 • Allowing adequate drain time. Using a small amount of water or solvent to quickly spray  
35 the vessel encouraging better drainage of product adhering to the vessel. If the amount  
36 is small enough, the product recovered can often be incorporated into the final product.
- 37 • In the chemical industry and similar non-food industries, solvent used for washing can be  
38 recovered and product separated. Where the solvent is used to carry the product, the  
39 tank purge solvent can be used for the next batch of product.

1 For **pipe systems**, recovering product includes:

- 2 • Using air to blow product out.
- 3 • Slug or pulse rinsing where a small initial slug or pulse of water will carry a significant
- 4 concentration of recoverable product.
- 5 • Pigging, which is the process of running a device, usually a soft rubber plug, through the
- 6 piping to push and squeegee the product out. Pigging requires the installation of a
- 7 "launch and recovery" system that allows the rubber device to be inserted at the front
- 8 end and caught and recovered at the back end. The cost of these devices depends on
- 9 the size of the pipe, the type of pig, and system design characteristics. The installed
- 10 cost for such devices starts at under \$20,000 but can go much higher for large diameter
- 11 pipes. The product is pushed out of the pipe and can be recovered. Ice pigging is the
- 12 process of using flake ice to push the material ahead of it through the piping system. It
- 13 has gained favor in some situations since the ice only needs a launcher and can be
- 14 incorporated in the product since only small amounts of ice are needed. The pig is most
- 15 often pushed with water, air or the next product to be processed. An example of a pig
- 16 pushed by a product is the switch from white to chocolate milk, the pig can help separate
- 17 the products in the pipe without having to waste any product. Pigging systems –
- 18 launcher, sensor, and retrieve and return systems – can be purchased for \$20,000 and
- 19 higher. Installation costs depend on the specific layout of the plant where installed.
- 20 Water savings achieved by pigging system depend on the type of material being
- 21 processed. Thick or semi-solid products, such as sour cream, are hard to rinse from
- 22 pipes, so they can contaminate large volume of water. Pigging both recovers
- 23 marketable material and reduces the amount of water needed to flush the product out.

24  
25 **Efficient cleaning methods** for clean in place systems are somewhat different for pipe systems

26 and tank and vessel systems.  
27 For **vessels and tanks**, the first step to efficient cleaning starts with good process control and

28 design. Optical devices determine when rinse water is clear. Level controls and other methods

29 ensure efficient operation. Clean in place technology includes the use of manual spray hoses

30 including water jetting, or high-pressure sprays for hand cleaning of vessels such as tanks.

31 These methods tend to be labor intensive, they often require entry into confined spaces, and

32 they may consume large amounts of water, energy and chemicals. Automated clean in place

33 systems offer many advantages.

34 Clean in place systems for tanks and vessels typically employ spray ball technology. These

35 devices range from simple balls with holes in them to high-pressure devices with multiple high-

36 pressure nozzles that actuate turning devices that spray in multiple directions. The more

37 pressure and directed force the ball has, the more efficiently it can clean. Some systems use

38 booster pumps to increase pressure. Selection of the type of system to use depends on many

39 factors, and many models are available. These systems are also useful for cleaning beer and

40 wine casks, barrels, and vessels.

1 For **pipe systems**, cleaning and rinsing fluids are pumped through the pipes. Turbulence, time,  
2 temperature, and chemical cleaning agents are the factors that determine the time required to  
3 clean pipe systems.

4 For both vessel and pipe cleaning, the clean in place system (CIP) uses a combination of  
5 several steps to clean and sanitize pipes, tanks, and other vessels. The design of these  
6 systems and the sequence of cleaning determine their water, chemical, and energy use. Most  
7 CIP systems clean with a four step process: (1) first flush, (2) chemical cleaning, (3) sanitizing,  
8 and (4) intermediate and final rinses. In the parlance of the industry, CIP systems include wash  
9 and dump systems, which are the most wasteful kind, and single and multi-tank systems, which  
10 allow for better control, water recycling, and other advantages.

- 11 • The first flush is designed to flush out remaining product from the pipe or tank. As the  
12 name implies, it is a way of "getting rid of" good product. The amount and intensity of  
13 this process is directly related to the amount of product left in the pipe or vessel and the  
14 characteristics of the product being flush out. That is why product recovery is important  
15 to water efficiency.
- 16 • Chemical cleaning formulations vary with the type of product being processed. Beer  
17 stone, milk stone (solid residues left behind in beer and milk processing), and food solids  
18 are examples of materials to be removed. Cleaning formulations include alkaline and  
19 acidic detergent washes.
- 20 • Sanitizing involves either hot water or sanitizing chemicals. Peroxides, chlorine and  
21 bromine compounds, ozone, quaternary ammonia compounds, peroxyacetic acid, iodine  
22 compounds, and anionic acids have all been used.
- 23 • Intermediate and final rinses are used to remove chemical and sanitizing agents.  
24

25 Clean in place equipment can have several configurations. Old wash and dump systems have  
26 given way to multi-tank systems that carefully control water use, capture and reuse water, and  
27 treat and filter water to be recirculated within the cycle. Membranes and other treatments may  
28 be used to maximize recycling of water. The recycling of filtered detergent water is common.  
29 Multi-tank operations also save energy and allow for maximum recycling.

30 In some systems, ozone is used as a sanitizer. It is powerful, and it does not leave a residue,  
31 so rinse cycles may be eliminated, thus saving water and reducing wastewater strength. Table  
32 1.shows how ozone can reduce rinse steps in CIP operations.

33 With all of these systems, modern control technology and real-time analytical equipment help  
34 control temperature and determine optimal detergent and chemical concentrations, as well as  
35 the amount of waste products in rinse water, all of which contribute to both energy and water  
36 efficiency.

**Table 1 Example of a CIP Cycle Using Ozone**

*Typical 5-Step CIP Process*

- 1) Ambient temperature water rinse: removal of water-soluble residues
- 2) Alkaline wash: removal of water-resistant residues
- 3) Ambient-temperature or hot water and intermittent draining: removal of the bulk of the alkaline cleaning agent
- 4) Peracetic Acid wash: neutralization of residual alkaline cleaning agent, demineralizes the surfaces of process equipment, and provides some corrosion control by neutralizing the caustic cleaning fluids.
- 5) Final rinse and sanitization: hot water passed once through the circuit in bursts with intermittent drains, removing the acid cleaning agent and all other residues passivation. Final air blowing and draining

*Three-Step Ozone CIP Process*

- 1) Ambient temperature water rinses water-soluble residues from process equipment and interconnecting piping
- 2) Alkaline wash: removal of water-resistant residues
- 3) Ozone sanitization, rinse and flush. Final air blowing and draining

Source: Web: [www.mksinst.com](http://www.mksinst.com)

1

2 **Clean out of Place Systems:**

3 *Process Description* - As the name implies, "Clean out of Place (COP)" equipment is taken  
4 apart and washed. The simplest systems consist of vats that parts are placed in for hand  
5 cleaning. Modern equipment includes tunnel, cabinet, and emersion tank mechanical  
6 recirculation systems as well as ultrasonic cleaning can also be used.

7 *Best Management Practices for COP Systems* - As with CIP, It is important to test the water  
8 regularly so it is not discharged until its useful life is over. It is also important to minimize the vat  
9 size. Employee training and awareness helps workers pay attention small details. The  
10 pharmaceutical industry commonly uses automated systems with verification-of-cleaning  
11 software. These systems may be applicable in other industries as well. Sanitizing baths –  
12 clean water with sanitizer – are often used to "soak" parts. Again, analyzing the water is  
13 important so sanitizer strength can be maintained instead of dumping. Sanitizer water can also  
14 be reused as first flush rinse water or even as wash water for the parts to be cleaned or for floor  
15 and area washing.

16 For both CIP and COP systems, the use of whitewater or ozone for cleaning and sanitizing  
17 offers opportunities to reduce the amount of rinse water needed in cleaning operations ranging  
18 from CIP, COP, and other equipment cleaning and sanitation. Since hot water use can often be  
19 reduced, hot water energy use may be reduced, but energy is also needed to produce ozone.  
20 Ozone applications require a benefit/cost analysis to determine their economic applicability on a  
21 case-by-case basis.

22 **Bottle/Can/Container Cleaning**

23 *Process Description* - Bottle washers have two basic configurations: soaker washers and hydro-  
24 spray-washers. Steps in bottle washing include:

- 25 • Pre-rinse
- 26 • Label removal

- 1 • Caustic wash
- 2 • Rinse

3

4 Water use depends on such variables as the type of bottle being washed and the organic matter  
5 in the bottle. Water efficiency efforts have centered on caustic water recovery, recycling of final  
6 rinse water for caustic makeup, and reuse of water for the pre-rinse and label removal stages.

7 *Best Management Practices* - For bottle washing systems, the water used for first flushing is  
8 often recovered and reused. Membrane technology has also been used in some instances to  
9 recover water and chemicals used in the bottle washing process. The use of disposable bottles  
10 and cans has eliminated the dominance that returnable bottles used to have in the market.  
11 ([www.faculty.ait.ac.th/visu/data/AIT.../Anna%20pdf%2096.pdf](http://www.faculty.ait.ac.th/visu/data/AIT.../Anna%20pdf%2096.pdf))

12 Even new bottles and cans can contain foreign debris, however. Air blowing saves water while  
13 ensuring that particles are removed before the bottles are filled.

#### 14 **Crate and Pallet Washers:**

15 *Process Description* - Crates and pallets are integral parts of the food processing industry.  
16 Although they do not come into direct contact with the food, they need to be cleaned and kept  
17 free of debris so they do not soil the food containers. Crate washers and pallet washers should  
18 be designed to recirculate water within the individual wash phases and to capture and reuse  
19 final rinse water for wash water use. Crate and pallet washers have much in common with  
20 commercial dishwashers and laboratory cage washers. While both tunnel and cabinet washers  
21 are in use, tunnel washers are more common in larger operations.

22 *Best Management Practices* Tunnel washers offer both water and energy saving potential.  
23 High-volume efficient models use five stages of cleaning. The pallets or crates enter through a  
24 pre-rinse stage. Water used for this phase may be recycled from the detergent wash stage  
25 overflow. The next stage is the detergent wash. Water efficient machines recirculate the hot  
26 detergent water through strainer and filter systems at high volumes. Internal water flow rates of  
27 over 100 gallons per minute are common. The pallets or crates then move to a rinse stage.  
28 Some efficient models have a two-stage rinse process in which the final rinse is done with clean  
29 water that is then captured and used in a first rinse stage. Following the first rinse, that water  
30 may then be reused as makeup for the detergent wash.

31 Water efficiency standards for crate and pallet washers have not been established. The  
32 company purchasing this equipment should compare equipment. These systems use significant  
33 volumes of water, energy, and detergent. The same considerations apply to tub, tote (wheeled  
34 container), and basket washers. Baskets allow liquids to drain while tubs and totes are  
35 designed to contain liquids.

36 Tunnel washers costs are in the \$100,000-plus range.

#### 37 **Equipment and Floor Cleaning:**



1 *Process Description* - A variety of situations require manual cleaning with spray hoses,  
2 pressurized spray rigs, cleaning brushes, cloths, and squeegees.

3 *Best Management Practices* - Areas that cannot be cleaned by a clean in place (CIP) or clean  
4 out of place (COP) system, require manual cleaning, which can be one of the most labor and  
5 time intensive operations in a facility. Good layout and design of such areas as floors, exteriors  
6 of tanks and pipes, conveyor systems, and flumes are key to having facilities that are easy to  
7 clean.

8 Four principles should be incorporated into the design and layout of floors and walls:

- 9 • Proper sealing of floors and walls so that soil is easily removed and water does not  
10 penetrate.
  - 11 • Sloping floors to floor drains so water can be removed easily.
  - 12 • Minimizing floor joints and joints between floor and walls.
  - 13 • Designing easily cleanable, well sealed troughs and grates.
- 14

15 Floor drains are a necessary component of this process, but once the waste enters the drain, it  
16 costs money. Physical removal of waste product before washing saves water, chemicals,  
17 energy, and reduces pollution loading and pre-treatment costs. Floors should be dry cleaned  
18 with vacuum systems, brooms, or squeegees depending on the type of material being removed.

19 Equipment design and layout are also critical for good cleaning. As with CIP and COP systems,  
20 crevices, sharp turns, and "nooks and crannies" where dirt and materials can accumulate  
21 should be avoided. For example, it helps to use welded tubes instead of bolted together angle  
22 iron supports, tanks and equipment with smooth easily accessible surfaces, and to leave room  
23 between equipment for ease of cleaning.

24 For mixers, extrusion and molding equipment, conveyor belts, and other open equipment to  
25 which one can gain direct access, cleaning should start with physical removal of residual  
26 materials and then be followed by wet washing.

27 Where water is used for cleaning, it is important to employ the "multiple aliquots" concept, in  
28 which it is better to use a number of smaller volumes of water to clean than one very large  
29 volume. Four principles of wet cleaning are:

- 30 • Use high-pressure, low-volume sprays.
  - 31 • Install shutoffs on all cleaning equipment.
  - 32 • Use detergents and sanitizing chemicals that are easily removed with minimum water.
  - 33 • Install and locate drains and sumps so water and wastes enter quickly to prevent the  
34 need for extensive use of a hose as a broom to move the waste to the drain.
- 35

1 **7C5: Commercial Landscape**

2

3 **BACKGROUND**

4

5 **Introduction**

6 This section addresses and makes recommendations for landscape Best Management  
7 Practices (BMPs) for commercial, industrial, and institutional (CII) water users.

8 Many of the landscape BMP recommendations contained in this section come from the Model  
9 Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance (MWELO) found in the California Code of Regulations,  
10 Title 23, Division 2, Chapter 2.7, which became effective in January 2010. The MWELO  
11 document applies primarily to new and rehabilitated landscapes of 2,500 square feet or more. It  
12 is important to note that the landscape standards contained in MWELO were developed through  
13 input and full vetting of the issues from a broad base of stakeholders including public interest  
14 groups, water providers, and the landscape industry. For that reason, many of the standards or  
15 BMPs contained in the MWELO form the basis for the recommended BMPs contained in this  
16 report. Since the MWELO standards do not apply to existing landscapes or to rehabilitated  
17 landscapes of less than 2,500 square feet, the BMPs recommended in this report would also  
18 apply to this category of CII landscapes. In addition to MWELO, other pertinent landscape BMP  
19 resources are cited at the end of the section. The MWELO document may be found at  
20 [www.water.ca.gov/wateruseefficiency/docs/MWELO09-10-09.pdf](http://www.water.ca.gov/wateruseefficiency/docs/MWELO09-10-09.pdf).

21

22 This report also includes a number of BMPs not addressed in the MWELO document including  
23 the use of alternative water sources, graywater, artificial turf, alternative turf types, subsurface  
24 (also called in-line) irrigation, site review prior to design, site inspections during landscape  
25 installation, record keeping, and communication plans.

26

27 In addition to MWELO, the California Urban Water Conservation Council (CUWCC) has adopted  
28 a landscape BMP (#5) that, among other elements, requires signatory water providers to offer  
29 and conduct site water audits and to make recommendations for water use efficiency. Since  
30 CUWCC signatories account for approximately 90 percent of the urban water use in California,  
31 recommending that CII customers contact their water provider for a free site survey appears to  
32 represent an opportunity to capture additional water savings and thus is considered a CII BMP.

33

34 **Water Use**

35 CII landscape water use represents approximately 9-10 percent of urban water use and 25  
36 percent<sup>137</sup> of total CII water use. However, landscape water use can range from zero to 100  
37 percent at individual CII sites.

38

39 **Available Data**

40 While much has been written about landscape BMPs, studies on actual water savings for a  
41 particular BMP are somewhat limited and water savings for a given BMP can have a wide range  
42 . This report provides the water savings from the known studies.

43

44 **Feasibility**

45 The landscape BMPs discussed in this report are all technically feasible. However, the cost-  
46 effectiveness of implementing a particular BMP may vary considerably from site to site, and, in

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<sup>137</sup> (data source-East Bay Municipal Utility District and City of San Diego Water Department)

1 some cases, such as graywater use, may not be practical. However, all of the BMPs discussed  
2 should, at least, be considered for implementation.

### 3 4 **Employment**

5 Landscape industry businesses are involved with production, distribution and services  
6 associated with ornamental plants, landscapes and garden supplies, and equipment. Their  
7 activities involve nurseries and growers, landscape architects, contractors and maintenance  
8 firms, and horticultural distribution centers. In addition, the public sector is involved with parks,  
9 botanic gardens, and roadway landscaping. According to a 2011 study<sup>138</sup> conducted by the  
10 California Landscape Contractors Association (CLCA), the landscape industry in California  
11 employees nearly 260,000 full and part-time people. This figure does not include a large  
12 unreported underground element of landscape related activity.

### 13 14 **Value**

15 The 2011 CLCA study determined that the landscape industry contributed \$25 billion to the  
16 California economy in 2007, representing just over 1% of the entire state economy. Labor  
17 earnings were estimated at \$8.28 billion. These figures do not include the economic  
18 contribution from a large underground landscape industry in California.

## 19 20 **Landscape BMPs**

### 21 22 **Description**

23 Unlike indoor use in the CII sector, BMPs for landscape water use efficiency apply across all CII  
24 sectors and NAICS codes with only the cost-effectiveness varying from site to site.

25  
26 For the purpose of this report, the topics referenced below are considered landscape best  
27 management practices. The use of recycled water is also considered a BMP and is discussed  
28 in Section 11 of this report. Recycled water used in the landscape needs to meet certain water  
29 quality standards that address human and plant health concerns.

### 30 31 On-Site Water Sources

32 Reusing on-site water can represent a significant water source available for landscape use.  
33 Potential on-site CII water sources include cooling tower blowdown water, reverse osmosis  
34 (RO) reject water, graywater, retention basins and rainwater harvesting. Potential sources of  
35 water from CII facility processes for use on the landscape include the waste streams from  
36 cooling tower blowdown and reverse osmosis (RO) reject water. However, both of these waste  
37 streams are high in total dissolved solids (TDS) and may require further treatment or blending  
38 with other water sources before they may be used on the landscape. In addition, cooling tower  
39 blowdown water may contain biocides as part of the treatment process, which could be harmful  
40 to plants if not treated.

### 41 42 Rainwater Harvesting

43 Rainwater harvesting, as the name implies, relies on catching and storing rainwater. It involves  
44 both the use of cisterns and catchment basins. Catchment basins may include the construction  
45 of berms and/or swales and they are referenced in MWEL, Section 492.15. Detailed  
46 information on rainwater harvesting may be found at [www.arcsa.org](http://www.arcsa.org).

47  

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<sup>138</sup> Palma, Marco A., 2011, Economic Contributions of the Green Industry to the California Economy, California Landscape Contractors Association

1 Retention Basins

2 Retention basins serve as a reservoir to collect rainwater and indoor water for such multiple  
3 purposes as soil percolation, runoff control, and landscape irrigation. There are standards and  
4 codes that address the construction of retention basins. Information on storm water retention  
5 can be found at a website sponsored by the California Storm Water Quality Association where  
6 there is a fact sheet for free downloading; <[https://www.casqa.org/store/products/tabid/154/p-  
7 171-fact-sheet-se-2.aspx](https://www.casqa.org/store/products/tabid/154/p-171-fact-sheet-se-2.aspx)>.

8  
9 The Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) governs storm water discharges via  
10 a permitting process. The permit requirements can vary from one RWQCB region to another.  
11 Permit information may be found at the RWQCB website at  
12 [www.waterboards.ca.gov/water\\_issues/programs/stormwater/docs/stormwater\\_factsheet.pdf](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/stormwater/docs/stormwater_factsheet.pdf).

13  
14 Graywater

15 The use of graywater is allowed in the CII sector per Appendix G, Title 24, Part 5, of the  
16 California Administrative Code. Technically, since graywater is defined as “untreated  
17 wastewater” from bathroom sinks, showers and baths, and clothes washers, it is generally most  
18 practical for institutional use. Information on California graywater standards may be found at:  
19 [www.water.ca.gov/wateruseefficiency/docs/Revised\\_Graywater\\_Standards.pdf](http://www.water.ca.gov/wateruseefficiency/docs/Revised_Graywater_Standards.pdf)

20  
21 Landscape Design

22 The importance of appropriate landscape design cannot be overstated since a well designed  
23 landscape can save water and minimize long-term maintenance costs.  
24 Based on estimates from several large California urban water providers<sup>139</sup>, turf accounts for  
25 approximately 50 percent of outdoor plant material and is responsible for approximately 70  
26 percent of outdoor water use. Limiting turf to functional areas during landscape design,  
27 therefore, would reduce outdoor water use significantly. Landscape design BMPs are found in  
28 MWEL0, Section 492.61. BMP landscape elements not addressed in MWEL0 are discussed  
29 below and include the use of synthetic turf, alternative turf choices, and subsurface irrigation.

30  
31 Site Inspection

32 Prior to beginning the design process a physical site inspection will help designers understand  
33 and address such issues as underground utility lines, overhead structures, grading, etc.

34  
35 Plant Material

36 A landscape should be designed to use low water-requiring plants best suited to the California  
37 climate. For example, the use of alternative turf types, such as warm season turfs and buffalo  
38 grass can result in significant water savings. Warm season grasses are more typically found in  
39 southern California where the dormancy period, which results in a brown color, is much shorter  
40 than in northern California. Buffalo grass has a clumping or pasture look and may be an  
41 appropriate solution for some CII sites. More information may be found at  
42 <http://www.ucrturf.ucr.edu/home/anrcatalog.htm> or <http://usgatero.msu.edu/v05/n21.pdf>. A list  
43 of plants and their water requirements may be found in a document titled “Water Using  
44 Classifications of Landscape Species” (WUCOLS), located at  
45 [www.water.ca.gov/wateruseefficiency/docs/wucols00.pdf](http://www.water.ca.gov/wateruseefficiency/docs/wucols00.pdf).

46  
47 Hydro-zone

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<sup>139</sup> East Bay Municipal Utility District and the City of San Diego Water Department

1 Plants should be grouped based on similar water requirements, called hydro-zones to help with  
2 irrigation design and application. The hydro-zone BMP is found in the MWELO document in  
3 section 492.6.

#### 4 5 Microclimates

6 A plant's water requirement can vary widely due to such influences as the amount of solar  
7 radiation (sun verses shade), wind, humidity, and temperature. These influences, called  
8 microclimates, need to be considered in the landscape and irrigation design process and are  
9 referred to in the MWELO document in section 492.6.

#### 10 11 Landscape Alternatives

12 An important BMP includes consideration for the incorporation of permeable hardscapes into  
13 the landscape. Permeable hardscapes include the use of:

- 14 • synthetic or artificial turf (which reduces water use over conventional turf by  
15 approximately 70%)
- 16 • decking
- 17 • gravel pathways or pervious pavers (used for driveways, walkways, patios, etc.)

18 A number of websites contain information on synthetic (artificial) turf. They may be found by  
19 searching under "artificial turf".

#### 20 21 Subsurface Irrigation

22 Subsurface irrigation, also called in-line irrigation, is becoming increasingly widely used.  
23 Subsurface irrigation minimizes soil evaporation, water loss due to wind drift, overspray, and  
24 runoff. It also reduces pests and disease. An increasingly popular installation technique for  
25 subsurface drip irrigation for ground cover and shrubs involves placing the drip line on the  
26 surface and covering it with several inches of mulch. A filter fabric can be placed a few inches  
27 below the drip line to help slow the downward movement of water due to gravity and to spread  
28 out the water horizontally. Because of the benefits of subsurface irrigation, it is recommended  
29 as a BMP, where practical. Information on subsurface drip irrigation systems may be found at  
30 [www.geoflow.com/design\\_1.html](http://www.geoflow.com/design_1.html), [www.ext.colostate.edu/pubs/crops/04716.html](http://www.ext.colostate.edu/pubs/crops/04716.html) and  
31 <http://www.rainbird.com/documents/drip/XFSeriesDesignGuide.pdf>.

#### 32 33 Soil Management

34 Proper soil management is an important BMP because healthy soil can improve water use  
35 efficiency, plant health, and moisture retention. Information on soil management may be found  
36 in MWELO, Section 492.5.

#### 37 38 Grading

39 Appropriate grading should include a strategy to reduce runoff and retain more water on the  
40 site. BMP information on grading may be found in MWELO, Section 492.8.

#### 41 42 Irrigation System Design

43 Proper irrigation system design is critical to efficient water use and involves numerous  
44 components ranging from the use of weather-based controllers to drip irrigation. BMP  
45 information may be found in MWELO, Section 492.7. Additional information on irrigation  
46 systems and design (including information on water budgets, and scheduling) may be found at  
47 [www.irrigation.org/Resources/Turf\\_Landscape\\_BMPs.aspx](http://www.irrigation.org/Resources/Turf_Landscape_BMPs.aspx) and at  
48 <http://www.irrisoft.net/downloads/manuals/Landscape%20Water%20Management%20Training%20Manual.pdf>

#### 49 50 51 Project Installation

- 1 Installation BMPs include:
- 2 • communication between the designer, installers, and the end user
  - 3 • installation per the approved specifications
  - 4 • use of trained or certified workers
  - 5 • installation of plants and irrigation system per BMPs
  - 6 • as-built documentation
  - 7 • approved check-off list of installation

8

9 Metering/Submetering

10 Landscape water use needs to be metered or submetered<sup>140</sup> to determine water use efficiency  
11 for site water management. The MWELo document highly recommends the installation of a  
12 dedicated water meter for new and rehabilitated landscapes 5,000 square feet or greater. A  
13 BMP for existing landscapes should also include the installation and the monthly reading of a  
14 submeter. Additional flow monitoring and management options for flow may be found at  
15 [ftp://ftp.calsense.com/Cutsheets/16\\_flow\\_monitoring.pdf](ftp://ftp.calsense.com/Cutsheets/16_flow_monitoring.pdf),  
16 <http://www.rainbird.com/landscape/products/central/flowSensors.htm> or  
17 <http://www.rainmaster.com/PDF/500658a.pdf>.

18

19 Maintenance

20 Proper landscape maintenance is critical to capturing a site's potential water savings over time.  
21 Maintenance BMPs include the development of a work schedule that addresses the need for:

- 22 • mulching
- 23 • irrigation system leak detection and repair
- 24 • review of the irrigation schedule
- 25 • winterization (if appropriate)
- 26 • inspection of the site's back flow prevention device and water pressure

27

28 In addition to the regular review of a landscape's various components, sites should also develop  
29 a communication plan between site staff and management that includes an emergency action  
30 plan for water shutoff.

31

32 Record Keeping

33 Proper record keeping involving the storage of design and as-built plans is important in  
34 detecting irrigation system problems and for making repairs. Retaining information on advances  
35 in irrigation technology is also important as it can lead to further water savings if incorporated  
36 into the landscape.

37

38 Management: Communication

39 An important BMP includes continuous monitoring of the site and communication between site  
40 staff and management to ensure that the irrigation schedule is correct, the irrigation system is  
41 functioning properly, the necessary repairs are being made, and the site is meeting its water  
42 budget.

43

44 Landscape Budgets

45 Water budgets involve the concept of developing a maximum applied water allowance (MAWA)  
46 for a given site. A landscape budget should be defined between the site owner and manager,  
47 water purveyor and landscape maintenance staff. The water budget formula may be found in

---

<sup>140</sup> A submeter is defined as any meter downstream of a water provider master meter

1 Section B1 of the MWELo document. Other information on landscape budgets may be found in  
2 MWELo, Section 492.4 and at the sites referenced in the "Irrigation System Design" section.

### 3 4 Irrigation Audits

5 Irrigation audits represent an opportunity to review the system's water use efficiency and make  
6 the necessary repairs and adjustments. Information on irrigation audits may be found in  
7 MWELo, Section 492.12.

### 8 9 Irrigation Scheduling

10 The proper management of a site's irrigation schedule is a critical component of efficient  
11 landscape water use. Information on irrigation scheduling may be found in MWELo, Section  
12 492.10 and at the sites referenced in the "Irrigation System Design" section. Information  
13 on irrigation scheduling using weather data can be found at  
14 <http://www.cimis.water.gov/cimis/data.jsp>.  
15

## 16 **Metrics**

17 The metric deemed appropriate for determining landscape water use efficiency is "water use  
18 divided by the irrigated area" and may include the following units of measure over time:

- 19 ○ Hundred cubic feet (CCF) per square foot
- 20 ○ Gallons per square foot
- 21 ○ Acre feet per acre

22  
23 By knowing the area being irrigated and the water use, an efficiency standard can be applied  
24 using known evaporation-transpiration (ET) data. ET data is accessible throughout California  
25 through a internet available through the California Department of Water Resource's weather  
26 station network.  
27

## 28 **Summary of Landscape Case Studies**

29 Studies deemed appropriate for determining landscape water savings from various measures  
30 are itemized below.

### 31 32 Study Title: Summary of Smart Controller Water Savings Studies

33 Conducted By: U.S. Bureau of Reclamation

34 Study Summary: This study, completed in 2008, was a literature search summarizing the water  
35 savings associated with 14 smart controller studies, nine soil moisture studies, and two  
36 combined studies. Water savings associated with the use of smart controllers averaged around  
37 25% with the low outlier at 7 % and the high outlier at 41%. Water savings associated with soil  
38 moisture sensors ran between 10% and 82% with an average of around 35%. Lastly, there were  
39 two studies that combined the water savings from both smart controllers and moisture sensors.  
40 In one study the reported savings from moisture sensors ranged between zero and 63% and  
41 from 36% to 59% for the smart controllers. In the other study, the combined savings was  
42 approximately 10%.  
43

### 44 Study Title: Xeriscape Conversion Study

45 Conducted By: Southern Nevada Water Authority with funding from U.S. Bureau of Reclamation

46 Study Summary: This study, completed in 2005, found a 76.4% savings with the xeric  
47 landscapes. Study participants with turf used 73 gallons per square foot annually compared to  
48 17.2 gallons per square foot annually for xeric landscapes. The average cost to convert the

1 landscape from turf to xeric was \$1.55 per square foot. The cost to convert the landscape using  
2 a contractor was \$1.93 per square foot and \$1.37 per square foot without a contractor.  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7

8 Study Title: Evaluation of California Weather-Based “Smart” Irrigation Controller Programs  
9 Conducted By: East Bay Municipal Utility District and the Metropolitan Water District of Southern  
10 California with participation from other water providers and partial funding from the California  
11 Department of Water Resources

12 Study Summary: This study, completed in 2009, found a statewide water savings of 6.1% from  
13 the installation of weather-based irrigation controllers. Interestingly, the professionally installed  
14 controllers led to a 3.6% average savings and homeowner self-installed controllers resulted in a  
15 9.0% savings. The higher self-installed controller water savings was attributed to the  
16 homeowner being more familiar with the programming and, thus, better management of the new  
17 controllers.  
18

19 Study Title: A Comparison in Santa Monica

20 Conducted By: Sustainable Sites Initiative

21 Study Summary: This study, completed in 2004, compared the water use and maintenance  
22 requirements in adjacent single family front yards of similar size, one resident having a  
23 traditional landscape and the other a climate appropriate, sustainable design. The traditional  
24 site had a standard, user controller sprinkler irrigation system and a lawn with plants from  
25 Northern Europe and the Eastern US. The other site had native plants, a weather based  
26 irrigation controller, and low-volume drip irrigation. The water efficient site used 77% less water,  
27 had 62% less green waste, and had 68% less maintenance costs. The native site cost 30%  
28 (\$4,000) more to construct owing mostly to the installation of a cistern system.  
29

30 Study Title: Landscape Conversion Study

31 Conducted By: Los Angeles Department of Water and Power

32 Study Summary: This study, completed in 2011, compared the difference in water use at an  
33 institutional site after turf was removed at the 7.7 acre site and replaced with climate appropriate  
34 plant material. Water use was reduced by approximately 90%.  
35

36 Study Title: California Single-Family Water Use Efficiency Study

37 Conducted By: Irvine Ranch and nine participating California water providers

38 Study Summary: This study, completed in 2011, involved an assessment of indoor and outdoor  
39 water use efficiency. The study concluded that the potential for outdoor water savings in the  
40 single-family sector was between 0.6 MAF and 1.0 MAF annually. The study found that about  
41 42% of all homes were over irrigating by a margin of 138% or 164 gallons per day.  
42

43 Study Title: Lawns and Water Demand in California

44 Conducted By: Public Policy Institute of California

45 Study Summary: This study cited reports and personal communications in discussing factors  
46 affecting landscape water use, in general, and lawn water use, in particular. This report  
47 estimated that lawns comprise approximately 50% of irrigated urban landscape plant material.  
48 The report also cited a 2001 study (Maddaus and Mayer) which found landscapes with  
49 automatic sprinkler systems used 50% to 60% more water than sites without automatic irrigation  
50 systems.  
51



1 Study Title: The Bigger Picture of Water Conservation

2 Conducted By: City of San Diego Water Department

3 Study Summary: This study, partially funded by the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, used  
4 geographical information system (GIS) data to estimate that 53% of the plant material in the City  
5 of San Diego Water Department service area was turfgrass and groundcover and 47% was  
6 trees and shrubs. It was calculated that 41% of the water use in FY 2006 was outdoor use.  
7 Using consumption, ET, and irrigated landscape area data it was estimated that, on average,  
8 customers over irrigated by approximately 25%.

9  
10 Report Title: Irrigated Area in EBMUD Service Area

11 Conducted By: EBMUD

12 Report Summary: This unpublished report, completed in 2006, using geographical information  
13 system (GIS) and consumption data, estimated that lawn comprises 46% of the irrigated area  
14 within the EBMUD service area and accounts for 71% of the outdoor water use. Based on the  
15 information in the report, it indicates that water is applied to lawns in an amount three times that  
16 of other plant material and that significant water savings can be realized by reducing lawn area.

17  
18 Study Title: Data Mining Five Years of Commercial Landscape Audits Shows the Pros and Cons  
19 of the Audit Program

20 Conducted By: City of San Diego Water Department

21 Study Summary: This study estimated the water savings from conducting water audits on  
22 commercial landscapes. The study, evaluating five years of data, found approximate average  
23 water savings from the commercial landscape audit program in the 5%-6% range.

## 24 25 **Water Savings Potential**

26  
27 The water savings from various landscape conservation measures can vary significantly due to  
28 the many variables affecting landscape water use. For example, the water savings from the  
29 largest study of "smart" ET controllers conducted in California cited an average water savings  
30 statewide of 6.1 percent. However, a summary of 14 studies compiled by the U.S. Bureau of  
31 Reclamation cited "smart" controller water savings up to 41 percent with an average savings of  
32 around 25 percent. In a study conducted by the Southern Nevada Water Authority, water  
33 savings of 75 percent was cited by converting traditional landscapes to Xeriscapes. In a study  
34 conducted by the City of San Diego Water Department, water savings of 5%-6% was cited as a  
35 result of City sponsored water audits for commercial landscapes. A water use survey  
36 conducted on hundreds of single-family residences in California found that 42% of the  
37 properties over irrigated by 138%. However, taking the single-family sector as a whole, the  
38 potential water savings was just over 15%. The City of San Diego Water Department estimates  
39 a potential landscape water savings of 25% from its customer base. Less percent water  
40 savings can be expected from golf courses which tend to be very well managed since water is a  
41 large part of their operating costs.

42  
43 The studies appear to indicate that sites properly managed following a landscape conversion  
44 can achieve significant water savings. However, an average savings of 15 percent in CII  
45 landscape water use appears to be achievable using the conservation measures available.  
46 Based on landscape water use data<sup>141</sup> in the CII sector, this would indicate a potential annual  
47 average landscape water savings of approximately 70 MGD in California.

48  

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<sup>141</sup> CII landscape use = Total urban use x 35% (CII use) x 25% (CII landscape use)

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19  
20

1 **7C6: General Building Sanitary and Safety Applications**

2

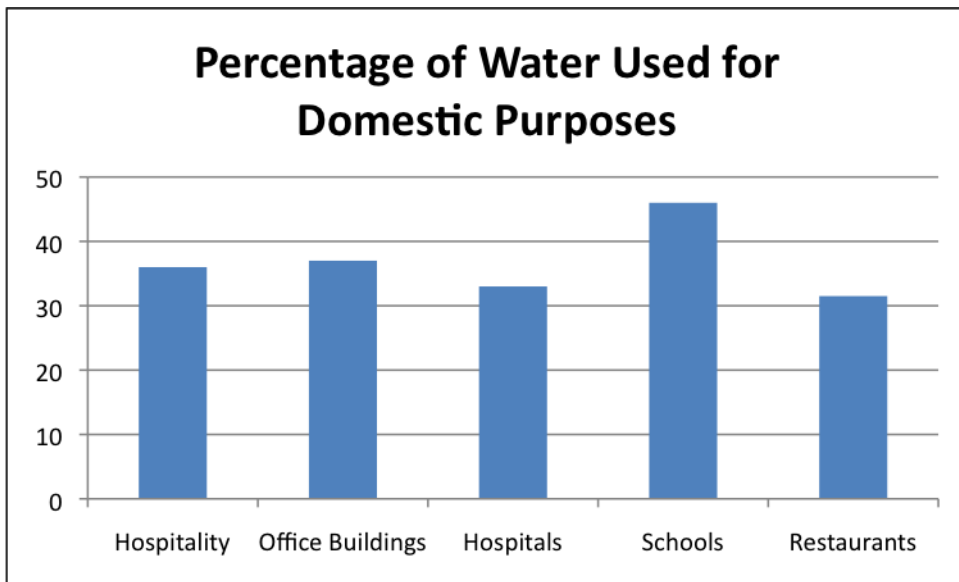
3 *Background*

4

5 CII customers can account for anywhere from 15 to 25 percent of the total urban municipal  
6 water demand, according to the 2000 report *Commercial and Institutional End Uses of Water*.<sup>142</sup>  
7 As significant water users, commercial and institutional facilities have the opportunity to  
8 conserve this precious resource, save energy, and minimize facility operational costs in the  
9 process.

10 Domestic water uses in sanitary fixtures can account for as much as 45 percent of total water  
11 use within a facility. Depending upon the type of facility and its occupancy, restroom and other  
12 sanitary uses such as laundry can provide significant opportunities to reduce water use.

13



14

15

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<sup>142</sup> Dziegielewski, et. al. *Commercial and Institutional End Uses of Water*. 2000. American Water Works Association Research Foundation.

## 1 *Technical Feasibility*

2 All of the practices, products and technologies described in this report section have been in  
3 existence for an extended period of time and found to be technically feasible. In each case,  
4 however, economic feasibility must be evaluated within the context of the physical condition and  
5 demands of the specific property or building being considered for high-efficiency sanitary  
6 fixtures and fixture fittings.

7

## 8 **Toilet Fixtures (Water Closets)**

### 9 **Overview**

10 The Energy Policy Act (EPAAct) of 1992 established the maximum allowable flush volume for  
11 gravity tank-type, pressure assisted, electromechanical hydraulic, and flushometer-valve-type  
12 toilets sold in the United States at 1.6 gallons per flush (gpf)<sup>143</sup>. The maximum flush volume for  
13 blow-out toilets, used primarily in locations subject to high traffic or heavy use (stadiums and  
14 other event venues), was set at 3.5 gpf. However, blow-out toilets<sup>144</sup> are no longer permitted in  
15 California. Due to the long useful life of toilets<sup>145</sup>, many toilets in CII use today are older and  
16 have flush volumes exceeding 3.5 gpf.

17 California's CalGreen code<sup>146</sup>, effective beginning in 2011, limits effective flush volumes for  
18 toilets (water closets) to 1.28 gallons per flush<sup>147</sup> (gpf) in new construction and renovations. In  
19 addition, Senate Bill 407 (2009) requires that ALL other commercial facilities be equipped with  
20 toilets flushing at 1.6 gpf or less on or after January 1, 2019<sup>148</sup>.

21 Although most early versions of the toilet fixtures flushed at 1.6 gallons or less, they did not  
22 necessarily perform well and, thus, did not always result in satisfied customers and users. As a  
23 result of these early problems, the plumbing industry embarked upon fresh product development  
24 to improve performance and thereby restore customer confidence and satisfaction. Through  
25 extensive re-engineering of bowl hydraulics in the mid-1990s, manufacturers achieved  
26 significantly improved fixture performance. However, some fixtures remain today that do not  
27 meet user expectations for performance. As a result, the reputation of some early "low flow"  
28 toilet fixtures still exists, even though the products now available in the marketplace are superior

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<sup>143</sup> California preceded this date with its own mandate for the 1.6 gpf maximum by about 2 years.

<sup>144</sup> Blowout toilets are defined in the national standard ASME A112.19.2-2008/CSA B45.1-08 as follows: Blowout bowl — a non-siphonic water closet bowl with an integral flushing rim, a trap at the rear of the bowl, and a visible or concealed jet that operates with a blowout action.

<sup>145</sup> Generally, the economic life of toilets is assumed to be 20 years for gravity-fed fixtures, 25 years for pressure-assist fixtures, and 30 years for flushometer valve-bowl combinations. In all cases, the physical life of these fixtures (when properly maintained) will be longer.

<sup>146</sup> California Building Standards Commission (CBSC), 2010. California Green Building Standards Code – 2010 – CalGreen, CCR, Title 24, Part 11.

<sup>147</sup> Effective flush volume as defined in CBSC, 2010. An exception to the 1.28 gpf maximum can be proposed where the project applicant chooses the performance path rather than the prescriptive path for indoor water use. Refer to paragraph 5.303.2 in the code. Some jurisdictions mandate the 1.28 gpf maximum without exceptions.

<sup>148</sup> CUWCC, 2010. *Interaction Among AB715 (Laird 2007), SB407 (Padilla 2009), and CALGreen Building Standards*, August 26.

1 to those early versions. Unfortunately, this carry-over reputation still influences the decisions of  
2 facility managers and design professionals as they attempt to implement water efficient  
3 practices and replace older fixtures with new high-efficiency products. It is critical that facility  
4 managers use the information available today on fixture performance and durability to make  
5 their product purchase and replacement decisions. Performance information on many different  
6 models of toilets, gathered through independent laboratory testing, may be found at [www.map-](http://www.map-testing.com)  
7 [testing.com](http://www.map-testing.com).

### 8 Physical design and function

9 Two common types of toilet, or water closet, designs are installed in CII settings, including tank-  
10 type toilets and flushometer valve and bowl combination toilets.

11 *Tank-type toilets* are designed with a tank that stores and dispenses water to the toilet bowl to  
12 flush waste. Varieties of tank-type toilets include the standard gravity-fed units (found in most  
13 homes), pressure-assisted (also termed flushometer-tank toilets), and electrohydraulic-assisted  
14 toilets. Tank-type toilets are available as single, constant volume flushing models or as dual-  
15 flush models, which include a full flush for solids and a reduced flush for liquids. Tank-type  
16 toilets are commonly found in residential and light commercial settings.

17 *Flushometer valve and bowl combinations* are tankless fixtures with either wall- or floor-  
18 mounted bowls attached to a lever- or sensor-activated flushometer valve. The valve releases a  
19 specific volume of water at a high flow rate directly from the water supply line (at line pressure)  
20 to the bowl to remove (flush) waste. Unlike tank-type toilets, which store water in the tank to  
21 provide the necessary head pressure and flow to remove waste from the bowl, flushometer  
22 combinations instead rely upon larger diameter water supply piping and high water supply line  
23 pressures to remove waste. These fixtures are also available as single, constant volume  
24 flushing models, or as dual-flush models. Flushometer-valve-type toilets are used predominantly  
25 in public use facilities and high-use commercial settings.

26 A toilet flush can be actuated by manual mechanical levers, push buttons, or electronic sensors  
27 that trigger the flushing mechanism when a user has finished using the fixture. The hands-free  
28 sensors eliminate the need for human contact with the valve, but very often flush needlessly  
29 while the toilet is still in use<sup>149</sup> as well as at other times. Studies have shown that hands-free  
30 sensor-activated valves actually increase water use when replacing conventional manually  
31 activated valves. As such, sensors themselves provide no additional water-efficiency benefits;  
32 however, they provide health and sanitation benefits in public use facilities since they offer an  
33 entirely hands-free option.

34 User expectations for minimizing water use in a toilet operation: (1) flush the toilet bowl clear,  
35 (2) transport waste through drainlines to the sanitary sewer, (3) operate reliably, and (4) have a  
36 leak-proof discharge valve.

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<sup>149</sup> Known as “phantom flushes”

1 Operation and Maintenance

2 In addition to replacing all CalGreen non-compliant toilet fixtures within a building, facility  
3 managers can also reduce water use by taking simple steps to educate users on proper toilet  
4 use and maintenance:

- 5 • Train users to report continuously flushing, leaking, or otherwise improperly operating  
6 toilets to the appropriate management or maintenance personnel.
- 7 • Educate and inform users with restroom signage and other means to discourage the  
8 flushing of inappropriate objects such as feminine products, wrappers, or other trash.  
9 Train custodial staff on how to handle the inappropriate disposal of such objects.

10

11 *Tank-Type Toilets*

12 For optimum tank-type toilet operation, consider the following:

- 13 • Periodically check to ensure the fill valve is working properly and the water level is set  
14 correctly. Check to see if water is flowing over the top of the overflow tube inside of the  
15 tank. Ensure that the refill water level is set approximately ¼-inch below the top of the  
16 overflow tube by adjusting the float to a lower position if the water level is too high. If the  
17 toilet continues to run (fill) after the float is adjusted, replace the fill valve. In order to  
18 prevent changes in tank water levels due to line water pressure fluctuations, only replace  
19 existing fill valves with pilot-type fill valves.
- 20 • No less frequently than annually, check to ensure the flapper is not worn, a condition  
21 that will allow water to seep from the tank into the bowl and down the sewer. To perform  
22 this check, drop a dye tablet or several drops of diluted food coloring in the tank. After 10  
23 minutes, if the dye has leaked into the bowl, then check for a tangled chain in the tank or  
24 replace a worn flapper. If leaking does not subside after a flapper valve is replaced,  
25 consider replacing the flapper seat and overflow tube assembly, which could also be  
26 worn. Further information and tips may be found at  
27 [www.snwa.com/conserv/leaks\\_toilets.html](http://www.snwa.com/conserv/leaks_toilets.html).

28 *Flushometer Valve and Bowl Combinations*

29 For optimum flushometer-valve-type toilet operation, consider the following:

- 30 • No less frequently than annually, inspect diaphragm or piston valves in flushometer-  
31 valve-type toilets, and replace any worn parts. To determine if the valve is in need of  
32 replacement, determine the time it takes to complete a flush cycle. A properly  
33 functioning flush valve should not have a flush cycle longer than four seconds.
- 34 • If replacing valve inserts, confirm that the replacements are consistent with the valve  
35 manufacturer's specifications, including the rated flush volume. If replacing the entire  
36 valve, ensure it has a rated flush volume consistent with manufacturer specifications for  
37 the existing bowl, including the rated flush volume.
- 38 • Periodically check to ensure the control stop (which regulates the flow of water from the  
39 inlet pipe to the flushometer valve and is necessary for shutting off the flow of water

1 during maintenance and replacement of the bowl or valve) is set to a fully open position  
2 during normal operation.

- 3 • Upon installation of a flushometer toilet, adjust the flush volume in accordance with  
4 manufacturer's instructions to ensure optimum operation for the facility's specific  
5 conditions. Periodically inspect the flush volume adjustment screw to ensure the flush  
6 volume setting has not been modified from the original settings; if it has, it could change  
7 the water use and performance of the product.
- 8 • Ensure that the line pressure serving the fixture meets the minimum requirements of the  
9 fixture manufacturer (minimums are commonly specified as 35 psi).
- 10 • If installed, check and adjust automatic sensors to ensure proper settings and operation  
11 to avoid double or phantom flushing. Alternatively, remove sensor systems and replace  
12 with manually activated flush valves, which are shown to significantly reduce water  
13 consumption at the toilet.

#### 14 Retrofit Options

##### 15 *Tank-Type Toilets*

16 Avoid retrofitting existing tank-type toilets with displacement dams or bags, early-closing toilet  
17 flappers, or valves with different flush volumes, as these devices could impede overall  
18 performance and could require increased operation and maintenance. Do not attempt to convert  
19 a single-flush 1.6 gpf toilet fixture to a dual-flush fixture with an after-market device.

20 The installation and use of these devices and other retrofit products can seriously affect fixture  
21 performance and could void manufacturer warranties.

##### 22 *Flushometer Valve and Bowl Combinations*

23 In general, it is best to avoid valve retrofit options, such as valve inserts, that reduce the flush  
24 volume of flushometer-valve-type toilets. These products might not provide the expected  
25 performance when the original bowl is not hydraulically designed to function on a reduced flush  
26 volume. Double flushing commonly results when such a retrofit is made, negating any expected  
27 water use reduction. In addition, the use of these devices could void valve manufacturer  
28 warranties.

29 Dual-flush conversion devices are also available for flushometer toilets. These devices usually  
30 replace the existing flush valve handle with a handle that provides a reduced flush volume for  
31 liquids and a standard flush for solids<sup>150</sup>. It should be noted that two types of dual flush handles  
32 exist for such a retrofit, one in which the 'down' position of the handle activates a reduced flush  
33 and the 'up' position of the handle activates a full flush, and one with opposite positions. Water  
34 savings can be significantly different between the two types, inasmuch as the 'normal' flush  
35 action by most users is a 'down' activation. Before embarking upon a full-scale retrofit, test the

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<sup>150</sup> When considering this type of retrofit, verify that the product has been certified to either ASME A112.19.10 *Dual Flush Devices for Water Closets* or IAPMO PS 50-2008 *Flush Valves with Dual Flush Device for Water Closets or Water Closet Tank with an Integral Flush Valves with a Dual Flush Device*.



1 product on a select number of toilets to verify it achieves and maintains the desired  
2 performance.

3

#### 4 Replacement Options

5 Replace all toilets within the building to meet the California requirements as specified in  
6 CalGreen<sup>151</sup>.

#### 7 *Tank-Type Toilets*

8 When installing new tank-type toilets or replacing older, inefficient tank-type toilets in  
9 accordance with CalGreen requirements<sup>152</sup>, choose WaterSense labeled models  
10 ([www.epa.gov/watersense/products](http://www.epa.gov/watersense/products)). WaterSense labeled tank-type toilets are  
11 independently certified to have an effective flush volume of 1.28 gpf or less and pass a  
12 performance test to remove at least 350 grams or more of solid waste in a single flush.

#### 13 *Flushometer Valve and Bowl Combinations*

14 When installing new or replacing older, inefficient flushometer-valve-type toilets, choose models  
15 that are designed to use 1.28 gpf or less in accordance with the requirements of CalGreen.  
16 When considering 1.28 gpf or less flushometer toilets, carefully evaluate the physical conditions  
17 of existing drainlines and the availability of supplemental water flow upstream from the toilet  
18 fixtures to ensure that the conditions are appropriate for effective waste transport.

19 For maximum water savings and performance, purchase the flushometer valve and bowl in  
20 hydraulically matched combinations that are compatible in terms of their designed flush volume.  
21 A listing of matched and tested combinations may be found at [www.map-](http://www.map-testing.com/about/maximum-performance/flushometer.html)  
22 [testing.com/about/maximum-performance/flushometer.html](http://www.map-testing.com/about/maximum-performance/flushometer.html).

#### 23 Water Savings Potential

24 Water savings can be achieved by replacing existing 1.6 gpf and greater tank-type and  
25 flushometer toilets with high-efficiency models. Existing tank-type toilets can be replaced with  
26 WaterSense labeled high-efficiency toilets, which can save between 1,400 and 2,100 gallons of  
27 water per user per year. Flushometer models can be replaced with high-efficiency models  
28 functioning at 1.28 gpf or less. To estimate facility-specific water savings and payback, use the  
29 following information.

#### 30 *Current Water Use*

31 To estimate the current water use of an existing toilet, identify the following information and use  
32 Equation 1 below:

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<sup>151</sup> CBSC, 2010

<sup>152</sup> CBSC, 2010

- 1 • Flush volume of the existing tank-type toilet: Toilets installed after the mid 1970's
- 2 typically have standard flush volumes of 3.5 gpf or 5.0 gpf.<sup>153</sup> Toilets installed in
- 3 California in 1992 and later generally have standard flush volumes of 1.6 gpf.
- 4 • Average number of times the toilet is flushed per day: This figure depends upon the
- 5 facility's male to female ratio. Female occupants use toilets three times per day on
- 6 average, while male occupants use the toilet once per day on average.<sup>154</sup>
- 7 • Days of facility operation per year.

*Equation 1:*

$$\text{Water Use of a Toilet (gallons/year)} = \text{Flush Volume (gallons/flush)} \times \text{Number of Flushes (flushes/day)} \times \text{Days of Facility Operation (days/year)}$$

### *Water Use After Replacement*

To estimate the water use of a replacement tank-type toilet, use Equation 1, but substitute the flush volume of the replacement tank-type toilet. WaterSense-labeled toilets use no more than 1.28 gpf on average.

### *Water Savings*

Calculate the expected water savings by subtracting the water use after replacement from the current water use.

### *California Water Savings Potential*

An estimate of total potential statewide water savings that could result from the replacement of existing CII toilets with high-efficiency toilets was made in 2005<sup>155</sup>. That analysis estimated the savings potential as being between 26,000 and 38,000 acre-feet per year (AFY) of water.

Another 3,000 to 5,000 AFY could be saved through legislation, codes, and standards applied to new construction<sup>156</sup>.

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<sup>153</sup> North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources. May 2009. *Water Efficiency Manual for Commercial, Industrial and Institutional Facilities*. Page 28. [www.p2pays.org/ref/01/00692.pdf](http://www.p2pays.org/ref/01/00692.pdf)

<sup>154</sup> Amy, Vickers, *Handbook of Water Use and Conservation*, WaterPlow Press, 2001.

<sup>155</sup> California Urban Water Conservation Council, 2005. Evaluation of Potential Best Management Practices – High-Efficiency Plumbing Fixtures – Toilets and Urinals, November.

<sup>156</sup> Provisions for HETs were subsequently mandated by the California Building Standards Commission through the provisions of CalGreen.

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17  
18

1 **CASE STUDY – San Francisco Hotel**

2 Significant water savings and reductions in maintenance service calls resulted from a major toilet retrofit  
 3 project in the Park 55 Wyndham Hotel in downtown San Francisco. The hotel was originally constructed  
 4 in 1984 and opened for business as a Ramada Inn. With 1,012 guest rooms and 1,030 guest room toilet  
 5 fixtures, the Parc 55 is one of the largest hotels in the city. At the time of construction, all guest rooms  
 6 were fitted with 3.5 gallons per flush gravity-fed toilet fixtures.

7 In late 2007, hotel management undertook the toilet replacement project by selecting a pressure-assist  
 8 HET to replace the older non-efficient gravity-fed fixtures. The selected fixture functions at 1.0 gallon per  
 9 flush and was ideally suited to guest room use. In December 2007, the physical replacement of fixtures  
 10 began, concluding in October 2008, a rate of about 100 replacements per month.

11 At the conclusion of the retrofit project and after the 2008 holiday season, the per unit (or per guest room  
 12 toilet) reductions attributable to the retrofit program were determined as follows:

13 **Water Consumption – “Before” and “After” Replacement**

Water Consumption	
“BEFORE” - Water use prior to retrofit project (22 months – January 2006 to October 2007)	4,707 units per month <sup>157</sup> = 3,521,000 gallons per mo.
“AFTER” – Water use following retrofit project (8 months November 2008 to June 2009)	3,474 units per month = 2,598,000 gallons per mo.
Water use reduction – 1,030 guest room toilet fixtures <sup>158</sup>	1,233 units per month = 923,000 gallons per month
Water use reduction – per guest room toilet fixture	893 gallons per month = 10,700 gallons per year  (29 gallons per day)

14 The daily per fixture water savings of 29 gallons amounts to a savings of approximately \$170,000  
 15 annually on water and sewer charges at 2009 rates in San Francisco.

16 The secondary major benefit to the replacement program was the reduction in service calls to hotel  
 17 maintenance (and associated labor cost reductions), due to improved flush performance and fixture  
 18 reliability. Annually, the replacement is projected to reduce maintenance labor by several hundred hours  
 19 per year.

20  
 21

<sup>157</sup> A unit is equal to 100 cubic feet or 748 gallons, and is used for utility billing purposes.

<sup>158</sup> Savings based upon a nominal 90% occupancy

# 1 Urinal Fixtures

## 2 Overview

3 The Energy Policy Act (EPAAct) of 1992 established the maximum allowable flush volume for all  
4 urinals sold in the United States in 1994 or after as 1.0 gallons per flush (gpf). Many urinals in  
5 facilities nationwide were installed prior to 1994, and thus flush at higher rates, often between  
6 1.5 and 3.5 gpf.

7 Many urinal fixtures being installed today are high-efficiency urinals (HEUs). An HEU is defined  
8 as a fixture that flushes at 0.5-gallons or less. This definition includes existing 0.5-gpf urinals  
9 and non-water urinals as well as the one-quart (0.25 gpf) and one-pint (0.125 gpf) urinals  
10 currently available in the marketplace from several manufacturers.

11 California's CalGreen code<sup>159</sup>, effective beginning in 2011, effectively limits flush volumes for  
12 urinals to 0.5 gallons per flush<sup>160</sup> (gpf) in new construction and renovations, thus mandating  
13 HEUs as the only urinal design allowed.

14 A current listing of HEUs available in the marketplace may be found at: [www.map-  
15 testing.com/info/menu/urinals-and-heus.html](http://www.map-testing.com/info/menu/urinals-and-heus.html).

## 16 *Flushing Urinal*

17 A flushing urinal is defined in the American national standard as “a plumbing fixture that  
18 receives only liquid waste and conveys the waste through a trap seal into a gravity drainage  
19 system.”<sup>161</sup> Flushing urinals use water to remove (i.e., flush) the liquid waste from the fixture.  
20 Flushing urinals are available in several different designs and technologies. The most commonly  
21 used urinals found in California CII applications are *washdown (or washout) urinals* and *siphonic*  
22 *urinals*. Both require the user to depress a flush handle to activate a flushometer valve. Both  
23 types rely upon the supplied building water pressure for effective evacuation of waste. *Gravity*  
24 *tank-type urinals* are much less common and, similar to a tank-type toilet, rely upon the release  
25 of water stored in an in-wall cistern to provide the necessary head pressure to remove waste  
26 from the urinal. *Siphonic jet urinals* have an elevated flush tank and operate by using a siphon  
27 device to automatically discharge the tank's contents when the water level in the tank reaches a  
28 certain height. This type of urinal requires no user assistance.

29 Flushing urinals can be equipped with electronic sensors that activate the flushing mechanism  
30 when a user has finished using the fixture. Sensors that activate a urinal flush valve provide no  
31 additional water-efficiency benefits; however, they provide health and sanitation benefits in  
32 public use facilities because they offer a hands-free option. If not properly maintained, however,  
33 automatic flush sensors can cause double or 'phantom flushing' of the urinal, actually increasing  
34 the water used at a facility.

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<sup>159</sup> California Building Standards Commission (CBSC), 2010. California Green Building Standards Code – 2010 – CalGreen, CCR, Title 24, Part 11.

<sup>160</sup> Effective flush volume as defined in CBSC, 2010. An exception to the 0.5 gpf maximum can be proposed where the project applicant chooses the performance path rather than the prescriptive path for indoor water use. Refer to paragraph 5.303.2 in the code. Some jurisdictions mandate the 0.5 gpf maximum without exceptions.

<sup>161</sup> American Society of Mechanical Engineers. ASME A112.19.2-2008/CSA B45.1-08, *Ceramic Plumbing Fixtures*.

1 Flushing urinals come in two basic types—standard, single-user and trough-type, multi-user  
2 fixtures. Trough urinals are large fixtures designed for multiple users in high-traffic places, such  
3 as stadiums and sports arenas. Trough urinals are sold in 36-, 48-, 60-, and 72-inch lengths.  
4 Some older models were designed to run continuously, and consequently consumed large  
5 amounts of water. New trough urinals use flushometer valves on preset timers or they are  
6 equipped with electronic sensors.

#### 7 *Non-water urinal*

8 Some urinals do not use water to flush the liquid waste from the fixture. A non-water urinal is “a  
9 plumbing fixture that is designed to receive and convey only liquid waste through a trap seal into  
10 the gravity drainage system without the use of water for such function.”<sup>162</sup>

11 Most non-water urinals use a specially designed trap that allows liquid waste to drain out of the  
12 fixture, through a trap seal, and into the drainage system. Some use a cartridge that contains a  
13 liquid barrier seal to prevent the escape of odors and sewer gases. Other models feature  
14 cartridge-less designs that use a liquid barrier seal in the urinal’s trap. A third type uses a self-  
15 sealing mechanical waste valve trap that does not require a liquid barrier seal. Currently, U.S.  
16 plumbing codes prohibit these self-sealing mechanical trap designs.

17

#### 18 *Operation, Maintenance, and User Education*

##### 19 *Flushing Urinals*

20 For optimum flushing urinal performance, consider the following:

- 21 • No less frequently than annually, inspect the flushometer diaphragm or piston valves,  
22 and replace any worn parts. If replacing valve inserts, verify that the replacements are  
23 consistent with the valve manufacturer’s specifications, including the rated flush volume.  
24 If replacing the entire valve, ensure it has a rated flush volume consistent with  
25 manufacturer specifications for the urinal fixture itself. That is, the urinal fixture should  
26 be designed to function at the lower flush volume of the high-efficiency valve.
- 27 • Annually check and adjust automatic sensors, if installed, to ensure they are operating  
28 properly to avoid double or phantom flushing.
- 29 • Flushing urinals equipped with automatic flush sensors will often have an override  
30 switch, allowing maintenance personnel to activate the flush manually. Activating the  
31 override switch may release a larger volume of water than is typical for the standard  
32 flush. Train custodial and maintenance personnel on how to clean and maintain urinals  
33 with automatic flush sensors to ensure that the urinal is returned to its intended flush  
34 volume after maintenance operations are completed.
- 35 • Train users to report continuously flushing, leaking, or otherwise improperly operating  
36 urinals to the appropriate management or maintenance personnel.

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<sup>162</sup> American Society of Mechanical Engineers. ASME A112.19.19-2006, November 30, 2006, *Vitreous China Nonwater Urinals*, and International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials. February 19, 2004. IAPMO Z124.9-2004, *American National Standard for Plastic Urinal Fixtures*.

1 *Non-Water Urinals*

2 If non-water urinals are selected for the facility, regularly clean and replace the seal cartridges  
3 or other materials as specified by the manufacturer, and rigorously follow all other manufacturer-  
4 provided instructions. Proper maintenance is vital to long-term performance of non-water  
5 urinals. Furthermore, facility managers should be aware that non-water urinals are subject to  
6 rapid build-up of struvite<sup>163</sup> in the urinal drainline, which may lead to complete blockage of the  
7 drain. Preparation for such potential blockage issues must be accounted for making the  
8 decision to replace older water inefficient urinals with high-efficiency urinals (HEUs).  
9 Consideration should also be given to the enzyme products currently available in the  
10 marketplace for urinals; these tablets and pucks are specially formulated with the enzymes  
11 needed to forestall or prevent drainline buildup and, in some cases, the odors associated with  
12 non-water urinals.

13 *Retrofit Options*

14 In general, avoid aftermarket parts for urinal retrofits that are designed to reduce the flush  
15 volume of valves. This includes aftermarket flushometer valve inserts that result in a lower flush  
16 volume, unless those inserts are rated to provide a flush volume compatible with the existing  
17 urinal fixture. Confirm compatibility with the urinal fixture manufacturer, as many new urinal  
18 fixture models are designed to function at several different flush volumes. If the flush volume of  
19 the valve insert is not compatible with the urinal fixture, it may not provide the expected  
20 performance, potentially leading to double flushing.

21 *Replacement Options*

22 If feasible, replace all urinals in the building to meet the California requirements as specified in  
23 CalGreen<sup>164</sup>.

24 When installing new flushing urinals or replacing older, inefficient flushing urinals, choose  
25 WaterSense-labeled models ([www.epa.gov/watersense/products](http://www.epa.gov/watersense/products)). WaterSense-labeled  
26 flushing urinals have been independently tested and certified to function at no more than 0.5  
27 gpf. In addition, WaterSense-labeled flushing urinals must meet specific criteria for flush  
28 performance and drain trap functionality and they are designed to be non-adjustable above their  
29 rated flush volume. These features provide for the longevity of water savings. The WaterSense  
30 specification is applicable to the:

- 31 • Urinal fixtures
- 32 • Pressurized flushing devices that deliver water to urinal fixtures
- 33 • Flush tank (gravity-type) flushing devices that deliver water to urinal fixtures.

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<sup>163</sup> The inorganic mineral sediments found in non-water urinal plumbing drain pipes are comprised primarily of struvite (MgNH<sub>4</sub>PO<sub>4</sub>·6H<sub>2</sub>O) Magnesium Ammonium Phosphate Hexahydrate, also known as MAP. Other inorganic mineral sediments occur as well, such as Hydroxyapatite Ca<sub>5</sub>(PO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>3</sub>(OH) and Calcite (CaCO<sub>3</sub>) but at much lower concentrations. These sediments are soft, whereas sediments left in drainlines by flushing urinals are of entirely different material (calcite) and are hardened to the wall of the drainline and more difficult to remove. However, sediments resulting from flushing urinals require a much longer time than non-water urinals to build up and close off a drainline.

<sup>164</sup> CBSC, 2010

1 To ensure high performance and water savings, choose a valve and fixture combination with  
2 matching rated flush volumes.

### 3 *Drainline transport*

4 Non-water urinals can also be considered during urinal installation or replacement. When  
5 considering the installation of non-water urinals or very low volume flushing urinals (e.g., one  
6 pint per flush urinals), it is critical that the condition and design of the existing plumbing system  
7 be evaluated and the expected usage patterns be assessed in order to ensure that these  
8 products will meet the expectations of the facility manager and users. As a good rule of  
9 practice, adhere to the guidelines outlined in the IAPMO Green Plumbing and Mechanical Code  
10 Supplement<sup>165</sup>, which requires at least one water supply fixture unit (i.e., a faucet or some other  
11 water using fixture) to be installed on the drainline upstream of the urinal fixture drain to facilitate  
12 drainline flow and rinsing. Supplemental water or even periodic manual flushing of the  
13 drainlines is important because these non-water and very low volume urinals deliver little to no  
14 water to the drain to flush out any solids that may build up over time. It is also important to  
15 carefully adhere to manufacturer-recommended cleaning and maintenance requirements to  
16 ensure products continue to perform as expected.

### 17 *Savings Potential*

18 Water savings can be achieved by replacing existing flushing urinals with WaterSense labeled  
19 flushing urinals, which use no more than 0.5 gpf. If an older, existing flushing urinal is replaced  
20 with a WaterSense labeled model, a facility may save between 200 and 1,600 gallons of water  
21 per user per year. Assuming that the average urinal is flushed approximately 18 times per day  
22 and is in use 260 days per year, replacing a single inefficient 1.5 gpf flushing urinal with a  
23 WaterSense labeled 0.5 gpf model could save more than 4,600 gallons of water per year.  
24 However, a large number of HEUs being offered by various manufacturers function with one pint  
25 of water (0.125 gpf). The savings estimate should reflect the rated flush volume of the urinal  
26 selected.

27 To estimate facility-specific water savings and payback, use the following information:

### 28 *Current Water Use*

29 To estimate the current water use of an existing flushing urinal, identify the following information  
30 and use Equation 2 below:

- 31 • Flush volume of the existing urinal. Urinals installed prior to 1994 have flush volumes  
32 that typically range between 1.5 and 3.5 gpf. Urinals installed in 1994 or later generally  
33 have flush volumes of 1.0 gpf or less.
- 34 • Average number of times the urinal is flushed per day, which depends upon the number  
35 of male occupants in the building. Male occupants use the urinal two times per day on  
36 average.<sup>166</sup>

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<sup>165</sup> International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials, 2010. *Green Plumbing & Mechanical Code Supplement*. Page 9, February.

<sup>166</sup> Amy, Vickers, *Handbook of Water Use and Conservation*, WaterPlow Press, 2001.



- Days of facility operation per year.

Equation 2:

$$\text{Water Use of a Urinal (gallons/year)} = \text{Flush Volume (gallons/flush)} \times \text{Number of Flushes (flushes/day)} \times \text{Days of Facility Operation (days/year)}$$

### *Water Use After Replacement*

To estimate the water use of a replacement urinal, use the same equation, substituting the flow rate of the replacement urinal.

### *Individual Water Savings*

The expected water savings is determined by subtracting the water use after replacement from the current water use.

### *California Water Savings Potential*

An estimate of total potential statewide water savings that could result from the replacement of existing CII urinals with high-efficiency urinals was made in 2005<sup>167</sup>. That analysis estimated the savings potential to be between 20,000 and 24,000 acre-feet per year (AFY) of water.

Another 2,000 to 3,000 AFY could be saved through legislation, codes, and standards applied to new construction<sup>168</sup>.

## **Additional Resources and References**

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U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's WaterSense Program, 2011. *WaterSense Products*.

<http://www.epa.gov/watersense/product>

<sup>167</sup> California Urban Water Conservation Council, 2005. Evaluation of Potential Best Management Practices – High-Efficiency Plumbing Fixtures – Toilets and Urinals, November.

<sup>168</sup> Provisions for HEUs were subsequently mandated by the California Building Standards Commission through the provisions of CalGreen.

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3 **CASE STUDY – UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, IRVINE**

4 UC Irvine (UCI) is the first of the California university campuses participating in the Strategic Energy  
5 Partnership (SEP) to join with the local water utility to reduce potable water use. Through joint funding  
6 with the Irvine Ranch Water District (IRWD), UCI's Plumbing Shop retrofitted 70 toilets in high-traffic  
7 restrooms with High-Efficiency Toilets (HETs). The HETs use 1.28 gallons per flush compared to the 3.0  
8 gallons per flush used by the targeted toilets, equating to a 57 percent reduction in potable water  
9 consumption per toilet, totaling 2.6 million gallons and \$11,800 in annual savings.

10 UCI has also taken advantage of the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California's "Save Water –  
11 Save A Buck" program to retrofit 83 urinals with High-Efficiency Urinals (HEUs). The HEUs flush with one  
12 pint (0.125 gallons) of water compared to the 1.5 and 3.5 gallons per flush used by the targeted urinals  
13 that were removed. This resulted in an average 95 percent drop in potable water consumption per urinal,  
14 totaling 3.4 million gallons and \$15,700 in annual savings.

15 To determine the value of the water savings, UCI and IRWD commissioned a third party to calculate the  
16 average usage and savings per fixture based on the campus population and number of fixtures on  
17 campus. With this report and an audit of all the restrooms on campus, UCI developed a work plan to  
18 replace the most inefficient toilets and urinals in those restrooms that get the most traffic and then  
19 estimate the water savings resulting from such replacements. The result was an average savings per  
20 fixture that IRWD could use to calculate the incentive value and UCI could use to calculate the annual  
21 savings in their operating budget for water.

22

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23 **Shower Systems**

24 Overview

25 Residential-type showerheads are employed in a number of institutional and commercial  
26 applications, including dormitories, military housing, mixed-use commercial-residential projects,  
27 incarceration facilities, and transient lodging (hotels and motels). Specialized showers installed  
28 for safety purposes (eyewash and similar applications) are not included in this discussion.

29 Showerheads come in a variety of shapes, sizes, and configurations, including:

- 30 • *fixed showerheads*, affixed overhead and permanently attached to the wall;
- 31 • *handheld showerheads* attached to a flexible hose that can be detached from the wall  
32 and moved freely by the user; and
- 33 • *body sprays* (including spas and jets) that spray water onto the user from a direction  
34 other than overhead, usually from a vertical column on the shower wall.

35 Each type is uniquely suited to perform a specific function.

1 To reduce overall water use, the Energy Policy Act (EPA) of 1992 established the maximum  
2 allowable flow rate for all showerheads sold in the United States as 2.5 gallons per minute  
3 (gpm). California’s CalGreen code<sup>169</sup>, effective beginning in 2011, limits flow for residential  
4 showers to 2.0 gpm<sup>170</sup> in new construction and renovations. It also prohibits multiple-head  
5 shower systems.

6 Since this standard was enacted, manufacturers have designed and now market showerheads  
7 that use significantly less water, some as low as 1.0 gpm.

8 Recent consumer market research identified three key performance attributes that are  
9 necessary to ensure user satisfaction under a variety of conditions: flow rate across a range of  
10 pressures, spray force, and spray coverage. Each of these criteria can be tested using a  
11 specific protocol that measures accuracy and reliability. All three criteria must be met to produce  
12 a “satisfactory” shower without using more water.

### 13 Operation, Maintenance, and User Education

14 For optimum showerhead operation, system pressure should be tested to ensure that it is within  
15 the operating parameters of the showerhead, usually between 20 and 80 psi, necessary to  
16 ensure that the showerhead will deliver the expected flow and performance. In addition,  
17 consider the following:

- 18 • Verify that the hot and cold water plumbing lines to the showerhead are routed through a  
19 shower compensating valve that meets the temperature control performance  
20 requirements of the American Society of Sanitary Engineers (ASSE) 1016 or American  
21 Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) A112.18.1/Canadian Standards Association  
22 (CSA) B125.1 standards when tested at the flow rate of the showerhead installed<sup>171</sup>.  
23 The compensating valve will prevent against significant fluctuations in water pressure  
24 and temperature and can reduce risks of thermal shock and scalding. A plumber can  
25 verify the compatibility of the showerhead and shower valve and, if necessary, install a  
26 valve that meets the recommended standards for the flow rate of the showerhead.
- 27 • Periodically inspect showerheads for scale buildup to ensure flow is not being restricted;  
28 remove scale as needed.
- 29 • Train users to report leaking or malfunctioning showerheads to the appropriate  
30 maintenance or management personnel.

31

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<sup>169</sup> California Building Standards Commission (CBSC), 2010. California Green Building Standards Code – 2010 – CalGreen, CCR, Title 24, Part 11.

<sup>170</sup> Effective flush volume as defined in CBSC, 2010. An exception to the 0.5 gpf maximum can be proposed where the project applicant chooses the performance path rather than the prescriptive path for indoor water use. Refer to paragraph 5.303.2 in the code. Some jurisdictions mandate the 0.5 gpf maximum without exceptions.

<sup>171</sup> For example, a 1.5 gpm showerhead must be accompanied by a compensating valve rated and certified to the standard at 1.5 gpm in order to safely protect the bather.

1 Retrofit and Replacement Options

2 Because showerheads are relatively inexpensive, replacement is often more economical and  
3 practical than a retrofit. In general, avoid retrofitting existing inefficient showerheads with flow  
4 control inserts (which restrict water flow) or flow control valves (which can be activated to  
5 temporarily shut off water flow) to reduce the flow rate and save water. These devices may not  
6 provide adequate performance or physical safety in some facilities and can lead to user  
7 dissatisfaction.

8 In certain circumstances, single shower stalls may have been outfitted with multiple  
9 showerheads that can be activated simultaneously or individually by the user. In many cases,  
10 when these showerheads operate simultaneously, water consumption exceeds the federal  
11 maximum flow rate of 2.5 gpm for an individual showerhead. In such cases, the showering  
12 system can be retrofitted to operate individually rather than simultaneously, or so total  
13 consumption is equal to or less than 2.5 gpm at any given time.

14 When installing new showerheads or replacing older, inefficient showerheads, choose  
15 WaterSense-labeled models. WaterSense-labeled showerheads  
16 ([www.epa.gov/watersense/products](http://www.epa.gov/watersense/products)) are designed to consume 2.0 gpm or less, 20 percent  
17 more water-efficient than standard showerheads. In addition, WaterSense-labeled  
18 showerheads are independently certified to meet or exceed minimum performance  
19 requirements for spray coverage and intensity (force). WaterSense has established maximum  
20 and minimum flow rates at three different building line pressures: 80, 45, and 20 psi (the upper,  
21 mid, and lower range of potential household pressures)<sup>172</sup>. In addition to the pressure and flow  
22 rate requirements, WaterSense created criteria for spray coverage and intensity to ensure  
23 product performance under conditions of lower flow rates<sup>173</sup>. WaterSense-labeled showerheads  
24 are independently tested and certified to meet these criteria before they receive the label.

25 While remodeling, avoid purchasing and installing multiple showerheads systems unless the  
26 heads cannot be operated simultaneously *or* the total volume of water flowing from all  
27 showerheads is never greater than the 2.0 gpm maximum prescribed by CalGreen.

28

29 Savings Potential

30 If an older, existing showerhead is replaced with a WaterSense labeled model, a facility may  
31 save up to 1,200 gallons per showerhead per year. This replacement could result in payback in  
32 as little as one year.<sup>174</sup> To estimate facility-specific water savings use the following information:

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<sup>172</sup> The minimum flow rate is defined as a percent deviation from the maximum flow rate of the showerhead. For instance, the showerhead's flow rate at 20 psi cannot be less than 60 percent of the maximum flow rate (i.e., a showerhead with a maximum rated flow rate of 2.0 gpm will not flow at less than 1.2 gpm even in a living unit with very low water pressure).

<sup>173</sup> WaterSense requires that minimum spray force shall not be less than 2.0 ounces (0.56 newtons [N]) at a pressure of  $20 \pm 1$  psi ( $140 \pm 7$  kPa) at the inlet when water is flowing. Also, the total combined maximum volume of water collected in the 2- and 4-inch annular rings shall not be less than 25 percent or more than 75 percent of the total volume of water collected.

<sup>174</sup> U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's WaterSense Program. March 4, 2010. *WaterSense Specification for Showerheads Supporting Statement*. [www.epa.gov/watersense/docs/showerheads\\_finalsuppstat508.pdf](http://www.epa.gov/watersense/docs/showerheads_finalsuppstat508.pdf)

1 *Current Water Use*

2 To estimate the current water use of an existing showerhead, identify the following information  
3 and use Equation 3 below:

- 4 • Flow rate of the existing showerhead. Showerheads installed since 1994 will usually flow  
5 at 2.5 gpm or less. Older showerheads may flow as high as 3 to 5 gpm. A simple  
6 measurement with a calibrated device can be used to determine the flow.
- 7 • Average duration of each shower. The average shower duration is approximately 8  
8 minutes.<sup>175</sup>
- 9 • Average number of showers each person takes per day (usually 1).
- 10 • Number of building occupants.
- 11 • Days of facility operation or residency per year.

12  
13 *Equation 3:*

14 Current Water Use of a Showerhead (gallons/year) = Flow Rate (gallons/minute) X Duration of Use  
15 (minutes) X Uses per Person per Day X Number of Building Occupants X Days of Operation (days/year)

16  
17 *Water Use After Replacement*

18 To estimate the water use of a replacement WaterSense labeled showerhead, use Equation 3,  
19 substituting the rated flow rate of the replacement showerhead. WaterSense labeled  
20 showerheads use no more than 2.0 gpm.

21 *Water Savings*

22 The expected water savings is determined by subtracting the water use after replacement from  
23 the current water use.

24  
25 **Additional Resources and References**

26 Alliance for Water Efficiency, 2011. Residential Shower and Bath Introduction.  
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36

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<sup>175</sup> Peter W. Mayer and William B. DeOreo. 1998. *Residential End Uses of Water.* Aquacraft, Inc. Water Engineering and Management. American Water Works Association. Page 102.

# 1 **Faucets**

## 2 Overview

3 Faucets can be found in restrooms, kitchens, break rooms, and service areas in all CII  
4 applications. Lavatory—or restroom— faucets are designed for either private or public use.  
5 Private use faucets are generally found in homes, hotel guest rooms, dorms, barracks, and  
6 hospital patient rooms. Public use lavatory faucets are found in all other applications and are  
7 intended for unrestricted use by more than one individual (i.e., employees, visitors, or other  
8 building occupants) in facilities such as public restrooms in offices, malls, schools, restaurants,  
9 or other commercial, industrial, or institutional buildings. Different code requirements apply to  
10 public and private applications as noted below.

11 When it comes to improving faucet water efficiency in lavatories, there are two different ways to  
12 apply technology: optimizing faucets and using faucet accessories. A faucet accessory is  
13 defined as a component that can be added, removed, or replaced easily and, when removed,  
14 does not prevent the faucet from functioning properly<sup>176</sup>. Faucet accessories include flow  
15 restrictors, flow regulators, aerators, and laminar flow devices<sup>177</sup>. While faucet accessories can  
16 be incorporated into new faucet design to control the flow rate, most often, accessories are  
17 external components that attach to an existing faucet's end spout.

18 In addition to typical, hand-operated components, lavatory faucets can also be equipped with  
19 automatic sensors to trigger the on/off mechanism when a user places their hands under and  
20 removes them from the fixture. It is important to note that automatic sensors do not provide  
21 additional water savings when compared to manually operated faucets<sup>178</sup>, but provide important  
22 health and sanitary benefits as a hands-free option. Some jurisdictions mandate the use of  
23 automatic sensors by code in certain applications for sanitary reasons.

24 Some restrooms can also be equipped with metered or self-closing faucets. Metered faucets,  
25 when activated by the user, dispense a pre-set amount of water before shutting off. Self-closing  
26 faucets, operated with a spring-loaded knob or other mechanical device, automatically shut the  
27 water off when the user releases the knob or lever.

28 The standard flow rate of a faucet is dictated by its intended end use, as described below:

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<sup>176</sup> American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) A112.18.1/Canadian Standards Association (CSA) B125.1  
*Plumbing Supply Fittings*

<sup>177</sup> Aerators may be added to faucets to entrain air, reduce splash, and reduce the water flow. Common aerator flow rates are 0.5, 1.0, and 2.2 gpm. Aerators are circular screen disks attached to the faucet end spout. Vandal- and tamper-proof aerators should be installed in non-residential buildings. Aerators with manual flow adjustment are available for kitchen faucets. Because aerators entrain air that may insert pathogens into the water stream, and the pathogens may reside on the internal aerator screens, aerators should not be used in medical facilities. California regulations prohibit aerator use in hospitals, but laminar-flow restrictors may be used to prevent splash and reduce flow without air entrainment.

<sup>178</sup> Gauley, Bill and John Koeller. March 2010. *Sensor-Operated Plumbing Fixtures, Do They Save Water?* In most cases, automatic sensors open the faucet valve completely when in use, whereas users of manually controlled faucets typically do not turn the tap fully on. All independent studies performed to date of faucet use in non-residential applications show that water use is significantly higher at installations equipped with sensor activation when compared to traditionally manually operated faucets.

1 *Private Use Lavatory Faucets*

2 The Energy Policy Act (EPAcT) of 1992 originally established the maximum flow rate for all  
3 private use lavatory faucets sold in the United States as 2.5 gallons per minute (gpm) at 80 psi  
4 of line pressure. In 1994, the ASME A112.18.1 national standard lowered the maximum flow  
5 rate for lavatory faucets and lavatory faucet replacement aerators to 2.2 gpm at 60 psi in  
6 response to industry requests for conformity with a single standard. In 1998, the U.S.  
7 Department of Energy (DOE) adopted the 2.2 gpm at 60 psi maximum flow rate standard for all  
8 faucets (see 63 FR 13307; March 18, 1998). This national standard is codified in the *U.S. Code*  
9 *of Federal Regulations* at 10 *CFR* Part 430.32. *Public Use Lavatory Faucets*

10 *Public Use Lavatory Faucets*

11 The ASME A112.18.1 American national standard was further amended in the mid-1990s to  
12 change the maximum flow rate for public faucets to 0.5 gpm; the three major model plumbing  
13 codes<sup>179</sup> all incorporated that standard by reference. Though not a federal regulation, 0.5 gpm  
14 became the national maximum permitted flow rate in all public use applications governed by one  
15 of the three plumbing codes, irrespective of EPAcT. Despite these code requirements, many old  
16 and new public use faucets still possess higher flow rates, typically between 2.0 and 2.5 gpm in  
17 violation of the prevailing national standard and implementing plumbing codes.

18 *Metering Faucets*

19 Metering faucets are frequently found in public use applications, especially in high-traffic volume  
20 rest rooms. EPAcT of 1992 further addresses these types of faucets and sets a maximum water  
21 use of 0.25 gallons per cycle (gpc). It is important to note that there is no maximum flow rate  
22 per minute for metering faucets<sup>180</sup>.

23 *Kitchen Faucets*

24 Similar to lavatory faucets, EPAcT 1992 originally established the maximum allowable flow rate  
25 for kitchen faucets as 2.5 gpm at 80 psi pressure. The ASME A112.18.1/CSA B125.1 national  
26 standard lowers the maximum flow rate for kitchen faucets and kitchen faucet replacement  
27 aerators to 2.2 gpm at 60 psi (CalGreen at 1.8 gpm at 60 psi). In response to industry requests  
28 for conformity with a single standard, DOE adopted the 2.2 gpm at 60 psi maximum flow rate  
29 standard for all faucets in 1998 (see 63 FR 13307; March 18, 1998). This national standard is  
30 codified in the *U.S. Code of Federal Regulations* at 10 *CFR* Part 430.32.

31 Thus far, national codes and voluntary standards have not attempted to further address the  
32 efficiency of kitchen sink faucets because their use is largely volume-dependent. State and  
33 local jurisdictions have, in some cases, adopted lower threshold maximums. However, lowering  
34 the flow rate of kitchen faucets could lead to increased wait times for filling containers or for  
35 receiving hot water, which would affect performance and likely create user dissatisfaction.

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<sup>179</sup> International Plumbing Code (IPC), Uniform Plumbing Code (UPC), and National Standard Plumbing Code (NSPC)

<sup>180</sup> While EPAcT, CalGreen, and the national standards and model codes all set a maximum quantity of water per cycle (event), there is no time period nor maximum flow rate specified. Therefore, one cycle of use could consist of operating for 15 seconds at 1.0 gpm and be fully compliant with EPAcT (12 seconds for CalGreen), OR operate for 30 seconds at 0.5 gpm (24 seconds for CalGreen), or any other combination that yielded a quantity of water at or below the prescribed maximum.

1 *Service Sink Faucets*

2 Sinks present in some facilities have purposes other than traditional kitchen or lavatory uses.  
3 These sinks can be found in janitorial closets, laundries, laboratories, classrooms, or other  
4 areas. There are no federal regulations limiting the flow rate of these faucets, but flow rate  
5 should be carefully considered with the intended end use, expected performance, and water  
6 efficiency in mind.

7 *Other Specialized Faucet Types*

8 In addition to the service sink faucets noted above, there are other faucet functions that do not  
9 fall within the regulated categories of lavatory and kitchen faucets and, as such, have no  
10 Federal maximum flow rate. For example, these include sinks used for removing make-up in a  
11 theater setting, sinks used for washing athletic gear in a gymnasium, and sinks used for bathing  
12 infants, all of which require higher flow rates to accomplish the intended tasks.

13 *CalGreen*

14 California's CalGreen code<sup>181</sup>, effective beginning in 2011, limits flow rates for faucets in new  
15 construction and renovations as follows<sup>182</sup>:

16	Lavatory faucets (non-residential)	0.4 gpm
17	Lavatory faucets (residential <sup>183</sup> )	1.5 gpm
18	Kitchen faucets	1.8 gpm
19	Metering faucets <sup>184</sup>	0.2 gallons/cycle

20 *Operation, Maintenance, and User Education*

21 For optimum faucet operation, test the system water pressure to ensure that it is between 20  
22 and 80 psi, necessary for the faucet to deliver the expected flow and performance. In addition,  
23 consider the following:

- 24 • Periodically inspect faucet aerators for scale and sediment buildup to ensure flow is not  
25 being restricted. Inspection should occur every 6 to 12 months, depending upon local  
26 water quality. Clean or replace the aerator or other spout end device, if necessary.
- 27 • If installed, check and adjust automatic sensors to ensure they are operating properly to  
28 avoid faucets from running longer or more frequently than necessary.
- 29 • Post materials in restrooms and kitchens to educate users of the facility's water-  
30 efficiency goals. Remind users to turn off the tap when they complete their use.

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<sup>181</sup> California Building Standards Commission (CBSC), 2010. California Green Building Standards Code – 2010 – CalGreen, CCR, Title 24, Part 11.

<sup>182</sup> An exception to the faucet maximums can be proposed where the project applicant chooses the performance path rather than the prescriptive path for indoor water use. Refer to paragraph 5.303.2 in the CalGreen code.

<sup>183</sup> Applies to residential uses within an institutional setting and to residential within mixed use commercial structures.

<sup>184</sup> No gpm flow rate maximum.



- 1 • Train users to report continuously running, leaking, or otherwise malfunctioning faucets  
2 to the appropriate maintenance or management personnel.
- 3 • Do not use running water to thaw food products and discourage this practice in food  
4 service operations.

5

### 6 Retrofit and Replacement Options

7 To retrofit or replace an existing faucet to increase water efficiency, consider the following:

- 8 • For lavatory faucet retrofits in public restrooms, install faucet aerators or laminar flow  
9 devices that function at no more than 0.4 gpm, the CalGreen maximum.
- 10 • For lavatory faucet retrofits in private restrooms, look for WaterSense labeled lavatory  
11 faucets and faucet accessories (aerators or laminar flow devices)  
12 (<http://www.epa.gov/watersense/products>), which have flow rates of 1.5 gpm or less at  
13 60 psi and no less than 0.8 gpm at 20 psi and are compliant with CalGreen.
- 14 • For kitchen faucet retrofits, install aerators or laminar flow devices that achieve a flow  
15 rate of no greater than 1.8 gpm in accordance with CalGreen.
- 16 • Install temporary shut-off or foot-operated valves for kitchen faucets and faucets in food  
17 service operations. These valves close during intermittent activities such as scrubbing or  
18 dishwashing. The water flow can be reactivated at the previous temperature without the  
19 need to remix hot and cold water.
- 20 • For all faucet retrofits in medical facilities (including medical research and patient care  
21 facilities), install laminar flow devices instead of faucet aerators. Since laminar flow  
22 faucets do not inject air into the water, there is a lower risk of bacterial contamination.<sup>185</sup>
- 23 • For service sinks and specialized applications, install retrofit devices that reduce the  
24 water flow, but without inhibiting the function of the sink (i.e., if the sink's function is  
25 volume dependent, do not reduce faucet flow rate to the point that it has to be used  
26 significantly longer).

27

### 28 Savings Potential

29 Water savings for both private and public use lavatory faucets can be achieved by retrofitting  
30 existing faucets with aerators or replacing existing faucets. The same amount of water savings  
31 can be expected for a retrofit or replacement; however, retrofitting existing faucets with aerators  
32 will yield the shortest payback period due to minimal costs. Retrofitting private use lavatory  
33 faucets used in dorms, barracks, hotels or hospital patient rooms with WaterSense-labeled  
34 faucet accessories (such as an aerator) may save a facility between 160 and 220 gallons of  
35 water per user per year. Since WaterSense-labeled faucet accessories typically cost less than  
36 \$10, these devices normally pay for themselves in less than one year. At the same time,  
37 retrofitting public use faucets to reduce the flow rate to the CalGreen maximum of 0.4 gpm could  
38 save a facility between 150 and 600 gallons of water per user per year.

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<sup>185</sup> Federal Energy Management Program. Water Management Training, Faucets and Showerheads.  
<http://femptraining.labworks.org/mod/resource/view.php?id=60>

1 To estimate facility-specific water savings and payback, use the following information:

2 *Current Water Use*

3 To estimate the current water use of an existing lavatory faucet, identify the following  
4 information and use Equation 4 below:

- 5 • Flow rate of the existing lavatory faucet. Faucets installed in 1996 or later generally  
6 have flow rates of 2.2 gpm or less (commercial applications may be as low as 0.5 gpm).  
7 Faucets installed between 1994 and 1996 generally have flow rates of 2.5 gpm or less.  
8 A simple measurement with a calibrated device can be used to determine the existing  
9 flow.
- 10 • Average daily use time. The average residential lavatory faucet use is approximately 8  
11 minutes per person per day.<sup>186</sup> For commercial and industrial applications, usage is  
12 approximately one-fourth of that amount.
- 13 • Number of building occupants.
- 14 • Days of facility operation per year.

16 *Equation 4:*

$$\text{Water Use of a Faucet (gallons/year)} = \text{Flow Rate (gallons/minute)} \times \text{Daily Use Time (minutes/day)} \times \\ \text{Number of Building Occupants} \times \text{Days of Facility Operation (days/year)}$$

20 *Water Use After Retrofit or Replacement*

21 To estimate the water use after retrofitting or replacing an existing faucet with a water-efficient  
22 model or aerator, use Equation 4, substituting the flow rate of the retrofit or replacement.  
23 WaterSense labeled aerators use no more than 1.5 gpm. Manually operated public use lavatory  
24 faucets can be retrofitted with 0.5 gpm aerators.

25 *Water Savings*

26 The expected water savings is determined by subtracting the water use after replacement from  
27 the current water use.

28

29 **Additional Resources and References**

30 Alliance for Water Efficiency. Faucet Fixtures Introduction.  
31 [www.allianceforwaterefficiency.org/Faucet\\_Fixtures\\_Introduction.aspx](http://www.allianceforwaterefficiency.org/Faucet_Fixtures_Introduction.aspx)

32 California Building Standards Commission (CBSC), 2010. California Green Building Standards Code – 2010 –  
33 CalGreen, CCR, Title 24, Part 11. [www.bsc.ca.gov/CALGreen/default.htm](http://www.bsc.ca.gov/CALGreen/default.htm)

34 Gauley, Bill and John Koeller, 2010. *Sensor-Operated Plumbing Fixtures – Do They Save Water?* for Hillsborough  
35 County, Florida, March

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<sup>186</sup> Mayer, Peter W., and DeOreo William B. 1998. *Residential End Uses of Water*. Aquacraft, Inc. Water Engineering and Management. American Water Works Association.

- 1 New Mexico Office of the State Engineer, 1999. *A Water Conservation Guide for Commercial, Institutional and*  
2 *Industrial Users*. Pages 33-37, July.
- 3 North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources, 2009. *Water Efficiency Manual for Commercial,*  
4 *Industrial and Institutional Facilities*. Pages 36, May. [www.p2pays.org/ref/01/00692.pdf](http://www.p2pays.org/ref/01/00692.pdf)
- 5 North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources. *Water Management Options for Kitchen and*  
6 *Food Preparation*. [www.northgeorgiawater.com/files/Water\\_Management\\_Options-](http://www.northgeorgiawater.com/files/Water_Management_Options-Kitchen_and_Food_Preparation.pdf)  
7 [\\_Kitchen\\_and\\_Food\\_Preparation.pdf](http://www.northgeorgiawater.com/files/Water_Management_Options-Kitchen_and_Food_Preparation.pdf)
- 8 Sydney Water, no date. The Conserver-Business Bulletin: *Invisible Modification Reduces Residential College's Water*  
9 *Consumption by 40 Percent*.
- 10 [www.sydneywater.com.au/Publications/CaseStudies/StAndrewsCollegeConserver3.pdf](http://www.sydneywater.com.au/Publications/CaseStudies/StAndrewsCollegeConserver3.pdf)
- 11 U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's WaterSense Program. *WaterSense Products*.  
12 [www.epa.gov/watersense/product](http://www.epa.gov/watersense/product)

# 1 **7C7: Pools and Spas**

## 2 **Background**

3 Pools, spas, and ornamental fountains with recirculating filtration and disinfection equipment  
4 can be found at homes, schools, gymnasiums, hotels, apartments, public parks, water parks,  
5 hydrotherapy pools, and businesses. These features provide recreational opportunities and  
6 aesthetic and artful attractions that can benefit the community.

7 According to one recent study, over 90 percent of all in-ground pools and almost all above-  
8 ground pools and hot tubs are in residential settings, and thus represent the most significant  
9 portion of water use in this sector. According to a 2009 Kenilworth Media, Inc. study<sup>187</sup>, there  
10 are 5.1 million in-ground pools, 3.7 above-ground pools, and 6.6 million hot tubs in the United  
11 States. In 2007, approximately 131,000 new in-ground pools were sold with the Southwest  
12 (California, Nevada, Arizona, and Utah) accounting for 23 percent of sales nationally.  
13 Commercial pools (apartments, hotels, and motels) and public pools account for only three (3)  
14 percent of existing pools, but these commercial and institutional pools are the largest in size and  
15 water capacity. While the number of ornamental fountains is much smaller, they use essentially  
16 the same type of filtration and disinfection technology as pools.

17 According to the California Urban Water Conservation Council's report, **Evaluation of Potential**  
18 **Best Management Practices - Pools, Spas, and Fountains Purpose**, the number of  
19 commercial and institutional pools including apartment complex pools in California is estimated  
20 to be 115,100 (Table 1.). The report further estimates that there are 1.4 million hot tubs in  
21 California. If 90 percent of these hot tubs are residential, then there may be as many 140,000  
22 commercial hot tubs in the state.

23

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<sup>187</sup> Pool & Spa Marketing, March 2009 [www.poolspamarketing.com](http://www.poolspamarketing.com)

<sup>2</sup> Evaluation of Potential Best Management Practices - Pools, Spas, and Fountains

Purpose, California Urban Water Conservation Council, September, 2010

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Table 1. Estimated Number of Pool and Spa Facilities in California	
Type	Number
Hot Tubs	1,400,000
In-ground Pools (residential)(single family)	1,062,000
In-ground Pools (multi-family, apartment)	50,000
In-ground Pools (commercial, public)	55,000
In-ground Pools (hotels & lodging)	10,000
Above-ground Pools (residential)	1,000,000
Olympic Pools	100
TOTAL (estimated)	3,577,100

2

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4 This document describes water use by commercial and institutional pools, spas, and fountains,  
 5 and it focuses on ways to achieve a higher degree of water use efficiency including information  
 6 on: (1) evaporation, (2) filtration, (3) leaks, people use, and maintenance, and (4) total dissolved  
 7 solids control.

8 **Overview**

9 Water use is the common denominator for swimming pools, hot tubs, splash pools, ornamental  
 10 fountains, and similar water features. Although some "fill and dump" type systems (dumped and  
 11 refilled ever day or two) are still unfortunately found, the use of recirculating filtration and  
 12 disinfection equipment has been the industry standard for years. The few existing fill and dump  
 13 facilities are being eliminated, so this report concentrates on pools, fountains, and other facilities  
 14 equipped with recirculation systems.

15 Evaporation, backwash, control of total dissolved solids - TDS, and cleaning and vacuuming of  
 16 pools all are common, necessary elements associated with pools and fountains. Leaks, poor  
 17 chemical and equipment maintenance, drag and splash-out, and other wasteful practices all  
 18 result in preventable water loss.

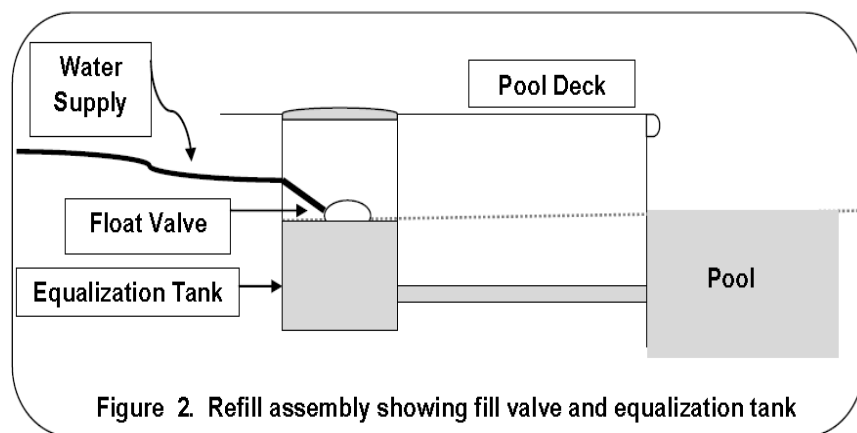
19 The first step in understanding how to reduce water use for pools, hot tubs, fountains or water  
 20 features is to examine how modern systems work. Components of a modern recirculating  
 21 system include a strainer, filter, pump, dump valve and intake (drain and skimmer), return flow  
 22 connections, and piping. Figure 1 illustrates these features for a typical swimming pool. The  
 23 illustration represents perhaps the most complicated type of system since it includes a heater.

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**Figure 1. Diagram of a Swimming Pool Mechanical System**

The overflow and fill system of a pool can include perimeter-type overflow gutters, surface skimmers, other surface water collecting system components, and their interconnecting piping. Most pools are also equipped with an equalization tank that operates at the same level as the water in the pool, providing a place that is separate from active pool use so it is not turbulent. The equalization tank prevents the fill or float valve from bouncing around when the pool is in use, which would result in wasting water. Figure 2 illustrates such an equalization tank and float valve.



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The fill valve is most often a simple float assembly, but other water level devices, ranging from sonic sensors to elevation pressure sensors, are available. Pool overflows are usually simple stand pipes or overflow thresholds that allow water to flow freely into the sanitary sewer or drain when the prescribed water level is exceeded.

The type and size of pools and spas varies depending on intended use and location. With the exception of official Olympic pool dimensions, there is no "standard size." However, Table 2 summarizes a "typical size" for pools and spas for various intended uses ranging from above-ground residential pools to public pools to hot tubs.

Type of Facility	Area Sq. Ft.	Depth Feet	Volume Gallons
Hot tub	40	3	1,122
Above-ground	252	4	7,540
In-ground residential (single family)	450	4.5	15,147
In-ground apartment	800	4.5	26,928
In-ground hotel	1,000	4.5	33,660
In-ground public	4,000	5	149,600
Olympic	14,432	8	863,611

\* Based upon examination of multiple pool installer web sites and conversation with officials from the Association of Pool and Spa Professionals - Southern California Chapter.

12  
13

1 **Equipment and Design Options**

2 Pools, spas, and fountains with recirculation equipment have many ways in which water is  
3 consumed, including:

- 4 1. Evaporation
- 5 2. Leaks
- 6 3. Splash out
- 7 4. Disinfection, cleaning and maintenance and water quality control
- 8 5. Filter operations

9  
10 Controlling these losses is critical to reducing water use, and especially to reducing waste.  
11 Likewise, good pool maintenance is essential. The trilogy for maintaining water quality is  
12 filtration, sanitation (disinfection and pool cleaning), and circulation (keeping the water  
13 circulating through the filter and disinfectant feed system).

14 **Evaporation**

15 Evaporation occurs naturally from all water surfaces. Evaporation includes natural evaporation  
16 and evaporation from indoor heated pools and hot tubs.

17 Natural evaporation: In California, evaporation ranges from 40 inches per year in the northwest  
18 to 140 inches per year in the in the southeastern portion of the state along the Arizona border.  
19 In the populated areas where most of the pools and fountains are located, the evaporation rates  
20 are in the range of 50 inches to 75 inches per year, or 0.085 to 0.128 gallons per square foot  
21 per day.

22 The size of the pool surface area and its location will determine how much evaporation occurs  
23 naturally. Pool and hot tub sizes range from 40 square feet for hot tubs to over 14,432 square  
24 feet for Olympic pools. Table 4 summarizes natural evaporation from pools in various locations  
25 across California.

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**Table 4. Approximate Average Annual Evaporation from Pools and Hot Tubs (gallons/year)**

Typical Pool Area Square Feet		Pool Size (surface area in square feet)						
		40	252	450	800	1,000	4,000	14,432
City	Natural Evaporation (inches per year)	Hot tub	Above-ground pool	In-ground residential	In-ground apartment	In-ground hotel	In-ground public	Regulation Olympic
Sacramento	65	6,278	10,210	18,233	32,413	40,517	162,067	584,737
San Francisco	50	6,278	7,854	14,025	24,933	31,167	124,667	449,797
Berkeley	60	6,278	9,425	16,830	29,920	37,400	149,600	539,757
Fresno	75	6,278	11,781	21,038	37,400	46,750	187,000	674,696
Los Angeles	60	6,278	9,425	16,830	29,920	37,400	149,600	539,757
San Diego	60	6,278	9,425	16,830	29,920	37,400	149,600	539,757
Bakersfield	75	6,278	11,781	21,038	37,400	46,750	187,000	674,696
California Average	63.6	6,278	9,986	17,832	31,701	39,626	158,505	571,885
Source: <u>Evaluation of Potential Best Management Practices - Pools, Spas, and Fountains</u> <u>Purpose</u> , California Urban Water Conservation Council, September, 2010								

1

2 A 2008 NRDC report<sup>188</sup> states that only about 10 percent of pools nationally are heated. By  
 3 contrast, hot tubs are nearly always heated. Table 5 provides estimates of water loss from  
 4 heated indoor pools, spas, and hot tubs. As the data show, most heated swimming pool  
 5 evaporation rates are similar to pan evaporation rates of 0.085 and 0.128 gallons per square  
 6 foot per day. The exception is the hot tub, which has a significantly higher evaporation rate of  
 7 0.41 to 0.45 gallons per square foot per day. Therefore, the average pan evaporation rate of  
 8 63.6 inches or 0.109 gallons per square foot per day is used for all pools and 0.43 gallons per  
 9 square foot per day is used for hot tubs.

10

<sup>188</sup> <http://www.scribd.com/doc/17720453/NRDC-Report-Synergies-in-Swimming-Pool-Efficiency>

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Table 5. Evaporation from Heated Indoor Pools							
Type of indoor heated pool	Water temp °F	Air temp °F	Evaporation Factor (gal/hr/sq ft)		Activity Factor	Gal/day/ Sq ft at 60% humidity	Gal/day/ Sq ft at 50% humidity
			60% humidity	50% humidity			
			Residential	85			
Hotel	82	84	0.019	0.026	1.3	0.07	0.10
Hot Tubs	104	88	0.071	0.079	2	0.41	0.45
Health/Competition	79	81	0.018	0.023	1.6	0.08	0.11
Heated Public	85	87	0.02	0.028	2	0.12	0.16

Source: Derived from Dehumidifier Corporation of America, Cedarburg WI<sup>189</sup>

4

5 One factor that results in evaporation from fountains and water features in pools is spraying.  
 6 Spraying creates additional water surface, which in turn, causes additional evaporation.  
 7 Although wetted surface and the sprays create surfaces of water from which evaporation  
 8 occurs, fountains and pools typically store the majority of their water in covered pool sumps,  
 9 thus significantly reducing evaporation when the spray features are not in use. Table 5  
 10 summarizes evaporation estimates for different size of pools taken from Table 1.

11 **Leaks**

12 All pools, hot tubs, fountains and water features are subject to leaks. The most common  
 13 locations for leaks are where the pool and pipes are joined, at separations along the pool top  
 14 and the bond beam, in the piping either on the suction or return lines to the filtration system, and  
 15 in the liner of the pool itself. Another area where leaks are found is around the pump seals such  
 16 as "O" rings. Installing a meter on the pool makeup line is the most effective way of monitoring  
 17 pool or fountain water use as well as for checking for leaks<sup>190</sup>. The cost of adding a meter on the  
 18 make-up line of a typical residential pool is under \$150 at the time of construction, but can  
 19 ultimately result in saving thousands of gallons of otherwise wasted water. For commercial and

<sup>189</sup> www.dehumidifiercorp.com

<sup>190</sup> This is not necessary on very small fountains pools, above-ground pools, or hot tubs, but if the pool or fountain holds over 10,000 gallons it should be considered.

1 public pools, and for larger water fountains containing 10,000 gallons of more, a makeup meter  
2 is essential to efficient operation and is strongly recommended for in-ground residential pools<sup>191</sup>.  
3 Some pool websites and pool “experts” suggest that if a pool is losing more than two inches of  
4 water per week, it may have a leak. For high evaporation areas, this threshold may be  
5 increased to three inches per week. Also, air bubbles in either the pump strainer basket or the  
6 water in the return line where the water enters the pool (even after three or four minutes of the  
7 pump running) may indicate that a leak exists in the suction side of the piping, resulting in  
8 sucking in air. The most obvious indicator of a pool leak is when wet spots appear around the  
9 pool, filter, or piping.

## 10 **Splash-Out Reduction**

11 “Splash-out” is the water lost as people in the pool cause water to move and splash against and  
12 over the sides. Similarly, “drag-out” is the water lost as swimmers exit the pool. The design of  
13 the edge of the pool and the “freeboard” or level of the pool water below both the edge and the  
14 top of the pool overflow help reduce water loss. One of the simplest ways to reduce splash-out  
15 is to set the pool level several inches lower than the edge of the pool and the overflow. In  
16 addition to reducing the amount of water splashed-out, this practice also allows for the retention  
17 of rainfall when it occurs. Some pool officials recommend retaining at least four inches of  
18 freeboard.

19 The other directly helpful design feature is beveling the edge of the pool so it slightly overhangs  
20 the edge. Doing so helps redirect splashes into the pool. It is important to remember, however,  
21 that the area slightly back from the pool edge must be raised in order to prevent dirty rainwater  
22 from flowing across the lawn and deck into the pool.

23

24 Most commercial pools and many residential pools have gutter and grate systems around the  
25 edge of the pool to catch splashes. These are troughs that are built into the wall of the pool  
26 and drain back into the pool or can be used as skimmer-type devices. Figure 3 illustrates such  
27 a device. The system shown here is a Duro Tech system<sup>192</sup>.

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<sup>191</sup> Owners and operators may also check for a leak in a pool by placing a five gallon bucket on a step in the pool where the bucket will be at least seventy percent submerged. The water supply to the pool should be turned off and the bucket filled to the exact same level as the water in the pool. After 12 to 24 hours, the bucket and pool water levels should be checked again. If there is no leak, the water levels should still be the same, but if the pool level is lower than the bucket level, it indicates that there is a leak below the water line of the pool. However, this method will not disclose leaks in plumbing above the water line.

<sup>192</sup> <http://www.renosys.com/duratech.html>

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**Figure 3. Pool Gutter and Grate System**



### **Disinfection and Water Quality Control**

Properly maintaining pool water quality saves in three ways.

1. It reduces the number of times the pool must be drained to maintain total dissolved solids levels.
2. It reduces the number of backwashes needed.
3. It reduces the potential for corrosion or other factors that can cause leaks.

***Disinfection:*** Disinfection is an absolute necessity for all pools, hot tubs, and ornamental recirculating fountains. Without it, the water would harbor harmful bacteria, grow algae, and require frequent dumping and refilling. The most common chemical used for disinfection is chlorine in one of its several forms. Larger pools sometimes use chlorine gas, while other pools may use chlorine that contains chemicals such as chloramines or sodium and calcium hypochlorite. These chemicals can come in powder, tablet, gas, or liquid form. Other chemical disinfections include iodine and bromine. Chlorine stabilizers, such as cyanuric acid, are frequently added to help retard the loss of chlorine.

A new type of chlorine disinfection system uses salt dissolved in the pool water and an electrolysis-type device to generate chlorine from that salt. These systems are called "salt pools" and require the addition of salt to keep total dissolved levels between 2,000 and 3,500 ppm for proper operation of the equipment. Exact numbers are not available, but the percent of all pools currently using this method is assumed to be very small.

1 Ozone and ultraviolet light (UV) have also found applications in pool disinfection. With recent  
2 concern for cryptosporidium in some commercial pools, systems that include precoat filters,  
3 such as perlite or diatomaceous earth (DE), followed by UV disinfection, have been installed in  
4 addition to chlorine disinfection.

5 Algaecides are sometimes used to control both green and mustard-type algae problems. Some  
6 of the first to be used were cooper compounds. While they work, they are toxic to plants and  
7 can stain pool surfaces. Quaternary ammonia compounds have been used successfully for a  
8 long time and do not have the plant toxicity of cooper if the pool water is ever to be used for  
9 irrigation.

10

1 Water Quality: Table 6 summarizes recommended minimum and maximum levels for constituents for  
 2 conventional swimming pools.

3

<b>Table 6. Recommended Ranges for Selected Parameters            for Conventional Swimming Pools<sup>193</sup></b>		
Constituent	Minimum*	Maximum*
<b>Total Dissolved Solids (TDS) - Regular Pools</b>	300 ppm	2,000 ppm
<b>Total Dissolved Solids (TDS) - Salt Pools</b>	2,000 ppm	3,500 ppm
<b>Cyan uric Acid</b>	10 ppm	100 ppm
<b>Free Chlorine</b>	3 ppm	10 ppm
<b>Hardness</b>	150 ppm @CaCO <sub>3</sub>	500ppm @CaCO <sub>3</sub>
<b>Total Alkalinity</b>	60 ppm @CaCO <sub>3</sub>	180 @CaCO <sub>3</sub>
<b>pH</b>	7.2	7.6

\*-ppm: parts per million and is equal to milligrams per liter (mg/L)

Source: Center for Disease Control (CDC), Healthy Housing Reference Manual

4

5 Maintaining proper pH, alkalinity, and hardness levels to reduce corrosion and prevent damage  
 6 to pool surfaces extends equipment and pool life and reduces the number of times pools must  
 7 be dumped and refilled. Total dissolved solids control is another major factor in how much  
 8 water is used in pool operations. All pools will eventually require the water to be either  
 9 exchanged or treated to remove dissolved contaminants in the pool, such as body salts, sun tan  
 10 lotions, other substances applied to the body, the salts in the chemicals added to the pool to  
 11 control biological growth, windblown dust and salts, and the increases in salt concentrations in  
 12 the pool water\ resulting from evaporation.

13 Maintaining proper balances within the pool chemistry not only benefit the comfort and health of  
 14 the swimme, they also indicate when it is time to exchange the water in the pool (dump and fill  
 15 the pool). Cleaning the pool and maintaining proper chemical balance and disinfection levels all  
 16 play a major role in delaying the time that the water in the pool must be exchanged.

17 In warmer climates, such as much of California and the southwest, pools are typically kept full  
 18 with circulation systems working year round. Some larger pools are equipped with conductivity  
 19 controllers that act to dump water at a predetermined level of total dissolved solids. These  
 20 systems have the advantage of not having to dump the entire pool, and they produce a frequent  
 21 source of water that could be used for irrigation or other purposes. In all of these cases, water

<sup>193</sup> <http://www.cdc.gov/nceh/publications/books/housing/cha14.htm>

1 with high dissolved solids is simply dumped to drain and replaced with fresh water. The volume  
 2 of water depends on four factors:

- 3 • The volume of the pool
- 4 • The dissolved solids in the makeup water
- 5 • The type and amount of treatment chemicals added
- 6 • The local evaporation rate.

7 Treatment chemicals, such as cyanuric acid, which is used to retard chlorine loss, can also build  
 8 up to unacceptable levels since it does not evaporate like chlorine. The use of calcium  
 9 hypochlorite tablets can add calcium hardness.



**Figure 4. Pool Reverse  
 Osmosis System**

In recent years, the use of Reverse Osmosis and Nanofiltration (RO and NF) have shown significant promise for reducing water lost through the necessary dumping of pool water to reduce dissolved minerals buildup. These products have become more sophisticated. For example, Clean Water Products<sup>194</sup> of Tucson, Arizona, one of the first in this market, reports that they can recover up to 78% of the water that was previously wasted.. In addition, as shown in Figure 4, the system is portable. Other companies throughout the Southwest are beginning to offer similar

20 services.

21 The same considerations hold for fountains, which often reach high TDS levels faster than  
 22 pools, because spraying and increasing evaporation rates. Finally, the Association of Pool and  
 23 Spa Professionals (APSA) recommends that hot tubs be drained several times a year.

24 Based on California evaporation rates and the water quality recommendations of the Center for  
 25 Disease Control, California pools would have to be dumped and refilled on an average of once  
 26 every 27 months.<sup>10</sup> Table 7 summarizes the water use implications for that.

Table 7. Water Typically Used to Control Total Dissolved Solids by Dumping Pool		
Type of Pool	Pool Volume	Gallons per year <i>(Dump every 27 months on average)</i>
Hot Tub	1,122	499

<sup>194</sup> [http://www.cleanwaterproducts.net/Swimming\\_Pools.html](http://www.cleanwaterproducts.net/Swimming_Pools.html)

Above Ground*	7,540	3,351
In Ground Residential	15,147	6,732
Apartment	26,928	11,968
Hotel/Motel	33,660	14,960
Public	149,600	66,489
Olympic	863,611	383,827

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## 2 Filtration Equipment

3 At the heart of all pool water treatment systems are filters to remove particulate matter from the  
 4 water and keep the water clear. The filter systems consist of a pump to circulate water and the  
 actual filter. All of these systems are normally preceded by strainer  
 baskets to catch larger debris both in the pool skimmers and just  
 before the pump, significantly extending the time between  
 backwashes and cleanings, saving both water and labor.



**Figure 5. Large Sand Filters a Public Pool**



There are three basic filter configurations. The most common filter in use for both residential and commercial pools is the sand filter.

Precoat filters (diatomaceous earth - DE, perlite, and cellulose) and cartridge filters have also gained ground in recent years. The precoat filters include industrial systems that can significantly reduce water use in larger facilities. Each is described below.

16 Sand and zeolite filters: Sand filters such as the two shown in Figure  
 17 5 are found in large commercial and public pools. As the name implies, they use sand or zeolite  
 18 as the filter medium. The water is pumped under pressure into the top of the filter. It passes  
 19 through the sand, which filters out particulates. As it operates, a layer of material filtered out of  
 20 the water builds up on the top of the sand bed. When the pressure difference from the top of  
 21 the bed to the bottom of the bed exceeds 8-10 pounds per square inch, the filter should be  
 backwashed.

22 Special valves allow this backwashing to happen. The water moves from the bottom of the filter  
 23 up through the filter material to the top, discharging the accumulated dirt. A sight glass is used  
 24 to determine when the dirt has been removed, which is revealed when the water in the sight  
 25 glass appears clear. Sand filters are used on all size pools. Larger pools can use horizontal  
 26 filters, which are simple tanks on their sides.

27 Cartridge filters: Cartridge filters use pleated paper-type material. The filter elements need  
 28 cleaning only a few times a year. Old, wasteful disposable filter cartridges should not be re-  
 29 used. However, modern re-usable cartridges need only to be washed off with a hose and  
 30 returned to the filter housing. Since these filters do not need to be backwashed, they are the



1 most water-efficient type available for all but the largest pools, and they are finding wide  
2 acceptance in the residential and smaller apartment pool market. Because they are water  
3 efficient, some local governments are encouraging their use.

4 According to a 2008 National Resource Defense Council report to the California Energy  
5 Commission<sup>195</sup>, properly sized cartridge filter systems use less energy than comparable sand  
6 and DE filters in home use.

7 Precoat filters: Precoat filters include conventional diatomaceous earth<sup>196</sup> (DE), cellulose<sup>197</sup>, or  
8 perlite<sup>198</sup> filters, as well as regenerative filters that reuse the filter media. These filters remove  
9 particles down to 5 microns in size, while sand and cartridge filters work in the 10- to 40-micron  
10 removal range<sup>199</sup>. Precoat filters have hundreds to sometimes over 1,000 fabric-coated tubes  
11 inside a pressure container. The filter media (DE, cellulose or perlite) is made into a slurry and  
12 mixed with the water in the filter. The media is then deposited on the tubes by the water being  
13 pumped through the filter. Conventional precoat filters must have the DE or perlite replaced  
14 after each backwash.

15 With regenerative precoat filters, the media is periodically “bumped” off of the filter tubes by  
16 backflow, air agitation, mechanical shaking, or a combination of the three. It is then recoated  
17 onto the filter cloth. Regenerative filters save significant volumes of water and filter media since  
18 the media can be recycled up to 30 times before it is ultimately discharged to waste.

19 For large commercial pools, automated precoat, regenerative filter systems are available. These  
20 systems are also sometimes called industrial filters since their use originated in food process  
21 and water treatment operations. A significant water saving factor with these filters is that the  
22 internal filter media recycling occurs about thirty times before the medium is dumped and  
23 replaced. No water is lost in the recoating process. When the media is flushed, the only water  
24 dumped is the water in the filter plus one additional filter volume to make sure the vessel is  
25 completely rinsed. This means that the backwash water needed is equal to about twice the

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<sup>195</sup> <http://www.scribd.com/doc/17720453/NRDC-Report-Synergies-in-Swimming-Pool-Efficiency>

<sup>196</sup> Diatomaceous earth is a white powder made from the "skeletons" of small aquatic plants in the algae family called diatoms. It is inert, but breathing the powder can be harmful since the skeletons are made up of silica materials. Residential and commercial filters typically use either DE or perlite media. In recent years, many wastewater utilities have placed bans on the discharge of diatomaceous earth to sanitary sewers since it tends to settle out and clog sewer lines. Settling tanks and bag filters are often required to remove the DE before the water can be discharged. The DE can either be disposed of in the trash or used as a soil amendment. DE has a bulk density of 19 pounds to 22 pounds per cubic foot.

<sup>197</sup> Cellulose is made from plant fibers. It is not widely used for pools, but is used in some food and beverage operations.

<sup>198</sup> Perlite is made from a silicon-based material found in volcanic deposits. When heated, it expands to form a very lightweight, chemically inert material that is used for filtration, as a soil conditioner, and insulation. Because it is so light weight, it tends to float on water when dry. It does not have the strong tendency to settle out in sewer lines that DE does. For this reason, many wastewater utilities have allowed filter backwash water from perlite-coated filters to be discharged to sewers. Many utilities collect the backwash water and use the perlite as a soil amendment. Perlite has a bulk density of two to eight pounds per cubic foot.

<sup>199</sup> poolplaza.com

1 volume of the filters themselves. This is different from home DE filters that use the pool pump to  
 2 force water through the filter.

3 In addition, these large industrial units sometimes use air to "bump" the filter media off of the  
 4 filter elements, thus eliminating another water use<sup>200</sup>. This air bumping makes regenerative  
 5 precoat (industrial) filters very water-efficient. Since the perlite media can be bumped and  
 6 redistributed about thirty times before needing to backwash, the elapsed time between  
 7 backwashing stretches to months rather than weeks or even days for large commercial pool  
 8 sand filter systems. Table 7 summarizes selection factors for filtration systems for smaller  
 9 apartment and hotel swimming pools.

10

11

**Table 7. Filter Selection Factors for Pools<sup>201</sup>**

	Sand	Coated Media	Cartridge
Frequency of Cleaning	Every week	4-8 weeks	Depends on unit
When to clean ( <i>Difference in pressure across filter</i> )	5-10 psi	8-10 psi	8-10 psi
How cleaned	Backwash	Backwash <sup>(a)</sup>	Take apart & wash with hose
Filtration ( <i>microns</i> )	20-40	5	10 (can vary on cartridge)
Time between media replacement	3-6 years	Every backwash	2-4 years depending on filter
Cost of media	\$0.50 to \$1.00/lb	\$0.15 -\$0.50/lb	\$15-\$100 each
Residential use	Yes	Yes	Yes
Commercial use	Yes	Yes <sup>(b)</sup>	Not Recommended
Backwash flow time	2-5 minutes <sup>(c)</sup>	1-5 minutes <sup>(c)</sup>	Remove & wash

(a) DE and Pearlite filters should be "bumped and swirled" whenever pressure drop across filter reaches 8-10 psi.

(b) DE not recommended for apartments, condominiums or hotels since the filters quickly become clogged with the high rate of use. Specially designed DE and Pearlite filters are made for high volume use though.

(c) Typical times. Filter must be backwashed until sight glass is running clear.

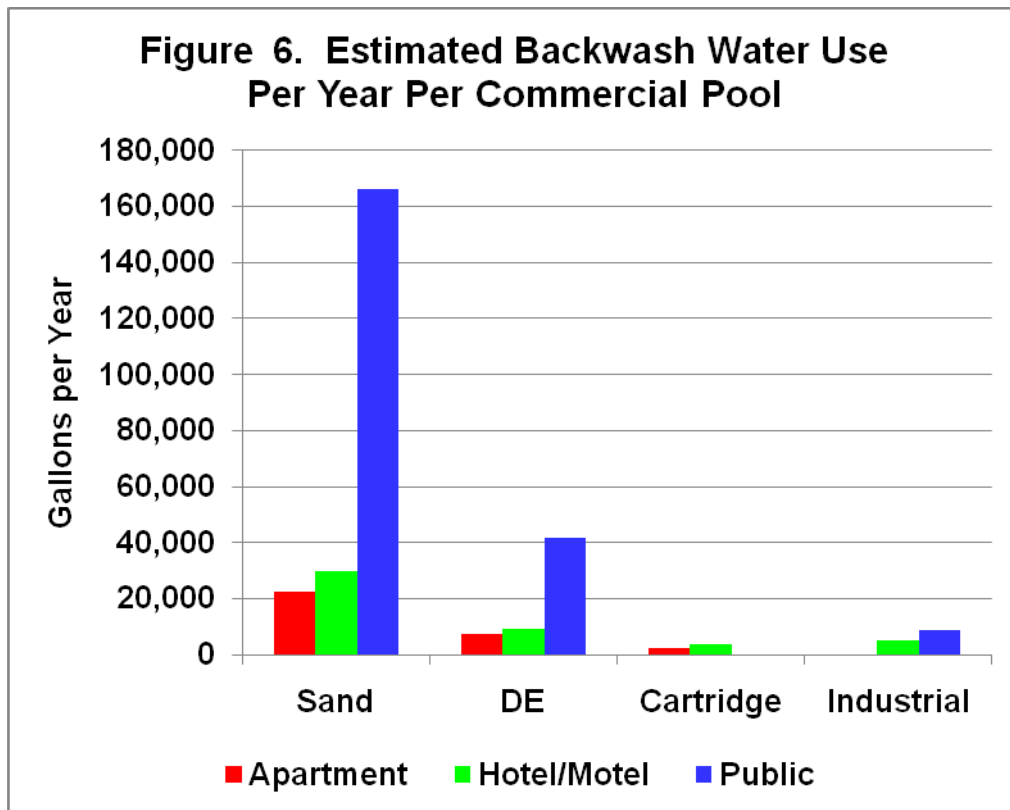
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<sup>200</sup> <http://www.defenderfilter.com/>

<sup>201</sup> Personal communications, 2010. Robert Hawkin and Scott Hyland, Neptune Benson, Coventry, RI

1 Figure 6 summarizes water use for various types of filtration systems for commercial pool  
2 operation. From this information, it is clear that sand filters need more water for backwashing  
3 than other filter types.

4



5

6

7 Pool cleaners: Pool vacuum cleaning equipment removes debris from the bottom and sides of  
8 pools. This equipment includes hand-held vacuum hoses that an operator draws along the  
9 bottom of the pool and automatic systems that move around the pool on their own. There are  
10 four system types. The suction type is attached to the suction port on the pool and uses the pool  
11 filter to capture debris. This system is effective, but because the debris and dirt are captured on  
12 the filter, the filter requires more frequent backwashing, thus using more water.

13 Three others do not use the filter to catch the removed dirt. One works off of the pressure side.  
14 The water flowing through a small turbine operates the vacuum system that discharges into a  
15 strainer bag attached to the discharge from the system. Another type is powered by electricity  
16 and uses a similar bag-type system. Stand-alone systems are powered by a separate pump  
17 and have filter bags to catch the debris for disposal. The filtered water is returned to the pool.

## 18 **Equipment Operations**

1 Commercially operated pools, ranging from apartment pools to public community pools, must  
2 comply with the operational requirements of the health codes. In California, pools used by the  
3 public must have turnover rates as shown in Table 8.

4

5

Type of Pool	Turnover Rate
Swimming Pool	Every 6 hours
Wading Pool	Every hour
Spa	Every 30 minutes

\*California Health and Safety Code, Sections 116025-116068

6

7 For residential pools, the situation is very different. The Centers for Disease Control  
8 recommends that residential pools follow the same requirements as public pools, but in recent  
9 years, the emphasis on both energy and water conservation has resulted in other  
10 recommendations. For example, the following recommendation from the Los Angeles  
11 Department of Water and Power states<sup>202</sup>:

12 *Rather than computing the turnover time, you may prefer to follow the pool filter*  
13 *operating recommendations established by the California Swimming Pool Industry*  
14 *Energy Conservation Task Force - which are as follows:*

15 *"Reduce filter operating times to no less than 4 to 5 hours per day during the summer*  
16 *and 2 to 3 hours per day during the winter period. **This will reduce annual***  
17 ***electrical consumption by 40 to 50 percent. Normal and heavier swimming***  
18 ***use may require as much as eight or more hours filtration per day. Should***  
19 ***water clarity or chemical imbalance indicate inadequate filtration,***  
20 ***immediately operate the filter until acceptable water clarity has again been***  
21 ***established. If additional filtration is still indicated, increase filter***  
22 ***operating time in one-half hour increments until the water remains clear***  
23 ***and properly balanced chemically. When the pool is being heavily used, it***  
24 ***is recommended that the pool be operated manually and that the filtration***  
25 ***system be run under such conditions. Under no circumstances should the***  
26 ***water quality of any swimming pool be so poor that the main drain cover is***  
27 ***not clearly visible from the deck."***

28 In fact, some sources state that the turnover rate for a private residential pool can be as low as  
29 once per day.

30 Draining pools, spas, and fountains must be performed in accordance with local ordinances.

31 Most require that water from swimming pools, spas, or decorative fountains be dechlorinated or

<sup>202</sup> [www.naturalhandyman.com/iip/infpool/infpoolconservation.html](http://www.naturalhandyman.com/iip/infpool/infpoolconservation.html)

1 debrominated prior to discharge to the street, storm drain, or sanitary sewer. Chlorine or  
2 bromine should dissipate within 48 hours for most pools. Draining is the easiest way to  
3 dechlorinate or debrominate residential pools. Some commercial pools operators may prefer to  
4 use dechlorination chemicals, but instructions must be carefully followed. Ordinances frequently  
5 require that the drain water not be discharged to the sanitary sewer. Many residential pool  
6 owners can use this water for irrigation if the salinity is not too high. Owners of "salt pools"  
7 should consult their local wastewater and storm water officials before draining pools.  
8 Regular inspection of equipment, checking for leaks, and keeping debris out of the pool are  
9 important components of proper pool operation. For pools with meters, readings of water use  
10 should be made at least every other week and records kept. All of these help ensure that both  
11 water and energy are used most efficiently.  
12

### 13 **Best Management Practices for Pools, Fountains, and Spas**

14 Reducing water use by pools, hot tubs, and ornamental recirculating fountains depends on four  
15 factors:

- 16 1. Reducing evaporation loss
- 17 2. Choosing the most efficient filtration equipment
- 18 3. Providing proper maintenance
- 19 4. Changing human behavior.  
20

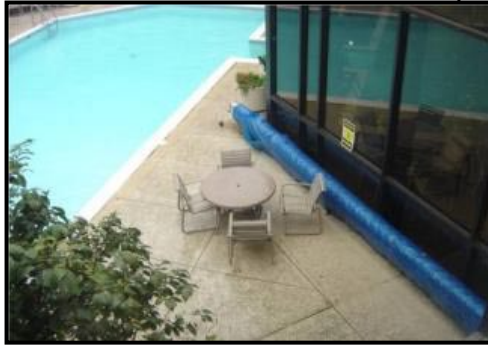
21 The areas where savings can be found parallel these factors. Evaporation is the most  
22 significant component of water use and also drives the use of water for TDS control. The choice  
23 of the type of filtration equipment is the second most significant way to reduce water use, but it  
24 is the most readily achievable. Providing proper operation of the equipment, maintenance of the  
25 pool and equipment, and timely repair of leaks all require more human intervention on a regular  
26 basis. The following section will examine the water saving potential for the following five  
27 potential measures:

- 28 1. Evaporation Reduction
- 29 2. Filter Selection
- 30 3. Control of TDS
- 31 4. Leak Detection and Control
- 32 5. Changing Human Behavior  
33

### 34 **Evaporation Reduction**

35 There are three basic ways to reduce pool water evaporation. The first is to shade the pool and  
36 reduce wind movement across the pool with fences and walls, non-shedding hedges, or other  
37 barriers. The second is to limit sprays, waterfalls, and other features that increase contact area  
38 to atmosphere to just those needed for aesthetic value or for aeration of the pool water. The  
39 third is to use chemicals or pool covers to retard evaporation.

1 Pool covers have been used for years to reduce heat loss from heated pools, protect pools in  
2 the winter from debris, and to reduce evaporation. Covers can be made from several plastics  
3 such as UV-stabilized polyethylene or polypropylene or vinyl. They can be clear or opaque.  
4 The designs range from single sheet plastic membranes and bubble wrap type material to  
5 specially designed multi-layer insulated covers. In California, Title 24 requires that heated pools  
6 be covered when not in use.



7  
16 **Figure 22. Pool Cover Rolled Up**

Traditional pool covers reduce evaporation by simply covering the water surface. Covers also reduce the amount of debris falling into the pool, thus reducing backwash frequency, reduce chemical use, and they save water by extending the time between pool drain-and-fill events by reducing evaporation. Literature varies on how much evaporation pool covers can eliminate, but of the effect generally appears to be in

16 the range of 30 to 60 percent reduction. The US  
17 Department of Energy estimates the percent of energy lost  
18 by evaporation to be 70 percent<sup>203</sup>. It also reports that energy savings of 50 to 70 percent and  
19 water savings of 30 to 50 percent are possible if pool covers are used properly.

20 However, covers are only effective if they are used. A 2004 study<sup>204</sup> of pool cover usage in an  
21 inland area of Southern California revealed that the vast majority of consumers purchasing a  
22 pool cover do not use it regularly.

23 This report assumes an average potential reduction in evaporation of 40 percent for pools with  
24 plastic covers.

25 Liquid evaporation barriers are water-safe chemicals that form a thin layer at the water surface.  
26 Some of the more commonly used pool covers use long chain alcohols and an alumina salt.  
27 They are non-toxic and do not interfere with pool operations. The liquid must be replenished on  
28 a regular basis since it eventually evaporates.

29 Liquid barriers have been used for years. They offer both heat and evaporation loss, but they  
30 work best where there is little movement of the water surface. Although some claims are much  
31 higher, studies have shown that liquid barriers reduce heat loss by 15 to 55 percent<sup>205</sup>  
32 depending on how the pool is used: the higher energy savings occur in pools that are used the  
33 least. Liquid barriers can be assumed to reduce evaporation in the range of 10 to 30 percent.  
34 This report assumes an average reduction of 20 percent when using liquid barriers.

35 The most important thing to consider with liquid barriers is that they are in place and minimizing  
36 evaporation as long as the liquid feed equipment is operating, even when the pool is being

<sup>203</sup> [www.energysavers.gov/your\\_home/water\\_heating/index.cfm/mytopic=13140](http://www.energysavers.gov/your_home/water_heating/index.cfm/mytopic=13140)

<sup>204</sup> Koeller & Company for Inland Empire Utilities Agency, 2004. Swimming Pool Cover Rebate Program, Follow-up Customer Survey, April 26.

<sup>205</sup> [www.liquidpoolcovers.com/effectiveness.html](http://www.liquidpoolcovers.com/effectiveness.html)

1 used. By contrast, pool covers must be removed and replaced by the pool owner and operator,  
 2 something that many homeowners are not inclined to do on a regular basis, especially during  
 3 heavy usage periods in the summer months. The overall evaporation reduction from the use of  
 4 covers of all types is assumed to be 30 percent.

5 **Backwash and Cartridge Cleaning Water Savings**

6 The water needed for backwash and filter cartridge cleaning varies significantly based upon the  
 7 type of filter system used. For smaller pools, cartridge filters use significantly less water than  
 8 sand and DE filters; for larger pools, industrial type filters use the least. Table 8 shows that the  
 9 most efficient filters use between 68 and 98 percent less water than conventional sand filters.

10

<b>Table 8. Comparison of Backwash and Cartridge Water Use Per Pool Per Year for Different Types of Filters</b>					
	Estimated Use in Gallons Per Pool Per Year				Maximum Possible Reduction
	Sand	DE	Cartridge	Industrial	
Hot Tub	935	468	300		68%
Above-ground	4,189	1,466	800		81%
In-ground	8,415	2,945	1,200		86%
Apartment	22,440	7,480	2,500		89%
Hotel/Motel	29,920	9,350	3,600	5,000	88%
Public	166,222	41,556		9,000	95%
Olympic	959,568	239,892		17,000	98%

11

12 **TDS Control**

13 If reverse osmosis systems similar to those used by Clean Water Products ( Section IV of this  
 14 report) were employed, water use for this operation could potentially be reduced by 78 percent.  
 15 Reductions in evaporation also reduce the number of times a pool must be dumped and refilled,  
 16 which may amount to a 10% to 30% reduction.

17 **Other Savings**

18 Finding and fixing leaks, controlling splash-out and drag-out, providing shade and wind breaks,  
 19 and similar measures are difficult to quantify. The same is true with leaks; although it is  
 20 estimated that 5 percent of pools have leaks, the volume cannot be quantified. If modifying  
 21 human behavior, using properly installed gutters and grates, installing and reading water supply

1 meters to detect leaks, ensuring proper operation of equipment, and similar factors were  
2 combined, water use reductions could be in the range of tens of thousands of acre feet per year.

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6

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23 Customer Survey, April 26.

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1 **7C8: Water Treatment**

2

3 **Introduction**

4

5 Water treatment is used in many commercial operations, including food services, laundries,  
6 laboratories, pharmacies, car washes, and food service establishments. Water treatment  
7 technologies for industrial operations are commonplace, but they also often require  
8 technologies not found in commercial settings. The type of treatment depends on the  
9 application and the required water purity for the intended use. Treatment techniques and levels  
10 range from simple cartridge filters and water softeners to the production of ultrapure water for  
11 medical, laboratory, and microelectronics operations. Table 1 summarizes common treatment  
12 systems.

13

<b>Type of Treatment</b>		<b>Brief Description of Application</b>
1.	Sediment Filtration & Removal	Removes particulate matter and some bacteria
2.	Coagulation & Sedimentation	Removes sediment or precipitates formed in industrial operations and metal finishing operations
3.	Plate and Frame Filtration	Filters sediment and precipitates
4.	Softening	Removes magnesium and calcium hardness
5.	Ion exchange	Removes cations and anions
6.	Distillation	Removes cations and anions
7.	Membrane technology	Reverse osmosis and nanofiltration removes pyrogens and cations and anions while microfiltration and nanofiltration remove very small particulates and colloidal material
8.	Disinfection	Kills bacteria and deactivated viruses
9.	Carbon Absorption	Removes organics and some metals

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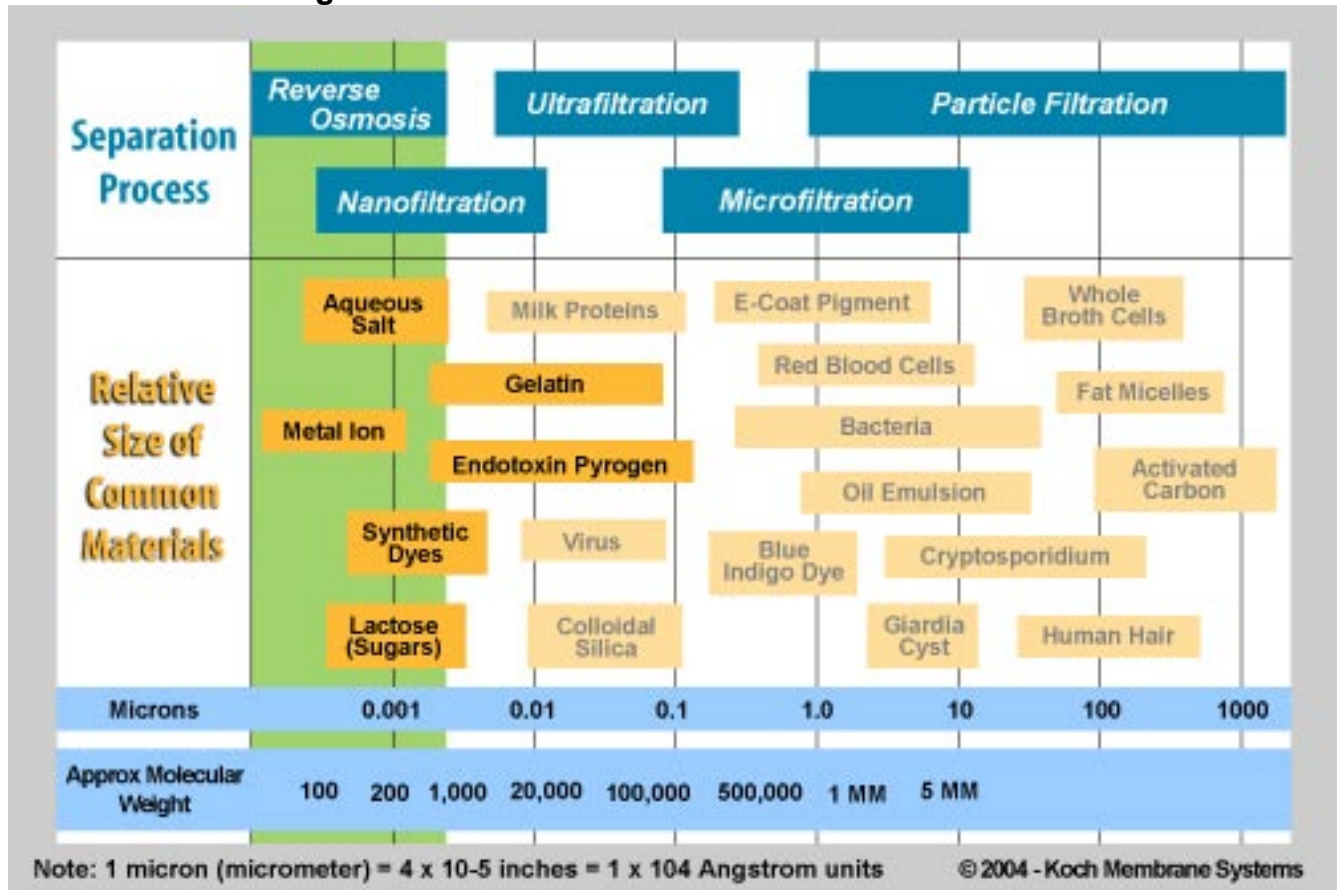
15 The first three treatment technologies entail filtrations. The next two remove salts and other  
16 dissolved minerals including hardness. Membrane technologies include 1) microfiltration, 2)  
17 ultra filtration, 3) nanofiltration, and 4) reverse osmosis (RO). The last two technologies  
18 represent processes also commonly used by the CII sector.

19

20 To illustrate the application of these treatment technologies, Figure 1 shows the types of  
21 filtration processes and the types of constituents that the filtration process will remove.

1

Figure 13. Removal of Particulates and Salts



2

3 source: [http://www.kochmembrane.com/sep\\_ro.html](http://www.kochmembrane.com/sep_ro.html)

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5 The ultimate use of the water determines the level of water treatment needed. For potable  
 6 water, removal of particulates to the 20-micron level is often sufficient as long as the water is  
 7 disinfected and the level of salts is not too high. For many industrial processes and for low  
 8 pressure boiler feed, it is often necessary to remove hardness. For high-pressure boilers and  
 9 many industrial operations, the level of needed purity can only be obtained by reverse osmosis,  
 10 and microelectronics manufacturing and many pharmaceutical and laboratory operations require  
 11 "ultra-pure" water. Removing organic material is also a common practice.

12

13 Treatment systems provide the ability to use water that would be discharged as wastewater,  
 14 reusable either directly in the facility where it was generated, or used by municipal water  
 15 recycling. The following section describes the major technologies used to treat water in the CII  
 16 sectors.

17 The California Building Standards Commission is currently working on new standards for  
 18 graywater and intends to include other on-site sources. The process is in the beginning stages.

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## **Sediment Filtration and Removal Processes (non-membrane)**

Removing sediment, suspended solids, and other particulate materials from water is one of the most basic forms of water treatment. Many technologies have been developed over the years to accomplish this task. One of the most common processes is filtration. Sand and zeolite, precoat, cartridge, and bag filters are used in many commercial, institutional, and industrial processes. Another sediment removal technology is the use of centrifugal force.

**Figure 14 Typical Sand Filter**



Sand and Zeolite filters use a bed of sand or zeolite to filter the water. Water is pumped into the top of the filter, where it passes through the sand bed, and particulates are captured. As it operates, a layer of material filtered out of the water builds up on the top of the sand bed. When the pressure difference from the top of the bed to the bottom of the bed exceeds 8-10 pounds per square inch, the filter should be backwashed. Special valves allow this to happen. The water moves from the bottom of the filter up through the filter material to the top, discharging the accumulated dirt on top of the filter. When the water in a sight glass appears clear, the dirt has been removed. Larger pools can use horizontal filters, which are simple tanks on their sides.

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24 Precoat filters include conventional diatomaceous earth<sup>206</sup> (DE), cellulose<sup>207</sup>, or perlite<sup>208</sup> filters,  
25 as well as regenerative filters that reuse the filter media. These filters remove particles down to  
26 5 microns in size, while sand and cartridge filters work in the 10- to 40-micron removal range<sup>209</sup>.  
27 Precoat filters have hundreds to sometimes over 1,000 fabric-coated tubes inside a pressure  
28 container. The filter media (DE, cellulose, or perlite) is made into a slurry and mixed with the  
29 water in the filter. The media is then deposited on the tubes by the water being pumped through  
30 the filter. Conventional precoat filters must have the DE or perlite replaced after each backwash.  
31  
32 With regenerative precoat filters, the media is periodically “bumped” off of the filter tubes by  
33 backflow, air agitation, mechanical shaking, or a combination of the three. It is then recoated

<sup>206</sup> Diatomaceous earth is a white powder made from the "skeletons" of small aquatic plants in the algae family called diatoms. It is inert, but breathing the powder can be harmful since the skeletons are made up of silica materials. Residential and commercial filters typically use either DE or perlite media. In recent years, many wastewater utilities have placed bans on the discharge of diatomaceous earth to sanitary sewers since it tends to settle out and clog sewer lines. Settling tanks and bag filters are often required to remove the DE before the water can be discharged. The DE can either be disposed of in the trash or used as a soil amendment. DE has a bulk density of 19 pounds to 22 pounds per cubic foot.

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<sup>208</sup> Perlite is made from a silicon-based material found in volcanic deposits. When heated, it expands to form a very light weight, chemically inert material that is used for filtration, as a soil conditioner, and insulation. Because it is so light weight, it tends to float on water when dry. It does not have the strong tendency to settle out in sewer lines that DE does. For this reason, many wastewater utilities have allowed filter backwash water from perlite coated filters to be discharged to sewers. Many utilities collect the backwash water and use the perlite as a soil amendment. Perlite has a bulk density of two to eight pounds per cubic foot.

1 onto the filter cloth. Regenerative filters save significant volumes of water and filter media since  
2 the media can be recycled up to 30 times before it is ultimately discharged to waste.

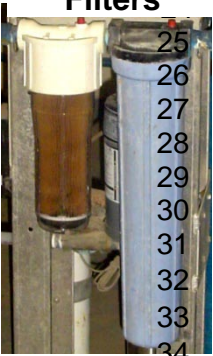
3  
4 For large commercial pools and industrial operations, automated precoat, regenerative filter  
5 systems are available. These systems are also sometimes called industrial filters since their use  
6 originated in food process and water treatment operations. A significant water saving factor with  
7 these filters is that the internal filter media recycling occurs about thirty times before the medium  
8 is dumped and replaced, and no water is lost in the recoating process. When the media is  
9 flushed, the only water dumped is the water in the filter plus one additional filter volume to make  
10 sure the vessel is completely rinsed. The backwash water needed is equal to about twice the  
11 volume of the filters themselves, which is different from home DE filters that use the pool pump  
12 to force water through the filter.

13  
14 In addition, these large industrial units use air to "bump" the filter media off the filter elements,  
15 thus eliminating another water use for this purpose and making regenerative precoat (industrial)  
16 filters very water-efficient. Since the perlite media can be bumped and redistributed about thirty  
17 times before needing to backwash, backwashing is stretched to months rather than weeks or  
18 even days for large commercial pool sand filter systems.

19

**Figure 15**  
**Small**  
**Cartridge**  
**Filters**

Cartridge filters use pleated filter elements made from paper or other material. Most use washable filter elements with a range of filter elements, typically in the range of 1.0 to 20.0 micron particulate removal.



25 In the past, disposable filter elements were used, with filter replacement taking place  
26 each time the pressure across the element built up. Re-usable cartridges are now  
27 available. They should be the only type used in most applications since they need  
28 only to be washed off with a hose and returned to the filter housing. Because these  
29 filters do not need to be backwashed, they are the most water-efficient type available  
30 for all but the largest pools and are finding wide acceptance in the residential and  
31 smaller apartment pool market. Their water efficiency has led some local  
32 governments to encourage their use.  
33  
34

35

1 Bag filters, as the name implies, use a filter cloth housed in a cylinder. Bags are generally  
 2 washable and can be used many times as long as the substance removed does not stick to the  
 3 bag. Bags of various micron sizes can be purchased. In some cases fine metal mesh can be  
 4 used instead of cloth.  
 5

**Figure 16. Cyclone Separator with Bag Filter**



Cyclone Separators (hydrocyclones) and centrifuges remove larger particles and sludge from water by centrifugal force. These separators are often used to remove particulates of larger sizes although some

9 manufacturers report that their equipment can remove particulates as  
 10 small as 20 to 30 microns. When used with a bag filter to filter the purge  
 11 stream, they are capable of recovering almost all of the "purge water"  
 12 from the separator (Figure 4). Even if a bag filter is not used, the purge  
 13 stream can be less than the backwash water requirements of a sand filter  
 14 according to some manufacturers ([www.therodgroup.co.uk/cyclone-filtration-how-it-works.asp](http://www.therodgroup.co.uk/cyclone-filtration-how-it-works.asp))  
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20 Best Management Practices for Sediment Removal

21 Process Selection: All of the above processes will remove particulates and sediment from  
 22 water. The choice depends on the type of particulates that need to be removed and a number  
 23 of operational considerations. Table 3. summarizes these filter options.  
 24  
 25

Table 3. Non-Membrane Particulate Removal Systems		
Type of Filter	Particle Removal range <i>Microns</i>	Requires Replacement Elements
<b>Cyclone Separators</b>	> 20	No
<b>Sand Filters</b>	> 20	No
<b>Cartridge Filters</b>	1.0 to 20	Yes
<b>Precoat Filters</b>	>5.0	No
<b>Bag Filters</b>	1.0 to 20	Yes

26  
 27 Cyclone separators (hydrocyclones) are inexpensive and low cost to operate. Their applicability  
 28 includes areas where cooling tower side stream treatment or industrial continuous solid - liquid  
 29 separation is needed. They also find use for raw surface water intakes where larger sediment  
 30 must be removed. Since post filtration of the purge water with the sediments is possible, they  
 31 can be extremely water efficient. Their application must be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.  
 32

33 For finer filtration, filters are commonly used. The selection and operation of these filters  
 34 depends on the type of sediment to be removed and the end use of the water. Filtration  
 35 systems for commercial operations can range from a few hundred dollars to tens of thousands  
 36 of dollars. For large industrial operations, the cost can be in the \$100,000s depending on  
 37 volume of water treated and design. Sand filters tend to be more expensive than coated media  
 38 and cartridge filters. To help understand some of the cost consideration, Table 4. shows  
 39 selection factors for swimming pools. These factors are generally applicable across commercial  
 40 and institutional lines.  
 41

1

	<b>Sand</b>	<b>Coated Media</b>	<b>Cartridge</b>
Frequency of Cleaning	Every week	4-8 weeks	Depends on unit
When to clean ( <i>Difference in pressure across filter</i> )	5-10 psi	8-10 psi	8-10 psi
How cleaned	Backwash	Backwash <sup>(a)</sup>	Take apart & wash with hose
Filtration ( <i>microns</i> )	20-40	5	10 (can vary on cartridge)
Time between media replacement	3-6 years	Every recoat	2-4 years depending on filter
Cost of media	\$0.50 to \$1.00/lb	\$0.15 -\$0.50/lb	\$15-\$100 each
Residential use	Yes	Yes	Yes
Commercial use	Yes	Yes <sup>(b)</sup>	Not Recommended
Backwash flow time	2-5 minutes <sup>(c)</sup>	1-5 minutes <sup>(c)</sup>	Remove & wash
*Personal communications, 2010. Robert Hawkin and Scott Hyland, Neptune Benson, Coventry, RI			

(a) DE and Pearlite filters should be "bumped and swirled" to regenerate the porosity of the filter medium. Actual recoat is needed only when pressure drop across filter reaches 8-10 psi, significantly reducing the number of times that new filter media is needed.

(b) DE is not recommended for apartments, condominiums, or hotels since the filters quickly become clogged with the high rate of use. Specially designed DE and Pearlite filters are made for high volume use.

(c) Typical times. Filter must be backwashed until sight glass is running clear.

2

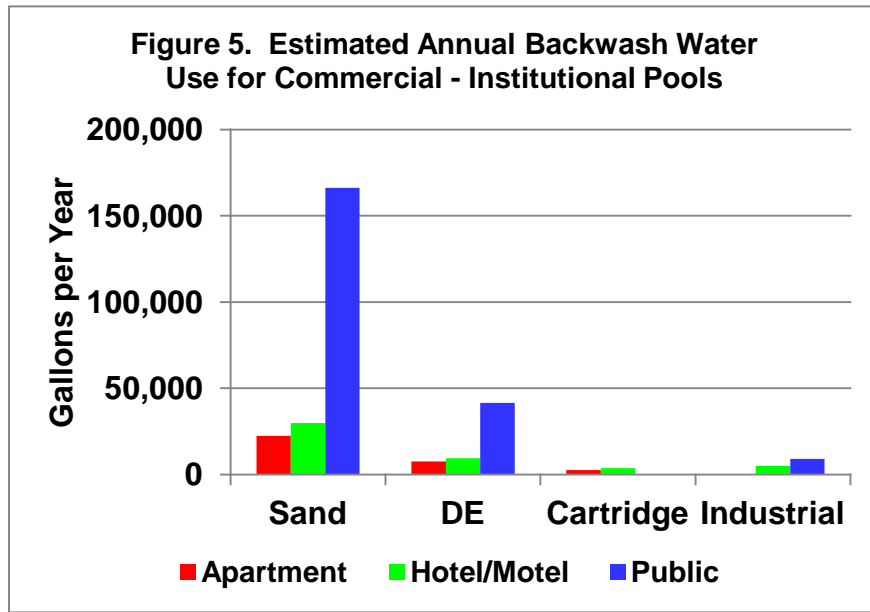
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Figure 5. shows an analysis of potential backwash water use for swimming pools in California. As this figure shows, sand filters are the least water efficient.

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The best management practices for filter selections are:

10

1. Only use filters where needed

- 1 2. Choose sediment filters that require the least number of backwashes
- 2 3. Examine ways to reuse backwash water or purge water
- 3 4. When filters are used, install pressure gauges and use the gauges to determine when to
- 4 backwash
- 5 5. Backwash based on pressure drop instead of by a timer or a schedule.

6

### 7 **Physical Sediment and Precipitate Removal**

8 The reuse of water on-site often depends on the removal of sediment and precipitates produced  
9 by a process or operation. The two most commonly found examples are coagulation -  
10 sedimentation and filter presses and filter belts.

11

12 Coagulation - sedimentation is used where large volumes of water need to be treated. This  
13 process involves the addition of a chemical that causes particles to "clump" together to form  
14 heavy "flocs" which then settle out. A full technical discussion is beyond the scope of this  
15 document, but this type of treatment is often used to treat raw surface water or even wastewater  
16 streams that can be reused within the facility. Filtration often follows sedimentation.

17

18 Precipitation is a chemical reaction that causes a solid to form. Precipitate removal is often  
19 found in plating operations and other industrial/commercial operations where metal salts are  
20 used. Leaf or belt presses are often employed to remove the precipitate. Technical details are  
21 beyond the scope of this document, but these water treatment processes are important to  
22 internal water reuse operations.

23

24

25 These water treatment processes are important best management practices themselves when  
26 use in conjunction with on-site water recovery and reuse.

27

### 28 **Membrane Processes**

29

30 The development of membrane technologies has revolutionized the way water is treated.  
31 Microfiltration and ultrafiltration remove very small particulates and colloidal substances from  
32 water. They are also capable of filtering bacteria and some viruses. Nanofiltration and reverse  
33 osmosis (RO) actually remove dissolved solids ranging from proteins and sugars to minerals  
34 and salts. Micro and ultrafiltration materials include ceramics and polymers of various types.  
35 Nanofiltration and RO typically use thin film composites, cellulose acetate, and polysulfonated  
36 and polysulfone membranes. These processes can either be made of a bundle of tubes or spiral  
37 wound. These assemblies are then placed into long pipe-like pressure vessels. A variant is the  
38 submersible microfiltration membrane that works on a vacuum. It is often used in wastewater  
39 treatment system called a membrane biological reactor (MBR).

40

41 All four of the membrane processes are important ways to recover water for reuse on site or for  
42 the treatment of recycled municipal wastewater where very high purity is required. Table 5.  
43 compares the general characteristics of the four membrane technologies.

44

45

46

47

Table 5. Comparison of Membrane Technologies				
Type of filtration	Microfiltration	Ultrafiltration	Nanofiltration	Reverse Osmosis
Pore Size Removal (Microns)	1.0 - 0.1	0.01 - 0.001	0.001 - 0.0001	<0.0001
Operating Pressure (psi)	<30	20 - 100	50 - 300	225 - 1,000
Operating Cost (\$/1,000 gallons)	\$ 0.50 - 1.00	\$ 0.50 - 1.00	\$ 0.75 - 1.50	\$1.50 - 5.00
Source: Cartwright Consulting Company - <a href="http://www.cartwright-consulting.com">http://www.cartwright-consulting.com</a>				

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**Micro and ultrafiltration:** Both microfiltration and ultrafiltration remove very small particulate matter from water. They find application in all areas of water treatment especially since these devices are able to remove *Giardia lamblia* cysts, *Cryptosporidium* oocysts, and other pathogens.

Since microfiltration and ultrafiltration are filtration processes, the membranes need to be backwashed periodically to flush sediment from them. They also require periodic cleaning with detergent and either acid or alkaline cleaners. Both filtration processes typically have a sediment filter placed ahead of them to remove larger particles before micro or ultrafiltration, thus extending the time between backwashes and extending membrane life.

Ultrafiltration finds use in food processing operations where water must be removed from a liquid or slurry, such as the removal of whey from milk solids and water from tomato paste.

**Nanofiltration and Reverse Osmosis (RO):** These technologies are capable of removing dissolved salts, proteins, and materials at the molecular level. They find application in many industries. These two processes differ from filtration in two significant ways. First, only a portion of the water fed to the membrane is actually passed through it. This water is called "permeate." The remaining water is the reject or retentate stream, and it is sent to discharge as a waste stream. It contains the salts and minerals left behind. Like filtration membranes, these membranes must also undergo periodic cleaning with detergent and either acid or alkaline cleaners. The water produced by these processes is exceptionally low in mineral and organic contaminants.

When selecting these membranes that operate at the molecular level, several terms are of particular importance:

- Permeate - the product water that passes through the membrane.
- Retentate - the water containing the dissolved salts, minerals and other substances that is sent to waste.
- Rejection rate - the percent of salts that are removed by the process.

These processes (nanofiltration and RO) should be preceded by particulate filtration. Nanofiltration can be used to remove multivalent ions and is thus a softening process, but most water fed to RO systems has been softened to remove hardness which would quickly foul the membrane. Reverse osmosis technology finds application in many diverse areas, including:



- Desalination of sea water and brackish waters
- Pre-treatment for the production of ultrapure water
- Treatment of water for kidney dialysis
- Laboratory and pharmaceutical water purification
- Plating water treatment and plating solution recovery
- Product recovery for precious metals.

Modern large RO units have rejection rates of 90 percent or better and permeate recovery rates of 75 percent or better. For medical and laboratory operations, the size of the system helps determine the permeate recovery rates. Smaller systems with production rates (permeate) of under 3 to 4 gallons per minute typically have only a 50 percent recovery rate. The reject water is often usable for other purposes.

#### Best Management Practices for Membrane Processes:

For micro and ultrafiltration membranes:

- Use pressure drop across the membrane to determine when to backwash so that backwashing is done only when necessary.
- Follow manufacturers recommendation on membrane cleaning to minimize the number of cleanings needed.
- Pre filter water to remove larger sediment to minimize backwash and cleaning.
- Follow the best management practices for filtration for the pre filters.

For Nanofiltration and reverse osmosis:

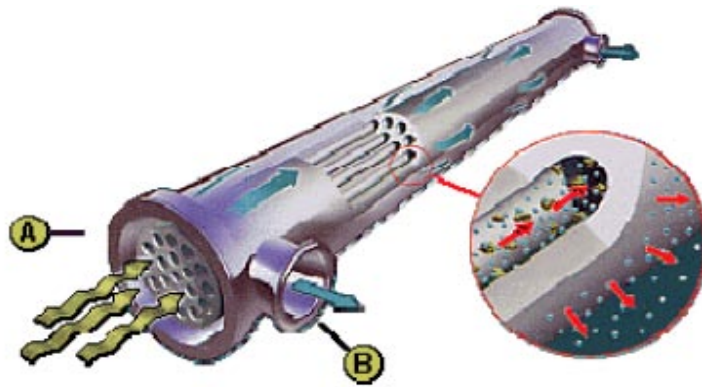
- Choose systems with the maximum permeate recovery rates.
- Clean according to recommendations from the manufacturer.
- Investigate ways of reusing the retentate.
- Ensure good pre treatment to minimize cleaning of the membranes.

#### **Metal-Oxide Filtration (MOF)(Ceramic)**

This filtration technology uses cross-flow membrane permeation technology with Metal-oxide Ultrafiltration Membranes (MOF) to separate and remove emulsified oil and grease, heavy metals, biological oxygen demand (BOD), chemical oxygen demand (COD), total suspended solids (TSS), volatile organic compounds (VOC), color, total dissolved solids (TDS), and turbidity from industrial wastewater.

The separation process takes place inside the porous ceramic module where macromolecules and particles are continuously rejected on the surface of ceramic and water permeates across the ceramic membrane. Each ceramic module contains parallel flow channels where the feed material is introduced. As the contaminated fluid passes through these parallel flow channels the water is forced through the ceramic wall (filtrate), but pollutants (called concentrate) including fine suspended solids are rejected and returned back to the process feed tank (Figure 6).

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**Figure 6:** Ceramic Membrane Diagram. The filtrate, retentate or concentrate is labeled A, and the permeate, diffusate or filtrate is labeled B.

The characteristics of Metal-Oxide Filtration is similar to those of Ultrafiltration found on Table MM. See the characteristics of MOF in Table 6. below.

1

<b>Table 6. Other Membrane Technologies</b>	
<b>Type of filtration</b>	<b>Metal Oxide Filtration</b>
Pore Size Removal (Microns)	0.8 - 0.001
Operating Pressure (psi)	50 - 100
Operating Cost (\$/1,000 gallons)	\$ 0.50 - 1.00

2

3 The flow in this type of system is open-ended on both sides of the filter and the permeate is  
 4 forced through the sides of the filter wall. This means that the filters do not need to be  
 5 backwashed so they can be used for many years without replacement. This type of  
 6 construction minimizes membrane fouling and can operate under the following conditions:  
 7 Normal operating pressure is from 75 – 80 psi. The filters will operate under the following  
 8 conditions: 0-14pH and 0-300 degrees F.

9

10 **Distillation**

11

12 Distillation works by boiling water to form steam condensate using either an electric or gas  
 13 water still. Solid contaminants remain behind as the steam is generated, then the steam is  
 14 condensed into a purified water stream. Distillers can use large volumes of water if once-  
 15 through cooling water is used in the condenser, or if a reject stream is discharged from the  
 16 boiler to prevent scale build-up. These systems typically waste 15 to 25 percent of water  
 17 entering the system.<sup>210</sup>

18

19 **Best Management Practices for Water Stills:**

20

- 21 • Eliminate once-through cooling.
- 22 • Maximize product water recovery as a percent of total water input to 75 percent or  
23 better.
- 24 • Install automatic water and gas or electric cutoffs when the receiving reservoir is full.

25

26

27 **Softening**

28

29 Softening is the process of removing magnesium, calcium, and related multivalent ions from  
 30 water. Laundries, car washes, boiler feed-water, laboratory water, hot-water systems for  
 31 restaurants and food-service establishments, and metal-plating operations commonly employ  
 32 softening. The three most common ways of softening water:

33

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<sup>210</sup> East Bay Municipal Utility District. 2008. *Watersmart Guidebook—A Water-Use Efficiency Plan Review Guide for New Businesses*. <[www.ebmud.com/for-customers/conservation-rebates-and-services/commercial/watersmart-guidebook](http://www.ebmud.com/for-customers/conservation-rebates-and-services/commercial/watersmart-guidebook)>.

- 1 • Nanofiltration (See section on Membrane Processes)
- 2 • Lime softening (only applicable to large municipal systems and not discussed in this
- 3 document)
- 4 • Cation exchange resins or zeolite that exchange sodium or potassium for calcium and
- 5 magnesium.
- 6

7 Cation exchange resins and zeolites are the most commonly found softening processes in  
8 industrial, institutional, and commercial operations. Water is passed through a bed of resin from  
9 the top. As it passes through, sodium or potassium ions on the resin are released and replaced  
10 with the calcium or magnesium cations. As water passes through the bed, spent resin (resin  
11 that has given up its sodium or potassium ions) moves down the bed. If the process continues,  
12 hard water will use up all the salt and softening will cease, so softeners need to be regenerated  
13 with a salt (typically sodium chloride - salt or potassium chloride). Sodium salts damage plants  
14 and cause clay soils to deteriorate. Softeners are often a major salt input to wastewater streams  
15 that are being recycled. For this reason, the use of softeners or the use of sodium salts has  
16 come into question. Many with septic systems are also converting to the use of potassium-  
17 based salts to prevent damage to plants and soil.

#### 18 Best Management Practices for Softeners:

- 19 • Do not recharge based on timers.
- 20 • Consider demand based softener regeneration. The best systems actually measure the
- 21 hardness and only backwash when a preset percent of the resin bed is exhausted.
- 22 • Use water meters that actuate recharge with a predetermine amount of water has been
- 23 treated based on the water chemistry of the source water.
- 24
- 25
- 26

#### 27 Carbon Adsorption

28  
29 Carbon adsorption is used to remove organic compounds such as those that affect taste and  
30 odor., In some cases activated carbon is also used to remove heavy metals from water. The  
31 adsorption process depends on the physical characteristics of the activated carbon, the  
32 chemical compositions of the carbon and the contaminants, the temperature and pH of the  
33 water, and the amount of time the contaminant is exposed to the activated carbon.<sup>211</sup> Carbon  
34 adsorption can use either disposable cartridges or packed columns. Disposable cartridges are  
35 disposed of once the adsorptive capacity is exhausted. Alternatively, packed columns can be  
36 removed and recharged offsite.<sup>212</sup>

#### 37 38 Cation and Anion Exchange

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211 North Dakota State University. *Treatment Systems for Household Water Supplies—Activated Carbon Filtration*. <[www.ag.ndsu.edu/pubs/h2oqual/watsys/ae1029w.htm#process](http://www.ag.ndsu.edu/pubs/h2oqual/watsys/ae1029w.htm#process)>.

212 East Bay Municipal Utility District. 2008. *Watersmart Guidebook—A Water-Use Efficiency Plan Review Guide for New Businesses*. <[www.ebmud.com/for-customers/conservation-rebates-and-services/commercial/watersmart-guidebook](http://www.ebmud.com/for-customers/conservation-rebates-and-services/commercial/watersmart-guidebook)>.

1 Cation and anion processes – also known as strong acid/base resins – are used when  
2 extremely pure water is required. The equipment can be recharged off site or on site, and the  
3 resin bed should be instrumented to ensure that recharge is done only when a preset percent of  
4 the bed's resin has been exhausted.

## 5 6 **Other Treatment Methods** 7

8 Other treatment methods can consume small amounts of water, if chemicals are fed in a  
9 liquid or slurry form. Disinfection technologies include use of chlorine compounds, ozone,  
10 hydrogen peroxide, and ultraviolet light. Other commonly used chemical feed systems  
11 add antioxidants, pH control, oxygen scavengers, and other chemicals used to condition  
12 the water for its intended use.  
13

14 Other processes use water to make up the solutions, but this water becomes part of the  
15 product water and is not lost. Cleaning chemical storage areas does consume water, however.  
16 The potential for water savings by choosing among disinfection technologies is not great, but  
17 wasting water in cleaning equipment and storage vessels is a concern that can be lessened  
18 through the use of waterless methods.  
19

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## 1 **8: Standards and Codes for Water Use Efficiency**

### 2 **8.1 What are standards?**

3 Webster's defines a standard as: "...something set up as a rule for measuring or as a model to  
4 be followed..." In the vast world of water-efficient products, standards (or "rules for measuring")  
5 are necessary to establish standard dimensional requirements and the minimum performance  
6 level for all manufacturers to meet with their products. Compliance with established standards,  
7 however, is voluntary. That is, until such time as an ANSI<sup>213</sup> consensus standard is adopted  
8 into law by regulation (e.g., building codes) or legislation (e.g., the National Energy Policy Act –  
9 EPAct), the standards have no force of law.

10 Once adopted, however, new products from new manufacturers entering the U.S. marketplace,  
11 or new product models introduced by existing manufacturers, must be measured against the  
12 relevant standards and meet specified minimum requirements in order to be sold in the  
13 marketplace.

14 Many different U.S. organizations are approved by ANSI as standards-writing bodies, having  
15 met certain stringent requirements. Standards committees and project teams are comprised of  
16 a variety of stakeholder interests, and they are required by ANSI to maintain a "balance" of  
17 those interests. As such, these groups include representatives of manufacturers, laboratories,  
18 government, private sector consultants, and others. Generally speaking, standards (and their  
19 implementing codes) have focused primarily on protecting public health and safety. In the past  
20 20 years, though, the goal of achieving water use efficiency has been added to the process in  
21 many cases.

### 22 **8.2 What are codes?**

23 In addition to standards, plumbing and building codes play an important role in governing the  
24 installation and use of water efficient products. Codes are promulgated by code authorities and  
25 adopted by jurisdictions to protect the health and safety of the citizens. It is important to note  
26 that, whereas the national standards approved by ANSI are voluntary consensus-based  
27 standards, the codes (which may or may not adopt the national standards by reference) are  
28 mandatory within the jurisdiction that adopts them.

29 Like the standards process, the codes process is complex. There once were five different  
30 plumbing code development organizations in the U.S., but mergers have reduced this number to  
31 only two. The International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials (IAPMO)  
32 produces the Uniform Plumbing Code (UPC), and the International Code Council (ICC)  
33 produces the International Plumbing Code (IPC). These code-authoring organizations have a 3-  
34 year development cycle to update their respective model codes. California, through its Building  
35 Standards Commission<sup>214</sup> (CBSC) and the Department of Housing and Community  
36 Development (HCD)<sup>215</sup>, uses the UPC as the model plumbing code for the State and makes  
37 modifications to that model code to address California-specific interests.

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<sup>213</sup> American National Standards Institute

<sup>214</sup> <http://www.bsc.ca.gov/>

<sup>215</sup> <http://www.hcd.ca.gov/>

1 The plumbing codes themselves have no legal status until adopted by jurisdictions such as  
2 cities, counties and states. Where adopted, the codes become as local ordinances and laws.  
3 All jurisdictions can amend the model code before and after adoption, and some do this to better  
4 suit local conditions. Each of the two plumbing codes contains more than 400 pages of complex  
5 requirements; few jurisdictions, however, have the ability to review and analyze every single  
6 provision before adopting the code as law.

### 7 **8.2.1 EPAAct**

8 The National Energy Policy Act of 1992 (EPAAct 92) sets maximum water consumption  
9 standards for showerheads, faucets, urinals, and toilets; pre-rinse spray valves (PRSVs)  
10 followed in 2005. Just how those standards are manifested in fixtures (toilets and urinals) and  
11 fixture fittings (faucets, showers, and PRSVs) is a function of standard setting and the adoption  
12 of those requirements into the plumbing codes as noted above.

### 13 **8.2.2 National Plumbing Standards**

14 The national plumbing standards are developed and administered in a consensus and balanced  
15 process<sup>216</sup>. The American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME), the American Society of  
16 Sanitary Engineering (ASSE), and the International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical  
17 Officials (IAPMO) are all accredited by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) to  
18 develop U.S. standards for plumbing fixtures and fittings. Within these organizations, the  
19 committees are developing and maintaining standards related to toilets, urinals, showerheads,  
20 faucets, pre-rinse spray valves, flushometer valves, and other fixtures and fittings used in indoor  
21 plumbing systems. In very recent years, many of these standards have been harmonized with  
22 their Canadian counterpart, such that the same requirements apply in both countries.

23 Plumbing standards approved by ANSI and directly affecting water use efficiency are as  
24 follows<sup>217</sup>:

- 25 ● ASME A112.19.2-2007/CSA<sup>218</sup> B45.1-07 – Ceramic Plumbing Fixtures
- 26 ● ASME A112.19.5-2011/CSA B45.15-11 – Flush valves and spuds for water closets, urinals, and  
27 tanks
- 28 ● ASME A112.19.14-2006 – Six-Liter Water Closets Equipped with a Dual Flushing Device
- 29 ● ASME A112.19.10-2003 – Dual Flush Devices for Water Closets
- 30 ● ASME A112.19.19-2006 – Vitreous China Nonwater Urinals
- 31 ● ASME A112.18.1-2010/CSA B125.1-10 – Plumbing Supply Fittings
- 32 ● ASSE 1002 – Anti-siphon Fill Valves (Ballcocks) for Gravity Water Closet Flush Tanks
- 33 ● ASSE 1016 – Performance Requirements for Automatic Compensating Valves for Individual  
34 Showers and Tub/Shower Combinations

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<sup>216</sup> Groups represented in the ANSI process as voting members include representatives of manufacturers, laboratories, government, private sector consultants, and others. No one group is allowed to dominate the standards-setting process.

<sup>217</sup> Numerous other plumbing standards exist that have less-than-significant effects upon water use efficiency.

<sup>218</sup> Canadian Standards Association



- 1 • ASSE 1037: Performance Requirements for Pressurized Flushing Devices (Flushometers) for  
2 Plumbing Fixtures
- 3 • CSA B45.5-10/IAPMO Z124-10 – Plastic plumbing fixtures
- 4

5 Water utilities in California have been directly involved in the national standard setting and code  
6 authoring processes for nearly 20 years.

### 7 **8.2.3 National Green Building Standards**

8 Many jurisdictions (municipalities and other local authorities and state governments with the  
9 power to mandate, approve, disapprove, or influence project design and construction) are  
10 developing guidelines and minimum standards for new construction and renovations. These  
11 actions mandate or “suggest” design or construction practices, technologies, performance  
12 thresholds, and metrics in a variety of categories including water use efficiency.

13 Typical water use efficiency categories within many of the national green building programs  
14 (guidelines and standards) include:

- 15 • Plumbing fixtures and fixture fittings
- 16 • Residential appliances (clothes washers, dishwashers)
- 17 • Water treatment equipment (softeners, filtering systems)
- 18 • Landscape & landscape irrigation
- 19 • Pools, fountains, and spas
- 20 • Cooling towers
- 21 • Decorative and recreational water features
- 22 • Water reuse & alternate sources of water (graywater, rainwater and stormwater, cooling  
23 condensate and cooling tower blowdown, foundation drain water)
- 24 • Specialty processes, appliances and equipment (food service, medical, laboratories, laundries,  
25 others)
- 26 • Metering & submetering
- 27 • Once-through cooling
- 28 • Vegetated green roofs
- 29 • Building water pressure

30 It is important to understand the difference between green building standards and green building  
31 guidelines. While guidelines provide thresholds for efficiency, they are not generally written in  
32 code-adoptable language, and compliance is usually voluntary. Standards, on the other hand,  
33 provide definitive efficiency thresholds, are written in language that is enforceable, and are  
34 readily adopted by reference into codes and other regulations as mentioned above.

35 For example, the well-entrenched LEED Program consists of a set of guidelines that designers  
36 and builders may choose to comply with (although some jurisdictions are choosing to mandate  
37 compliance with LEED to some level and use credits as the measure of compliance). As such,  
38 these guidelines are not generally written in language suitable for direct adoption or reference  
39 as codes or other regulations.

40 Currently, national green building ANSI standards intended for application within CII sectors  
41 include these initiatives:

- 1 • ASHRAE<sup>219</sup> ANSI Standard 189.1 Standard for the Design of High-Performance Green Buildings  
2 Except Low-Rise Residential Buildings
- 3 • Green Globes-Green Building Initiative (GBI) ANSI Standard 01-2008: Green Building  
4 Assessment Protocol for Commercial Buildings
- 5 • ASHRAE Proposed ANSI Standard 191 - Standard for the Efficient Use of Water in Building, Site  
6 and Mechanical Systems  
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8 Comparisons of the provisions of these three ANSI standards with the requirements of the  
9 model 'green' codes are shown on the following four pages.

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<sup>219</sup> American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers, Inc.; [www.ashrae.org](http://www.ashrae.org)

# 1 NATIONAL GREEN BUILDING STANDARDS, CODES, & GUIDELINES

	Applications	Guidelines, code or standard?	Code-adoptable language?	Minimum thresholds or points?	Status
USGBC LEED-NC et.al.	All except Single Family Residential	Guidelines	No	Prerequisite + points	LEED 2009 mandates 20% reduction from baseline; 2012 version in development
USGBC LEED-Homes	Single Family Residential (SFR)	Guidelines	No	Both	Active – to be updated
Green Globes – Green Bldg Initiative 01-200XP	Residential above 3 stories + all commercial	<b>ANSI Standard</b>	Yes	Points	Final standard ANSI-approved; published in April 2010
ASHRAE S189.1 – High Performance Buildings	Residential above 3 stories + all commercial	<b>ANSI Standard</b>	Yes	Minimum thresholds	Final standard ANSI-approved; published in January 2010; now in sustaining process
ASHRAE S191 – Water Efficiency	All except SFR	<b>ANSI Standard</b>	Yes	Minimum thresholds	Process began July 1, 2008; provisions being drafted
ICC 700 - NAHB Green Bldg Standard for Homes	Residential	<b>ANSI Standard</b>	Yes	Points	Final standard ANSI-approved; published in Jan 2009 as ICC-700
IAPMO Green Plumbing & Mechanical Code Supplement	Residential above 3 stories + all commercial	<b>Code</b>	Yes	Minimum thresholds	Completed and published in February 2010
ICC Green Construction Code	Residential above 3 stories + all commercial	<b>Code</b>	Yes	Minimum thresholds	Development underway; 2nd draft changes considered by code committee in May 2011
U.S. EPA WaterSense for New Homes	Residential	Guidelines	No	Minimum thresholds	Final specification issued in December 2009

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1 **NATIONAL GREEN BUILDING STANDARDS & CODES**

3 **Comparison of specific water use efficiency provisions – maximum water use**

<b>PLUMBING</b>	<b>Green Globes GBI 01-200XP</b>	<b>ASHRAE SS189.1</b>	<b>ASHRAE S191 (draft)</b>	<b>ICC-NAHB HOMES</b>	<b>IAPMO Green Plumbing &amp; Mech Code Supplement</b>	<b>ICC Green Code (draft)</b>
Residential toilets (per flush)	HET: 1.28g - 4.8L	HET: 1.28g - 4.8L	HET: 1.28g - 4.8L	HET: 1.28g - 4.8L	HET: 1.28g - 4.8L	HET: 1.28g - 4.8L
Commercial toilets (per flush)					1.6g - 6.0L	1.6g - 6.0L
Urinals (per flush)	HEU: 0.5g/1.9L	HEU: 0.5g/1.9L	HEU: 0.5g/1.9L	HEU: 0.5g/1.9L	HEU: 0.5g/1.9L	HEU: 0.5g/1.9L
Residential & commercial "private" lavatory faucets (per minute)	1.5gpm – 5.7Lpm	1.5gpm – 5.7Lpm	1.5gpm – 5.7Lpm	1.5gpm – 5.7Lpm	1.5gpm – 5.7Lpm	1.5gpm – 5.7Lpm
Commercial "public" lavatory faucets (per min.)	0.5gpm – 1.9 Lpm	0.5gpm – 1.9 Lpm	0.5gpm – 1.9 Lpm		0.5gpm – 1.9 Lpm	0.5gpm – 1.9 Lpm
Commercial metering faucets (per cycle)	0.25 gpc – 0.9 Lpc	0.25 gpc – 0.9 Lpc	0.20 gpc – 0.76 Lpc		0.25 gpc – 0.9 Lpc	0.25 gpc – 0.9 Lpc
Residential kitchen faucets (per minute)	2.2 gpm – 8.3 Lpm	2.2 gpm – 8.3 Lpm	2.2 gpm – 8.3 Lpm			2.2 gpm – 8.3 Lpm
Residential showerheads (per minute)	2.0 gpm – 7.6 Lpm	2.0 gpm – 7.6 Lpm	2.0 gpm – 7.6 Lpm	2.5 gpm – 9.5 Lpm	2.0 gpm – 7.6 Lpm	2.0 gpm – 7.6 Lpm
Residential showering compartment – size increment		2600 sq. in – 1.7 sq.m.	3000 sq. in – 1.9 sq.m.		1800 sq. in – 1.2 sq.m.	
Commercial pre-rinse spray valve (per minute)	1.6 gpm – 6.0 Lpm	1.3 gpm – 4.9 Lpm	1.3 gpm – 4.9 Lpm		1.6 gpm – 6.0 Lpm	1.3 gpm – 4.9 Lpm

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1 **NATIONAL GREEN BUILDING STANDARDS & CODES**

2 **Comparison of specific water use efficiency provisions – maximum water use**

<b>Appliances, Equipment, Irrigation &amp; Alternate Water</b>	<b>Green Globes GBI 01-200XP</b>	<b>ASHRAE SS189.1</b>	<b>ASHRAE S191 (draft)</b>	<b>ICC 700-(NAHB) HOMES</b>	<b>IAPMO Green Plumbing &amp; Mech Code Supplement</b>	<b>ICC Green Code (draft)</b>
Residential dishwasher (total water per full cycle)	Energy Star & 5.8 gal – 22L	Energy Star & 5.8 gal – 22L	Energy Star & 5.0 gal – 19L	Energy Star	Energy Star	Energy Star
Residential clothes washer (water factor)	Energy Star & 6.0 gal – 23L	Energy Star & 6.0 gal – 23L	Energy Star & 4.5 gal – 17L	Energy Star	Energy Star	Energy Star
Graywater treatment system	Encouraged through the treatment and use of alternate (non-potable) sources of water			Points available for use of alternate sources	Specific provisions for equipment installation & water treatment	
Rainwater harvesting	Encouraged through the treatment and use of alternate (non-potable) sources of water				Specific provisions for equipment installation & water treatment	
Landscape irrigation	Provisions are non-mandatory; no turf restrictions	ET-based; smart technology; restrictions on turf	ET-based; smart technology; restrictions on turf	Non-mandatory provisions; some turf restrictions	Only as related to treatment & use of water from alternate sources; no specific landscape provisions	
Water features (fountains, etc.)	Use alternate water sources (non-potable); recirculation required				Use alternate water sources (non-potable)	
Residential water softeners	Demand-initiated regeneration control required				Permitted where water hardness $\geq 8$ grains/gallon (137 mg/L)	Demand-initiated regeneration required; max water use 5 gal (19L) per 1K grains of hardness removed; salt efficiency requirements
Water-powered pumps					Water-powered sump pumps prohibited	Prohibited

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1 **NATIONAL GREEN BUILDING STANDARDS & CODES**

2 **Comparison of specific water use efficiency provisions – maximum water use**

<b>Metering and Commercial Food Service</b>	<b>Green Globes GBI 01-200XP</b>	<b>ASHRAE SS189.1</b>	<b>ASHRAE S191 (draft)</b>	<b>ICC 700- (NAHB) HOMES</b>	<b>IAPMO Green Plumbing &amp; Mech Code Supplement</b>	<b>ICC Green Code (draft)</b>
Sub-metering tenant water use (usage per day)	No	Yes, where >1000g-3800L	Yes, where >1000g-3800L		Yes, where >500g – 1900L	All tenants
Sub-metering processes – industrial/ commercial (usage per day)	No	Yes, where >1000g-3800L	Yes, where >1000g-3800L		Yes, where >1000g-3800L	Yes, where >1000g-3800L
Sub-metering irrigation	No	Yes, <25,000 sq.ft. – 2300 sq.meters	Yes, <10,000 sq.ft. 930 sq.meters		Yes, <15,000 sq.ft. – 1400 sq.meters	Yes, all automatic systems
Building Meter Data Management System	Require remote data communication to central system, recording hourly consumption data				Connection to central building system not required	
Commercial food service – ice makers	Energy Star (air cooled)	Energy Star (air cooled)	Energy Star (air cooled)		Energy Star (air cooled)	Energy Star (air cooled)
Commercial food service – food steamers (per hour)	2.0 g – 7.6 L	2.0 g – 7.6 L	2.0 g – 7.6 L		2.0 g – 7.6 L	2.0 g – 7.6 L
Commercial food service – dishwashers	Energy Star	Energy Star	Energy Star		Energy Star	Energy Star OR meet specified thresholds
Commercial food service – combination ovens (per hour)		10 g – 38 L	10 g – 38 L		10 g – 38 L	
Commercial food service – dipper wells (per minute)						6.0 g – 22.7 Lpm

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## 1 **8.2.4 WaterSense**

2 As early as 2003 and with encouragement from water efficiency advocates, the U.S.  
3 Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) began investigating the feasibility of developing a  
4 voluntary product-labeling program directed at market enhancements for water efficient  
5 products. This effort came to fruition in mid-2006 when the USEPA officially rolled out the  
6 WaterSense program<sup>220</sup>. USEPA officials fashioned WaterSense along the same lines as the  
7 ENERGY STAR initiative, which certifies select products with an energy-efficiency mark. The  
8 ENERGY STAR logo has notable cachet among consumers and specifiers and is credited with  
9 helping sell 1.5 billion qualified products since the label was introduced in 1992.

10 There are *very significant differences* between the two programs, however, including: (1)  
11 WaterSense-labeled products must meet certain performance requirements above and beyond  
12 just water consumption<sup>221</sup> and (2) products applying for the voluntary WaterSense label must be  
13 independently tested by an approved laboratory<sup>222</sup> and found compliant with the appropriate  
14 performance specification.

15 Some of the current (tank-type toilets, urinals, showerheads, residential lavatory faucets) and  
16 proposed<sup>223</sup> WaterSense specifications may appear to relate only to residential applications.  
17 However, residential occupancies will frequently be found within the commercial and institutional  
18 sectors, including:

- 19 • Commercial mixed-use projects that include some residential occupancy,
  - 20 • Transient lodging projects (hotels and motels), and
  - 21 • Institutional projects with on-site residency, such as colleges and universities, fire stations, and  
22 similar government-operated operations.
- 23

24 While the existing WaterSense specifications are considered standards, they are not mandatory  
25 in California<sup>224</sup>.

## 26 **8.2.5 California Code**

27 With the more recent proactive involvement of water efficiency interests in standards and codes  
28 (including both water utility and manufacturer interests), plumbing fixtures have evolved toward  
29 more efficient technologies and products. As a result, the California legislature has considered  
30 a number of initiatives directed at reducing urban water demand by adopting these efficiencies  
31 into California practice. On October 11, 2007, California Assembly Bill 715 (AB715) was signed  
32 into law by the Governor, setting a new standard for the state with regard to plumbing fixtures.

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<sup>220</sup> <http://www.epa.gov/watersense/>

<sup>221</sup> The performance requirements for WaterSense products are directed at assuring user satisfaction with the product's ability to perform the task(s) for which it is intended.

<sup>222</sup> Energy Star products were self-certified by the manufacturers as meeting the program specifications.

<sup>223</sup> Products that are being or will be considered for WaterSense specifications and labeling: flushometer valve toilets, residential water softeners, glassware washers, pre-rinse spray valves, irrigation controllers, moisture sensors, autoclaves, food disposers.

<sup>224</sup> Nationally, some states and municipal jurisdictions have mandated compliance with WaterSense for certain new construction projects, although such is not widespread at this time.

1 Among other things, AB715 provided that, effective January 1, 2014, toilets and urinals sold or  
2 installed in California could not exceed effective flush volumes of 1.28 and 0.5 gallons,  
3 respectively<sup>225</sup>. AB715 further called for the California Building Standards Commission (CBSC)  
4 to develop the specific language in the State codes that reflected these new requirements.

5 Following AB715, the CBSC began work on a set of State “green” codes that became  
6 mandatory beginning in 2011. These provisions were released in 2010 in the form of the  
7 California Green Building Standard Code<sup>226</sup> (CalGreen), which is adopted into Title 24 of the  
8 California Code of Regulations. Provisions within CalGreen affect all types of CII uses in one  
9 way or another, although much of the code has been “reserved” for future development.  
10 Chapter 5 of CalGreen covers Nonresidential Mandatory Measures, which are largely directed  
11 at plumbing and outdoor water use. Appendix A5 of CalGreen covers Nonresidential Voluntary  
12 Measures, which likewise focus mostly on plumbing and outdoor water use. However, voluntary  
13 measures in CalGreen may be adopted as mandatory by jurisdictions that desire to go beyond  
14 the minimum State mandates. The following table compares the provisions of AB715 with those  
15 of CalGreen and Senate Bill 407 (which was directed at replacing non-EPA-compliant fixtures  
16 with EPA-compliant fixtures).

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<sup>225</sup> AB715 defines the effective flush volume of a dual flush toilet as the average flush volume of one full flush and two reduced flushes. The standard for dual flush toilets allows for a full flush maximum of 1.6 gallons and a reduced flush maximum of 1.1 gallons, although many dual flush toilets function satisfactorily on less than these amounts.

<sup>226</sup> <http://www.bsc.ca.gov/CALGreen/default.htm>



1 **CII Toilet and Urinal Fixtures in the California Codes**

Condition, Activity, or Event	AB 715 (2007)	SB 407 (2009)	CalGreen (2010)
<b>Sale of toilet and urinal fixtures through retail or other outlets</b>	All fixtures sold or installed after Jan 1, 2014 must be HETs or HEUs <sup>3</sup>	Not addressed	Not addressed
<b>Existing<sup>1</sup> multi-family residential - Institutional</b>			
Resale	Not addressed	As of Jan 1, 2019, requires written disclosure by Buyer to Seller of non-compliant fixtures in property	Not addressed
Renovation <sup>2</sup>	All fixtures installed after Jan 1, 2014 must be HETs or HEUs <sup>3</sup>	Renovated MFR must be 1.6 max (toilets) or 1.0 max (urinals) on or after Jan 1, 2014 to obtain bldg or occupancy permit	1.28 maximum <sup>3</sup> <u>IF</u> prescriptive path is chosen (per 4.303.1) – Jan 1, 2011
All other MFR	Not addressed	ALL MFR must be 1.6/1.0 max by Jan 1, 2019 <sup>6</sup>	
<b>Existing<sup>1</sup> Commercial-Industrial</b>			
Resale	Not addressed	As of Jan 1, 2019, requires written disclosure by Buyer to Seller of non-compliant fixtures in property	Not addressed
Renovation <sup>227</sup>	All fixtures installed after Jan 1, 2014 must be HETs or HEUs <sup>3</sup>	Renovated Comm'l must be 1.6 max (toilets) or 1.0 max (urinals) on or after Jan 1, 2014 to obtain bldg or occupancy permit	1.28 max (toilets) and 0.5 max (urinals) <sup>3</sup> <u>IF</u> prescriptive path is chosen (per 5.303.2) – Jan 1, 2011

<sup>227</sup> SB407 applies only where building additions increase total building size by more than 10 percent OR for building alterations or improvements, where the total construction cost estimated in the building permit exceeds \$150,000

All other Commercial	Not addressed	ALL Commercial must be 1.6 max on or after Jan 1, 2019 <sup>228</sup>	
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<b>New multi-family residential - Institutional</b>	All fixtures installed after Jan 1, 2014 must be HETs or HEUs <sup>3</sup>	Not addressed	1.28 max (toilets) and 0.5 max (urinals) <sup>3</sup> <u>IF</u> prescriptive path is chosen (per 4.303.1) – Jan 1, 2011
<b>New Commercial - industrial</b>			1.28 max (toilets) <sup>3</sup> and 0.5 max (urinals) <u>IF</u> prescriptive path is chosen (per 5.303.2) – Jan 1, 2011

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3 **8.2.6 Other Standards**

4 The Energy Star Program, the Consortium for Energy Efficiency, and the U.S. Department of  
5 Energy have all promulgated other standards that affect the performance of water-using  
6 appliances and equipment, including clothes washers, dishwashers, steam cookers, and ice-  
7 makers, as well as the plumbing products mentioned previously. The various efficiency  
8 thresholds specified within these programs and mandates are displayed on the following pages.

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<sup>228</sup> Places continuing responsibility on the owner of rental property to guarantee that the toilet “shall be operating at the manufacturer’s rated water consumption at the time that the tenant takes possession.”

Fixtures and Appliances	EPAAct 1992, EPAAct 2005, “Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007” <i>(or backlog NAECA updates)</i>		WaterSense® or Energy Star®		Consortium for Energy Efficiency	
	Current Standard	Proposed/Future Standard	Current Specification	Proposed/Future Specification	Current Specification	Proposed/Future Specification
Residential Toilets  (Water Closets)	1.6 gpf <sup>229</sup>	1.28 gpf/ 4.8 Lpf proposed by efficiency advocates for tank-type only	Tank-type toilets only: WaterSense = 1.28 gpf (4.8L) with at least 350 gram waste removal + LADWP Supplementary Purchase Specification (SPS)	Effective Nov 2011, EPA announced revisions to product specifications for sampling, product marking, & flapper seals, see:  <a href="http://www.epa.gov/WaterSense/docs/revised_het_spec_revisions_summary_050611_final508.pdf">http://www.epa.gov/WaterSense/docs/revised_het_spec_revisions_summary_050611_final508.pdf</a>	No specification	
Residential Lavatory (Bathroom) Faucets	2.2 gpm at 60 psi <sup>230</sup>	1.5 gpm/ 5.7 Lpm proposed by efficiency advocates	WaterSense = 1.5 gpm maximum & 0.8 gpm minimum at 20 psi		No specification	
Residential Kitchen Faucets				None proposed at this time	No specification	

<sup>229</sup> EPAAct 1992 standard for toilets applies to both commercial and residential models.

<sup>230</sup> EPAAct 1992 standard for faucets applies to both commercial and residential models.

Fixtures and Appliances	EPAAct 1992, EPAAct 2005, "Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007" <i>(or backlog NAECA updates)</i>		WaterSense® or Energy Star®		Consortium for Energy Efficiency	
	Current Standard	Proposed/Future Standard	Current Specification	Proposed/Future Specification	Current Specification	Proposed/Future Specification
Residential Showerheads	2.5 gpm at 80 psi		WaterSense = 2.0 gpm max with spray force & coverage requirements		No specification	
Residential Clothes Washers	MEF ≥ 1.26 ft <sup>3</sup> /kWh/cycle WF ≤ 9.5 gal/cycle/ft <sup>3</sup> Note: MEF measures energy consumption of the total laundry cycle (wash + dry). The higher the number, the greater the energy efficiency	DOE to publish final rule by Dec 31, 2011, determining if standards will change effective 1/1/2015.	Energy Star (DOE) Effective Jan 1, 2011: MEF ≥ 2.0 WF ≤ 6.0 gal/cycle/ft <sup>3</sup>  New: Energy Star Most Efficient (Tier 2 Energy Star) Effective May 5, 2011 to Dec 31, 2011: washers greater than 2.5 cubic feet, MEF 3.0 ft <sup>3</sup> /kWh/cycle; WF 3.3 gal/cycle/ft <sup>3</sup>  And for compact capacity washers less than 2.5 cubic feet, MEF 2.3 and WF 4.5  Note: Only EPA certified by independent body residential clothes		Effective Jan 1, 2011, Tier 1: MEF ≥ 2.0 ft <sup>3</sup> /kWh/cycle; WF ≤ 6.0 gal/cycle/ft <sup>3</sup> Tier 2: MEF ≥ 2.2 ft <sup>3</sup> /kWh/cycle; WF ≤ 4.5 gal/cycle/ft <sup>3</sup> Tier 3: MEF ≥ 2.4 ft <sup>3</sup> /kWh/cycle; WF ≤ 4.0 gal/cycle/ft <sup>3</sup>	

Fixtures and Appliances	EPAAct 1992, EPAAct 2005, “Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007” <i>(or backlog NAECA updates)</i>		WaterSense® or Energy Star®		Consortium for Energy Efficiency	
	Current Standard	Proposed/Future Standard	Current Specification	Proposed/Future Specification	Current Specification	Proposed/Future Specification
			washers (no combo washer-dryers) with capacity larger than 1.6 cubic feet are eligible for the Most Efficient Label			

Fixtures and Appliances	EPAAct 1992, EPAAct 2005, “Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007” <i>(or backlog NAECA updates)</i>		WaterSense® or Energy Star®		Consortium for Energy Efficiency	
	Current Standard	Proposed/Future Standard	Current Specification	Proposed/Future Specification	Current Specification	Proposed/Future Specification
Standard Size and Compact Residential Dishwashers <sup>231</sup>	<p><i>Standard models:</i></p> <p>Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 specified: effective 1/1/2010:</p> <p>Standard Size: 355 KWh/year</p> <p>(.62 EF + 1 watt standby)</p> <p>WF ≤ 6.5 gallons/cycle</p> <p>Compact Size: 260 kWh</p> <p>WF ≤ 4.5 gallons/cycle</p>	<p>Also specified by the Act: DOE shall publish final rule by 1/1/2015 determining if dishwasher standards will change effective 1/1/2018.</p>	<p>Energy Star (DOE)</p> <p>Effective July 1, 2009:</p> <p>Standard Size:</p> <p>324 kWh/year</p> <p>WF ≤ 5.8 gallons/cycle</p> <p>Compact Size:</p> <p>234 kWh/year</p> <p>WF ≤ 4.0 gallons/cycle</p> <p>kWh/yr is replacing EF since it includes</p>	<p>Energy Star Proposed effective Jan 1, 2013:</p> <p>Tier 1:</p> <p>Standard Size:</p> <p>307 kWh/yr</p> <p>5.0 gallons per cycle</p> <p>Compact Size:</p> <p>222 kWh/yr</p> <p>3.5 gallons per cycle</p> <p>Note: Tier 2 now being considered by EPA dates and metrics TBD</p>	<p>Effective Jan. 20, 2012:</p> <p>Tier 1:</p> <p>EF ≥ 0.75 cycles/kWh; and 295 max kWh/year; WF 4.25 gallons per cycle</p> <p>Tier 2:</p> <p>EF ≥ 0.75 cycles/kWh; 295 max kWh/year; WF 4.25 gallons per cycle</p> <p><i>Compact models less than 8 place settings):</i></p>	<p>Could adjust Tiers after July 1, 2011 when new Energy Star becomes effective</p>

<sup>231</sup> **Standard models:** capacity is greater than or equal to eight place settings and six serving pieces; **Compact models:** capacity is less than eight place settings and six serving pieces

Fixtures and Appliances	EPAAct 1992, EPAAct 2005, "Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007" <i>(or backlog NAECA updates)</i>		WaterSense® or Energy Star®		Consortium for Energy Efficiency	
	Current Standard	Proposed/Future Standard	Current Specification	Proposed/Future Specification	Current Specification	Proposed/Future Specification
	EF is the number of cycles the machine can run for each kWh of electricity		the cycles the machine can run for each kWh, but also includes up to 8 kWh/yr of standby power (when the machine isn't cycling)		EF ≥ 1.0 cycles/kWh; 222 max kWh/year; 3.5 gallons per cycle	

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Fixtures and Appliances	EPAAct 1992, EPAAct 2005 (or backlog NAECA updates)		WaterSense® or Energy Star®		Consortium for Energy Efficiency	
	Current Standard	Proposed/ Future Standard	Current Specification	Proposed/Future Specification	Current Specification	Proposed /Future Specification
Commercial Toilets  (Water Closets)	1.6 gpf <sup>232</sup> /6.0 Lpf Except blow-out fixtures: 3.5-gpf/13 Lpf Note: Some states prohibit blow-out at 3.5 gpf	1.28 gpf/ 4.8 Lpf proposed by efficiency advocates for tank-type only	Tank-type toilets only: WaterSense =  1.28 gpf (4.8L) with at least 350 gram waste removal + LADWP Supplementary Purchase Specification (SPS)	<u>Flushometer valve/ bowl combinations</u> : WaterSense specification in development. No release date promised.	No specification	
Commercial Urinals	1.0 gpf	0.5 gpf/ 1.9 Lpf proposed by efficiency advocates	WaterSense =  0.5 gpf/1.9Lpf (flushing urinals only – non-water urinals not covered by WS)		No specification	
Commercial Faucets	Private faucets: 2.2 gpm at 60 psi <sup>233</sup> Public Restroom faucets: 0.5 gpm at 60 psi <sup>5</sup> Metering (auto shut off) faucets: 0.25 gallons per			WaterSense draft specification  now under consideration	No specification	

<sup>232</sup> EPAAct 1992 standard for toilets applies to both commercial and residential models.

<sup>233</sup> In addition to EPAAct requirements, the American Society of Mechanical Engineers standard for public lavatory faucets is 0.5 gpm at 60 psi (ASME A112.18.1-2005). This maximum has been incorporated into the national Uniform Plumbing Code and the International Plumbing Code for all except private applications, private being defined as residential, hotel guest rooms, and health care patient rooms. All other applications subject to the 0.5 gpm/1.9 Lpm flow rate maximum.



Fixtures and Appliances	EPA Act 1992, EPA Act 2005 (or backlog NAECA updates)		WaterSense® or Energy Star®		Consortium for Energy Efficiency	
	Current Standard	Proposed/ Future Standard	Current Specification	Proposed/Future Specification	Current Specification	Proposed /Future Specification
	cycle <sup>234</sup> (no maximum flow rate)					
Commercial Clothes Washers (Family-sized)	MEF ≥ 1.26 ft <sup>3</sup> /kWh; WF ≤ 9.5 gal/cycle/ft <sup>3</sup>	Proposed Jan 1, 2013:  Top loaders: 1.6 MEF and WF of 8.5  Front loaders: 2.0 MEF and 5.5 WF.	Energy Star:  MEF ≥ 2.0ft <sup>3</sup> /kWh/cycle;  WF ≤ 6.0 gal/cycle/ft <sup>3</sup>	Jan 8, 2013:  Energy Star Proposed:  2.2 MEF and 4.5 W.F.	(Note: this spec covers only normal capacity family washers, NOT large capacity commercial washers) Tier 1: 2.0 MEF 6.0 gal/cycle/ft <sup>3</sup> Tier 2: 2.200 MEF 4.5 gal/cycle/ft <sup>3</sup> Tier 3: 2.40 MEF 4.0 gal/cycle/ft <sup>3</sup>	Considering changes for 2013

<sup>234</sup> Metering faucets not subject to flow rate maximum

Fixtures and Appliances	EPAAct 1992, EPAAct 2005 (or backlog NAECA updates)		WaterSense® or Energy Star®		Consortium for Energy Efficiency	
	Current Standard	Proposed/ Future Standard	Current Specification	Proposed/Future Specification	Current Specification	Proposed /Future Specification
Commercial Dishwashers	No standard		<p>Energy Star (EPA) using NSF/ANSI standards for water use and ASTM standards for energy use</p> <p>Effective <b>10/11/2007</b></p> <p><i>Under counter:</i></p> <p>Hi Temp: 1.0 gal/rack; &lt;= 0.90 kW; Lo Temp 1.70 gal/rack &lt;= 0.5 kW</p> <p><i>Stationary Single Tank Door:</i></p> <p>Hi Temp: 0.95 gal/rack; &lt;= 1.0 kW</p> <p>Lo Temp: 1.18 gal/rack; &lt;= 0.6 kW</p> <p><i>Single Tank Conveyor:</i></p> <p>Hi Temp: 0.70 gal/rack; &lt;= 2.0 kW;</p> <p>Lo Temp: 0.79 gal/rack; &lt;= 1.6 kW</p> <p><i>Multiple Tank Conveyor:</i></p> <p>Hi Temp: 0.54 gal/rack; &lt;= 2.6 kW</p>		No specification	
			Lo Temp: 0.54 gal/rack; <= 2.0 kW			

Fixtures and Appliances	EPAAct 1992, EPAAct 2005 (or backlog NAECA updates)		WaterSense® or Energy Star®		Consortium for Energy Efficiency	
	Current Standard	Proposed/ Future Standard	Current Specification	Proposed/Future Specification	Current Specification	Proposed /Future Specification
Automatic Commercial Ice Makers <sup>235</sup>	Effective 1/1/2010:  Energy and condenser water efficiency standards vary by equipment type on a sliding scale depending upon harvest rate and type of cooling (see link to additional information at end of this table)		Energy Star (EPA)  Energy and water efficiency standards vary by equipment type on a sliding scale depending upon harvest rate and type of cooling (see link to additional information at end of this table). <u>Water cooled machines excluded from Energy Star</u>		Energy and water (potable and condenser) standards are tiered and vary by equipment type on a sliding scale depending upon harvest rate and type of cooling (see link to additional information at end of this table)	

<sup>235</sup> Optional standards for other types of automatic ice makers are also authorized under EPAAct 2005.

Fixtures and Appliances	EPAAct 1992, EPAAct 2005 <i>(or backlog NAECA updates)</i>		WaterSense® or Energy Star®		Consortium for Energy Efficiency	
	Current Standard	Proposed/ Future Standard	Current Specification	Proposed/Future Specification	Current Specification	Proposed /Future Specification
Commercial Pre-rinse Spray Valves (for food service applications)	Flow rate ≤ 1.6 gpm (no pressure specified; no performance requirement)		No specification	Proposed Energy Star specification abandoned after standard established in EPAAct 2005; WaterSense specification in development in conjunction with Energy Star	No specification (program guidance recommends 1.6 gpm at 60 psi and a cleanability requirement)	

Fixtures and Appliances	EPA Act 1992, EPA Act 2005 (or backlog NAECA updates)		WaterSense® or Energy Star®		Consortium for Energy Efficiency	
	Current Standard	Proposed/ Future Standard	Current Specification	Proposed/Future Specification	Current Specification	Proposed /Future Specification
Commercial Steam Cookers <sup>236</sup>	No standard		Energy Star (EPA)  <i>Electric:</i> 50% cooking energy efficiency; idle rate 400–800 Watts  <i>Gas:</i> 38% cooking energy efficiency; idle rate 6,250–12,500 British thermal units/hour  *No specified water use factor		<i>Electric:</i> 50% cooking energy efficiency; idle rate 400–800 Watts  <i>Gas:</i> 38% cooking energy efficiency; idle rate 6,250–12,500 British thermal units/hour  Water Use Factor (for both electric and gas models):  Tier 1A: ≤ 15 gal/hr  Tier 1B: ≤ 4 gal/hr	

1

<sup>236</sup> Idle rate standards vary for 3-, 4-, 5-, and 6-pan commercial steam cooker models.

1

2 **Information/materials on EPA Act 2005/NAECA standards:**

3 Schedule for development of appliance and commercial equipment efficiency standards:

4 [http://www.eere.energy.gov/buildings/appliance\\_standards/2006\\_schedule\\_setting.html](http://www.eere.energy.gov/buildings/appliance_standards/2006_schedule_setting.html)

5 Commercial Clothes Washers and Dishwashers (agenda/presentations at 4/27/06 DOE public meeting on  
6 rulemaking):

7 [http://www.eere.energy.gov/buildings/appliance\\_standards/residential/home\\_appl\\_mtg.html](http://www.eere.energy.gov/buildings/appliance_standards/residential/home_appl_mtg.html)

8 Automatic Commercial Ice Maker Standards:

9 [http://www.eere.energy.gov/buildings/appliance\\_standards/pdfs/epact2005\\_appliance\\_stds.pdf](http://www.eere.energy.gov/buildings/appliance_standards/pdfs/epact2005_appliance_stds.pdf) (Page 18)

10 Pre-rinse Spray Valves

11 [http://www.eere.energy.gov/buildings/appliance\\_standards/pdfs/epact2005\\_appliance\\_stds.pdf](http://www.eere.energy.gov/buildings/appliance_standards/pdfs/epact2005_appliance_stds.pdf) (Page 10)

12

13 **Information/materials on WaterSense specifications:**

14 Toilets

15 <http://www.epa.gov/watersense/products/toilets.html>

16 Urinals

17 <http://www.epa.gov/watersense/products/urinals.html>

18 Bathroom Lavatory Faucets

19 [http://www.epa.gov/watersense/products/bathroom\\_sink\\_faucets.html](http://www.epa.gov/watersense/products/bathroom_sink_faucets.html)

20

21 **Information/materials on Energy Star specifications:**

22 Residential Clothes Washers

23 [http://www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=clotheswash.pr\\_crit\\_clothes\\_washers](http://www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=clotheswash.pr_crit_clothes_washers)

24 Commercial Clothes Washers

25 [http://www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?fuseaction=clotheswash.display\\_commercial\\_cw](http://www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?fuseaction=clotheswash.display_commercial_cw)

26 Residential Dishwashers

27 [http://www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=dishwash.pr\\_dishwashers](http://www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=dishwash.pr_dishwashers)

28 Commercial Dishwashers

29 [http://www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=new\\_specs.comm\\_dishwashers](http://www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=new_specs.comm_dishwashers)

30 Automatic Commercial Ice Makers

- 1 [http://www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=new\\_specs.ice\\_machines](http://www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=new_specs.ice_machines)
- 2 Commercial Steam Cookers
- 3 [http://www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=steamcookers.pr\\_steamcookers](http://www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=steamcookers.pr_steamcookers)
- 4
- 5 **Information/materials on CEE specifications:**
- 6 Residential Clothes Washers
- 7 <http://www.cee1.org/resid/seha/rwsh/rwsh-main.php3>
- 8 Residential Dishwashers
- 9 <http://www.cee1.org/resid/seha/dishw/dishw-main.php3>
- 10 Commercial, Family-Sized Clothes Washers
- 11 <http://www.cee1.org/com/cwsh/cwsh-main.php3>
- 12 Commercial Ice-Makers
- 13 <http://www.cee1.org/com/com-kit/files/ProgramGuidanceIceMachines.pdf>
- 14 <http://www.cee1.org/resrc/facts/com-ice-fx.pdf>
- 15 Spec Table: <http://www.cee1.org/com/com-kit/files/IceSpecification01Jul2011.pdf>
- 16 Commercial Dishwashers
- 17 <http://www.cee1.org/com/com-kit/files/ProgramGuidanceDishwashers.pdf>
- 18 <http://www.cee1.org/com/com-kit/files/DishwasherSpecification.pdf>
- 19 Pre-rinse Spray Valves
- 20 <http://www.cee1.org/com/com-kit/files/prv-guides.pdf>
- 21 Commercial Steam Cookers
- 22 <http://www.cee1.org/com/com-kit/files/ProgramGuidanceSteamers.pdf>
- 23 <http://www.cee1.org/com/com-kit/sc-hc-specs.pdf>
- 24 Specification: <http://www.cee1.org/com/com-kit/files/SteamerSpecification.pdf>
- 25

## 9 Public Infrastructure Needs for Recycled Water

Commercial, industrial, and institutional (CII) water users can contribute to better management of the State’s water by replacing potable or fresh water with recycled water or by using less water by following the BMPs cited in other sections of this report. This Section focuses on CII use of recycled water obtained from an external recycled water supplier, as defined in Box 9-

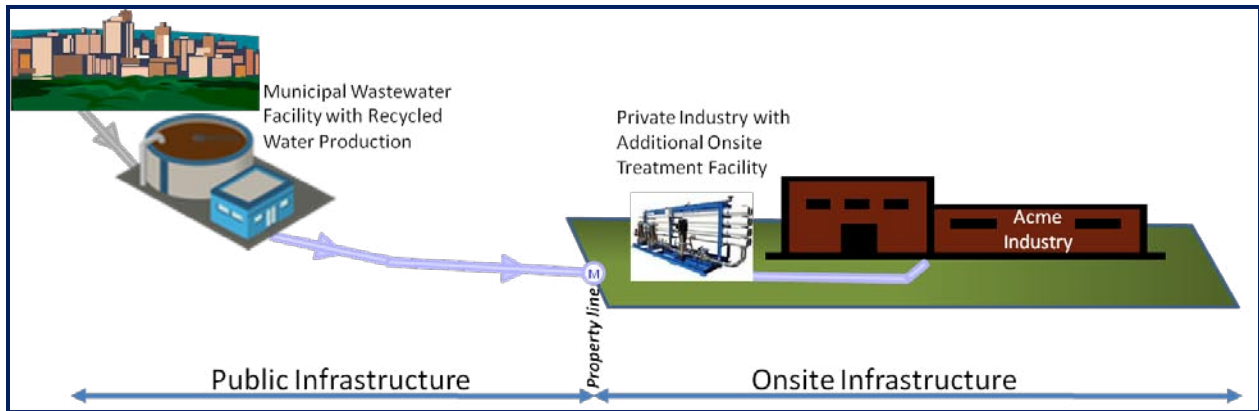
1. One of the fundamental challenges to increasing CII use of recycled municipal water is infrastructure limitations. After a brief initial discussion on the history and status of municipal recycled water in the state, Section 10 focuses on public infrastructure needs for increasing CII recycled water use, as required by California Water Code Section 10608.43. It addresses some of the issues associated with on-site infrastructure, which is frequently a limiting factor in integrating municipal recycled water into a CII user’s water supply. The section also includes a brief discussion of funding mechanisms and descriptions of successfully implemented projects.

### Box 9-1. Recycled Water Definition

“Recycled water” is defined in the Water Code (see glossary) as wastewater treated to a quality suitable for beneficial use. The Water Code definition does not designate the source of the wastewater. In the context of this report, the discussion of recycled water is focused on treated wastewater of municipal origin and will usually be referred to as “municipal recycled water.” Municipal wastewater is considered to be community wastewater containing a domestic wastewater component.

For this report, the term “Infrastructure” is separated into two components: “public infrastructure” and “on-site infrastructure”. “Public infrastructure” refers to facilities serving the general community, including wastewater collection and treatment, and recycled water storage and distribution to customers. “On-site infrastructure” refers to facilities located on customer sites that might include additional water treatment, recycled water plumbing, and modifications of industrial processes (Figure 9-1). CII water users can also improve water management by using lower quality water appropriate for non-potable uses by identifying alternative water sources, such as low quality groundwater. CII facilities commonly reuse water within their facility, either by cycling water multiple times through an individual process, such as a cooling tower, or by cascading reuse by passing water from one process to another until its quality is no longer suitable for another use. In many instances, Industrial wastewater may also be treated and delivered to another site for reuse, such as food process discharge water being used for agricultural irrigation. Significant water savings can be achieved by this internal reuse or industrial water recycling. BMPs and case studies for cascading reuse or multi-cycle use are addressed in other sections. This section focuses only on municipal water recycling.





1  
2 Figure 9-1: Public and Onsite Recycled Water Infrastructure. Delineation between Public Infrastructure –  
3 community-based wastewater collection, treatment and distribution system - and Onsite Infrastructure –  
4 customer-owned pipeline and or supplemental treatment system dedicated to treating water used at a  
5 commercial or industrial facility.

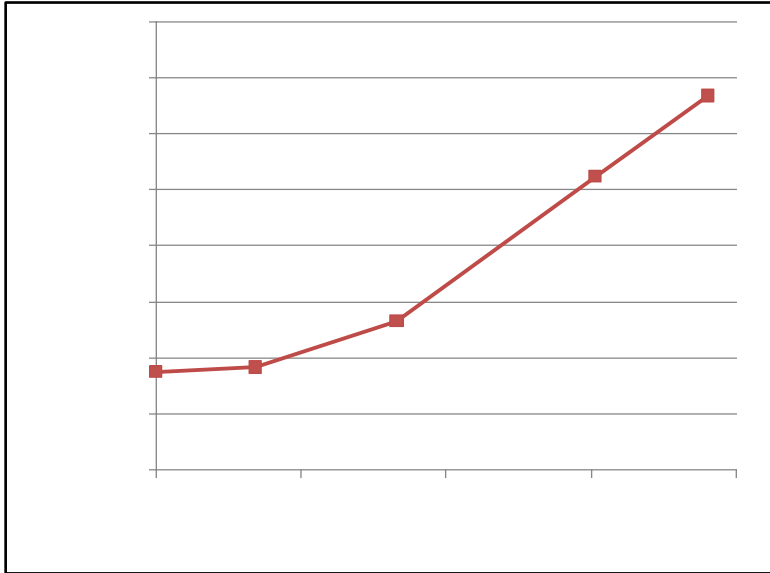
6 **9.1 Municipal Recycled Water in California**

7 Recycled water is used extensively in California to meet municipal, environmental, commercial,  
8 industrial, and institutional water supply needs. Recycled water projects are almost exclusively  
9 implemented on the local level and involve one or more agencies working cooperatively to  
10 address wastewater and recycled water issues. Because of the link between wastewater and  
11 water supply quality, quantity, and reliability, as well as jurisdictional issues and distribution  
12 systems, implementing these projects can involve extensive interagency collaboration. A brief,  
13 foundational discussion of recycled water in California is included below.

14

15 **9.1.1 History**

16 Recycled water has been used beneficially in California for over 100 years. In the earliest  
17 applications, farms located near urban areas in this drought-prone state used effluent from  
18 municipal wastewater treatment plants. In some cases, farmers even gave cities easements for  
19 sewer mains in exchange for the right to pump untreated wastewater to irrigate their crops. By  
20 1910, 35 sites were using recycled water for agriculture purposes. San Francisco's Golden  
21 Gate Park began using raw sewage for irrigation water, but in 1932 it had to add a septic tank  
22 because of complaints from nearby residents. This system became the first documented  
23 California facility dedicated to treating recycled water. The McQueen Treatment Plant operated  
24 until 1978. In 1952, 107 California communities were using recycled water for agricultural and  
25 landscape irrigation. Following a national initiative to upgrade and improve the level of  
26 wastewater treatment in the 1970s, the diversity of recycled water uses increased, and they now  
27 include landscape, agricultural, and golf course irrigation; commercial and industrial  
28 applications; environmental enhancement; groundwater recharge; and reservoir augmentation.  
29 Statewide surveys conducted since 1970 have quantified the annual volume of recycled water  
30 use and have shown a steady increase in the amount and types of uses for recycled water in  
31 California (Figure 9-2).



1  
 2 **Figure 9-2: Municipal Recycled Water in California Since 1970.** Recycled water beneficially reused in  
 3 California since 1970, based on statewide surveys.

4 **9.1.2 Potable and Non-potable Recycled Water Applications**

5 Treated municipal wastewater is used as potable and non-potable supply. Currently, municipal  
 6 recycled water is used directly in CII applications in California for non-potable purposes, such as  
 7 process or landscaping applications. In these applications, recycled water is delivered from the  
 8 recycled water treatment facility to water users via distribution pipeline systems dedicated to  
 9 recycled or nonpotable water. Eighty-one percent of recycled water use in California is for  
 10 nonpotable purposes delivered in these “dual distribution” (recycled water, separate from  
 11 potable water) systems.

12 CII users benefit indirectly when a water supplier is able to augment its overall potable water  
 13 supplies by implementing potable recycled water projects, such as groundwater recharge with  
 14 recycled water. Potable recycled water projects are classified as either indirect potable or direct  
 15 potable reuse. Indirect potable reuse projects incorporate recycled water into a raw water  
 16 supply such as a surface storage reservoir or a groundwater aquifer. The recycled water mixes  
 17 with the native water and often benefits from additional natural systems treatment. Direct  
 18 potable reuse projects incorporate highly treated recycled water directly into potable water  
 19 treatment plants or water distribution systems. Currently indirect potable reuse through  
 20 groundwater recharge is the only form of potable reuse that has been permitted in California.  
 21 Table 10-1 summarizes the indirect potable water use projects active in California in 2011.  
 22 Some of the injection projects provide a dual benefit of protecting the groundwater basin from  
 23 seawater intrusion by creating a hydraulic barrier, while also augmenting the groundwater  
 24 supply available for use. Several other indirect potable reuse projects are in pilot phase testing,  
 25 including reservoir augmentation, and they are expected to be online within a few years.

26

1

Table 9-1 INDIRECT POTABLE REUSE PROJECTS ACTIVE IN 2011					
PROJECT	TREATMENT <sup>1</sup>	GROUND-WATER RECHARGE METHOD	RECYCLED WATER VOLUME (TAFY/%) <sup>2</sup>	POPULATION SERVED (millions) <sup>3</sup>	INITIAL YEAR OF OPERATION
Montebello	Tertiary	Percolation	50/35	4	1962
West Coast	Advanced	Injection	15/ 50-100		1994
Dominguez Gap	Advanced	Injection			2006
Alamitos	Advanced	Injection			2005
Orange County/ Talbert	Advanced	Injection	72(104) <sup>4</sup> /50-100	2.4	1976
Orange County/ Anaheim	Advanced	Percolation and Injection			2008
Chino Basin	Tertiary	Percolation	5/8-13	0.8	2005
<p>1. <b>NOTES:</b>Advanced treatment is reverse osmosis and advanced oxidation (ultraviolet plus peroxide).</p> <p>2. TAFY=quantity of recycled water injected or percolated to groundwater each year in thousands of acre-feet. The average concentration in percent by volume of recycled water in groundwater is also shown.</p> <p>3. Population served by distribution system connected to the groundwater recharge project.4. The project is being expanded from 72 to 104 TAFY in 2011.</p>					

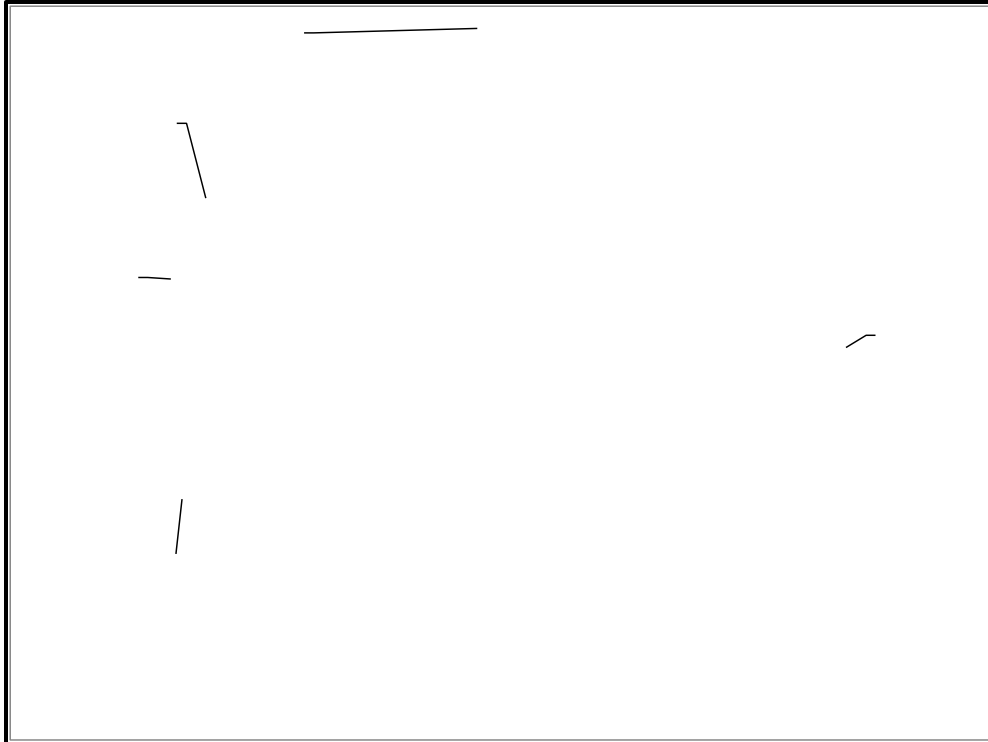
2

### 3 9.1.3 Current Statewide Recycling

4 The State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) with assistance from the DWR conducted  
 5 a survey of agencies involved with the beneficial treatment, conveyance, or reuse of domestic  
 6 wastewater as recycled water. The survey results established that a total of 669,000 acre feet  
 7 of municipal wastewater were treated and delivered for use in California in 2009.

8 Recycled water use was classified according to eleven beneficial uses, as shown in Figure 9-3.  
 9 The categories of CII uses are Commercial, Industrial, Golf Course Irrigation, and most of  
 10 Landscape Irrigation. A few minor CII uses, such as toilet flushing, are in the "Other" category.  
 11 The commercial (6,400 AF) and industrial (47,100 AF) beneficial uses account for eight percent  
 12 of the overall municipal recycled water use in 2009. A small but unknown quantity of Landscape  
 13 Irrigation occurs in residential settings. In total, CII uses represent about 30 percent of total  
 14 recycled water use. Institutional uses were not categorized separately from the other beneficial  
 15 uses, although the recycled water use at prisons, colleges, and military bases included in the  
 16 survey include 10,200 AF of golf course, landscape, and agricultural irrigation.

17



1  
2 **Figure 9-3: Recycled Water Beneficial Use Distribution in 2009.** 2009 Recycled Municipal Wastewater Survey,  
3 showing beneficial use categories, volume of water in acre-feet beneficially used in 2009, and the overall percentage  
4 of the category based on the annual amount of water beneficially used in 2009.

#### 5 **9.1.4 Title 22 Levels of Treatment**

6 The California Department of Public Health  
7 (CDPH) prescribes the levels of treatment  
8 that are required for recycled water to protect  
9 public health. In general, the levels of  
10 treatment are based on the levels of human  
11 exposure and the types of exposure that  
12 provide pathways to infection. The required  
13 levels of treatment are specified in Title 22 of  
14 the California Code of Regulations (Division  
15 4, Chapter 3, §60301 et seq.). The Title 22  
16 regulations also specify monitoring and  
17 reporting requirements and on-site use area  
18 requirements.

19 Municipal wastewater treatment generally  
20 can have four levels, as commonly described  
21 in Box 9-2. The levels of treatment are mostly governed by Title 22 requirements to protect  
22 public health. However, as described later in this Section, water quality can be critical to certain  
23 CII applications and the type and level of treatment may be determined based on needs aside  
24 from public health protection.

#### **Box 9-2. Wastewater Treatment Levels**

**Primary Treatment** removes 70 to 85 percent of the organic and inorganic solids that either settle out or float to the top.

**Secondary Treatment** mixes the remaining suspended waste solids with microorganisms and air. The microorganisms convert the waste solids to biomass that settles out.

**Tertiary Treatment** filters out most of the remaining solids through a granular media (sand or anthracite coal) or a membrane, with the final product water being disinfected with chlorine or ultraviolet light to kill off bacteria, viruses, and other microorganisms.

**Advanced Treatment** is any water treatment technologies beyond conventional coagulation, filtration and disinfection. These may include reverse osmosis, micro- or nanofiltration, ozonation, or advanced oxidation.

(Los Angeles County, 2005; AWWARF, 2006;

1 One of the key components of incorporating recycled water in CII applications is aligning  
2 potential uses to the level of treated recycled water that is or is potentially available.  
3 Determining recycled water availability requires coordination with both the local water and  
4 wastewater agencies, because each jurisdiction has its own roles, authorities, and service areas  
5 with respect to recycled water generation and distribution.

6 Table 9-2 summarizes the CII applications that are allowed for levels of recycled water  
7 treatment specified in Title 22. While Title 22 lists specific allowed uses, other uses are  
8 permitted after a case-by-case evaluation and approval by CDPH. For example, additional non-  
9 potable recycled water applications include geothermal power production and carpet-dyeing. In  
10 general, the linkage between level of recycled water treatment and potential uses specified in  
11 Title 22 is strongly influenced by the potential for direct human contact and ingestion, with  
12 higher levels of treatment (tertiary or advanced) required for open public access and worker  
13 contact issues.

14 Indirect potable reuse through groundwater recharge has occurred in California since 1962.  
15 Title 22 does not specify specific treatment, design, or monitoring requirements for groundwater  
16 recharge. The regulations provide that CDPH will make recommendations to the RWQCBs for  
17 each project on a case-by-case basis. The recommendations are reflected in requirements in  
18 water recycling permits issued by the RWQCBs. To provide a more systematic approach to  
19 regulating groundwater recharge, CDPH drafted regulations in the 1980s. The draft regulations  
20 were based in part on recommendations by the Scientific Advisory Panel on Groundwater  
21 Recharge and an earlier scientific panel. These draft regulations have evolved as new research  
22 and data from existing projects have become available. In general, the draft regulations have  
23 become more flexible and are tailored for each new project in the form of recommendations for  
24 RWQCB permits.

25 CDPH has an independent authority to protect sources of drinking water and to regulate public  
26 drinking water systems. In its role of protecting drinking water sources, CDPH may specify  
27 requirements that would be included in the water recycling permits issued by the RWQCBs. In  
28 regulating public water systems, potable water suppliers obtain permits for operating water  
29 treatment plants or drinking water wells. For groundwater recharge projects using recycled  
30 water, these CDPH permits have not been a focus. However, in the future, for indirect potable  
31 reuse involving surface water augmentation or direct potable reuse, CDPH permits may play a  
32 more significant role.

33

Table 9-2

**POTENTIAL CII APPLICATIONS FOR RECYCLED WATER, BASED ON TITLE 22 REQUIREMENTS<sup>1</sup>**

POTENTIAL COMMERCIAL (non-agricultural), INDUSTRIAL, AND INSTITUTIONAL USES	MINIMUM TREATMENT LEVEL <sup>2</sup>		
	Disinfected Secondary-23 <sup>3,4</sup>	Disinfected Secondary-2.2 <sup>3,5</sup>	Tertiary <sup>6</sup>
<b>Landscape and Buildings</b>			
Cemetery landscaping	X		
Decorative fountains			X
Drain trap priming			X
Fire protection, structural			X
Fire protection, non-structural	X		
Golf courses, restricted access	X		
Golf courses, unrestricted access			X
Landscape impoundments	X		
Landscaping, freeway	X		
Landscaping, restricted access	X		
Landscaping, unrestricted access			X
Toilet and urinal flushing			X
<b>Commercial and Industrial</b>			
Aquaculture		X	
Artificial snow making			X
Backfill consolidation around nonpotable piping	X		
Backfill consolidation around potable piping			X
Car washes			X
Cleaning roads, sidewalks and outdoor work areas	X		
Concrete mixing	X		
Cooling and air conditioning, mist generation			X
Cooling and air conditioning, no mist generation	X		
Dust control on roads and streets	X		
Industrial boiler feed	X		
Industrial process water, no worker contact	X		
Industrial process water, worker contact			X
Laundries			X
Nurseries irrigation	X		
Sod farms	X		
Soil compaction	X		
<b>NOTES:</b>			
1. Title 22 of the California Code of Regulations (Division 4, Chapter 3, §60301 et seq.)			
2. Undisinfected secondary water is primarily used for agricultural applications and sanitary sewer flushing. Advanced treated water is used primarily for potable groundwater recharge applications. Neither application is presented in this table.			
3. Title 22 identifies two levels of secondary treatment based on total coliform testing and differentiates recycled water use for each.			
4. §60301.225.			
5. §60301.220.			
6. §60301.230.			

1 In 2010 Senate Bill No. 918 (SB 918) was enacted. One of its primary provisions was to add  
2 Chapter 7.3 to Division 7 of the California Water Code, addressing the regulation of indirect and  
3 direct potable reuse. The following provisions were enacted:

- 4 • On or before December 31, 2013, CDPH shall adopt uniform water recycling criteria for  
5 indirect potable reuse for groundwater recharge.
- 6 • CDPH shall convene and administer an expert panel for the purposes of advising CDPH  
7 on public health issues and scientific and technical matters regarding development of  
8 uniform water recycling criteria for indirect potable reuse through surface water  
9 augmentation and investigation of the feasibility of developing uniform water recycling  
10 criteria for direct potable reuse.
- 11 • On or before December 31, 2016, CDPH shall develop and adopt uniform water  
12 recycling criteria for surface water augmentation, provided that CDPH submit the  
13 proposed criteria to the expert panel and the expert panel adopts a finding that the  
14 proposed criteria would adequately protect public health.
- 15 • CDPH shall investigate and report to the Legislature by December 31, 2016, on the  
16 feasibility of developing uniform water recycling criteria for direct potable reuse and shall  
17 complete a public review draft of its report by June 30, 2016.
- 18 • CDPH, in consultation with SWRCB, shall report to the Legislature as part of the annual  
19 budget process, in each year from 2011 to 2016, inclusive, on the progress towards  
20 developing and adopting uniform water recycling criteria for surface water augmentation  
21 and its investigation of the feasibility of developing uniform water recycling criteria for  
22 direct potable reuse.
- 23 • CDPH may appoint an advisory group, task force, or other group, comprised of  
24 representatives of water and wastewater agencies, local public health officers,  
25 environmental organizations, environmental justice organizations, public health  
26 nongovernmental organizations, and the business community, to advise the department  
27 regarding the development of uniform water recycling criteria for direct potable reuse.
- 28 • SWRCB shall enter into an agreement with CDPH to assist in implementing these  
29 provisions.

### 30 **9.1.5 Regulatory Agencies and their Roles in Statewide Recycling**

31 The current framework for regulating recycled water has been in place since the 1970s.  
32 Primary authority for overseeing recycled water is divided between the SWRCB, including the  
33 nine RWQCBs, and CDPH. A memorandum of agreement between the SWRCB and CDPH  
34 documents this arrangement and clarifies the roles of the agencies.

35 Four other state agencies are directly involved with recycled water issues in California and  
36 implement various sections of state law: DWR, California Public Utilities Commission, California  
37 Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD), and California Building Standards  
38 Commission (CBSC). Statutes governing recycled water are currently contained within the  
39 Water, Health and Safety, and Public Utilities codes and regulations are in various subdivisions  
40 (titles) of the California Code of Regulations (CCR). State agency roles and responsibilities are  
41 summarized in Table 9-3.

Table 9-3

**REGULATORY AGENCY ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE REGULATION AND USE OF RECYCLED WATER**

<b>AGENCY</b>	<b>ROLE</b>	<b>RESPONSIBILITY</b>	<b>CALIFORNIA CCR</b>
Department of Public Health	Protects public health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adopts uniform recycled water criteria for non-potable and potable recycled water projects<sup>1</sup></li> <li>• Provides recommendations for recycled water project permits</li> <li>• Reviews and makes recommendations on sites proposed for recycled water use</li> <li>• Oversees cross-connection prevention<sup>2</sup></li> <li>• Oversees protection of drinking water sources</li> <li>• Regulates public drinking water systems</li> </ul>	Titles 17 and 22
State Water Resources Control Board	Protects Water quality and water rights	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establishes general policies governing recycled water project permitting</li> <li>• Oversees RWQCBs</li> <li>• Provides financial assistance to local agencies for recycled water projects</li> <li>• Allocates surface water rights</li> </ul>	Title 23
Regional Water Quality Control Boards (nine)	Protects water quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Issues and enforces permits for recycled water projects, incorporating Title 22 requirements and CDPH recommendations</li> <li>• Protects surface and ground water quality from recycled water impacts</li> </ul>	Title 23
Department of Water Resources	Manages statewide water supply	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Evaluates the use of and plans for potential future uses of recycled water through the preparation of the California Water Plan</li> <li>• Provides financial assistance to local agencies for recycled water projects</li> <li>• Adopts standards for indoor plumbing for recycled water</li> </ul>	Title 24 (California Plumbing Code, Chapter 16A, Part II)
Public Utilities Commission	Oversees rates and revenues of investor-owned utilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Approves rates and terms of service for the use of recycled water by</li> </ul>	Title 20



		investor-owned utilities	
Department of Housing and Community Development	Oversees building standards for dwellings, including institutions and temporary lodgings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Adopts standards for graywater systems in residential structures</li> <li>Adopts standards for nonpotable water systems within</li> </ul>	Title 24 (California Plumbing Code, Chapter 16A, Part I; Chapter 6)
California Building Standards Commission	Oversees the adoption of standards for buildings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Will adopt standards for graywater systems in nonresidential structures in 2011 cycle of California Building Standards Code</li> <li>Oversees the adoption of California Plumbing Code, including provisions added by other state agencies</li> </ul>	Title 24 (California Building Standards)
Local Building Officials	Oversee building design, including plumbing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Enforce building standards, including California Plumbing Code</li> </ul>	Title 24
County environmental health departments	Protect drinking water systems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Enforce cross-connection control</li> <li>Review and make recommendations on sites proposed for recycled water use</li> </ul>	Titles 17 and 22
<p>NOTES:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As of November 2011, CDPH has adopted regulations in Title 22 for non-potable use of recycled water, but not for potable reuse projects. SB 918 requires CDPH to adopt uniform water recycling criteria for indirect potable reuse projects involving groundwater recharge and surface water augmentation.</li> <li>May delegate some responsibilities for review of new sites and cross-connection control to the local County Health Departments with the permission of the local recycled water provider</li> </ol>			

- 1
- 2 Local city and county officials also have a regulatory role affecting recycled water projects. In
- 3 some cases, CDPH can delegate responsibilities to local officials if local recycled water project
- 4 sponsors agree with the delegation.
- 5 Nine RWQCBs, several CDPH district offices, 58 counties, and numerous cities have a role in
- 6 regulation water recycling. Statewide, many officials have a regulatory role governing some
- 7 aspect of water recycling projects. In some cases, maintaining consistent application of laws
- 8 and regulations has been a challenge.

9 **9.1.5.1 Recycled Water Permits**

10 Recycled water permits may be issued by either individual RWQCBs or the SWRCB to

11 producers of recycled water, purveyors who supply their customers with recycled water

12 produced by others, or individual users of recycled water. With a minor exception, recycled

13 water permits are issued by RWQCBs in the form of water reclamation requirements, waste

14 discharge requirements, or master recycling permits. Master recycling permits combine

15 provisions from both water reclamation requirements and waste discharge requirements, and

16 the producer with a master permit is required to adopt a use ordinance and enforce this

1 ordinance. Regardless of the form of the permit, the requirements applicable to recycled water  
2 would be the same and incorporate applicable provisions of Title 22 regulations and  
3 recommendations of CDPH. In lieu of writing permits for each project, the SWRCB also has a  
4 statewide general permit for landscape irrigation with tertiary treated recycled water. The  
5 variety of permitting approaches provides flexibility to adapt permits to the roles and authorities  
6 of agencies involved in recycled water production or distribution.

7 As noted in section 9.1.4, CDPH oversees protection of drinking water sources and issues  
8 permits to water suppliers for public drinking water systems. To date, the drinking water permits  
9 have not played a significant role in regulating water recycling projects.

### 10 **9.1.5.2 Recycled Water Policies**

11 Recycled water law in the state is based on the California Constitution (Article X, Chapter 2)  
12 which states that “. . . waste or unreasonable use or unreasonable method of use of water be  
13 prevented . . .”.

14 Issues of concern for permitting recycled and for protecting water quality include salinity  
15 management, regulation of incidental runoff, and monitoring and regulation of constituents of  
16 emerging concern. To address these issues, the SWRCB in 2009 adopted a Recycled Water  
17 Policy. Some key elements of the policy were:

- 18 1. Manage salinity for each basin/subbasin through involvement and implementation salt  
19 and nutrient management plans.
- 20 2. Regulate incidental runoff through waste discharge requirements, which may include  
21 NPDES permits or stormwater permits with specific permit provisions.
- 22 3. Prioritize approval of groundwater recharge projects utilizing recycled water treated by  
23 reverse osmosis.
- 24 4. Convene an expert technical panel to provide recommendations on regulation of  
25 constituents of emerging concern for recycled water policy.

## 26 **9.2 Municipal Recycled Water Infrastructure**

27 The infrastructure for use of municipal recycled water begins with the wastewater collection  
28 system and ends with the plumbing on the recycled water user’s site. Many components of this  
29 infrastructure and factors are needed to make a project feasible for successful use of recycled  
30 water by CII customers. An overview of these components is presented below. Section 9.3  
31 contains a greater focus on issues pertinent to CII recycled water use.

### 32 **9.2.1 Wastewater Collection and Treatment and Recycled Water Distribution**

33 Water recycling projects are generally infrastructure-intensive to construct and operate,  
34 requiring capital investment, project siting, construction, maintenance, operation, and other  
35 significant challenges for the agency and customer building and operating the project. Key  
36 project-specific variables affect infrastructure requirements for future water recycling projects in  
37 California as described below. This section addresses only non-potable recycled water  
38 treatment and distribution because most CII recycled water applications are non-potable.

#### 39 **9.2.1.1 Source Control**

1 The quality of recycled water is affected by the quality of the source of potable water supply and  
2 the pollutants added to the water during use before the wastewater is discharged into  
3 wastewater collection systems. Conventional secondary and tertiary treatment are very  
4 effective in removing organic matter and pathogens. However, these levels of treatment are not  
5 designed to remove many chemicals. While many chemicals are not harmful to the  
6 environment when discharged into a river, they may be detrimental to certain uses of recycled  
7 water. For example, boron can be harmful to landscape plants. Source control or industrial  
8 pretreatment programs are in place to require commercial and industrial water users to reduce  
9 or eliminate certain chemicals before releasing their wastewater into sewers. Source control  
10 can be an important factor for recycled water projects because it may improve the quality to be  
11 acceptable to CII users without the need for expensive advanced wastewater treatment.  
12 Control of wastewater quality starts with the collection, pretreatment, and source control of  
13 sewage.

14 Other source control issues include:

- 15 • Inflow and infiltration. Sewage quality can be deteriorated through infiltration into the  
16 sewer system. For example, when sewers run through areas with brackish groundwater,  
17 salt concentration of the sewage can increase. Proper construction and maintenance of  
18 the sewers can reduce the impacts of infiltration.
- 19 • Source water. Higher salinity water supply sources can contribute to higher salinity in  
20 sewage that passes through to recycled water. For example, this could be true in  
21 system with both high TDS groundwater and good quality surface water sources.  
22 Sewage salinity would increase when higher TDS groundwater is used during seasonal  
23 supply changes or when groundwater is used during drought conditions when surface  
24 water is not available. This salinity increase could result in additional treatment to  
25 achieve recycled water at a target quality and also increase the waste byproducts of  
26 the recycling process.
- 27 • Water softeners. Home-based water softeners may introduce additional salts into the  
28 municipal waste stream. AB 1366 (2009, CWC §13148) enables local jurisdictions to  
29 regulate home self-regenerating water softener use to reduce the salinity of inflow to  
30 wastewater treatment facilities and water recycling facilities.

### 31 **9.2.1.2 Treatment Approaches**

32 The type and level of wastewater treatment required and selected for a water recycling project is  
33 one of the most important variables in determining the ultimate infrastructure cost for the project.  
34 According to the RWTF Water Recycling 2030 Report,

35 “The degree and type of wastewater treatment that is provided to make recycled water  
36 suitable for use depends on the types of use, the potential exposure of humans to  
37 recycled water and the public health implication, and the water quality required beyond  
38 health considerations. The basic levels of treatment include primary, secondary, and  
39 tertiary. Not all wastewater receives all three levels of treatment. Secondary treatment is  
40 commonly the minimum level of treatment for discharge to surface waters and for many  
41 uses of recycled water. Tertiary treatment is sometimes required for discharge to surface

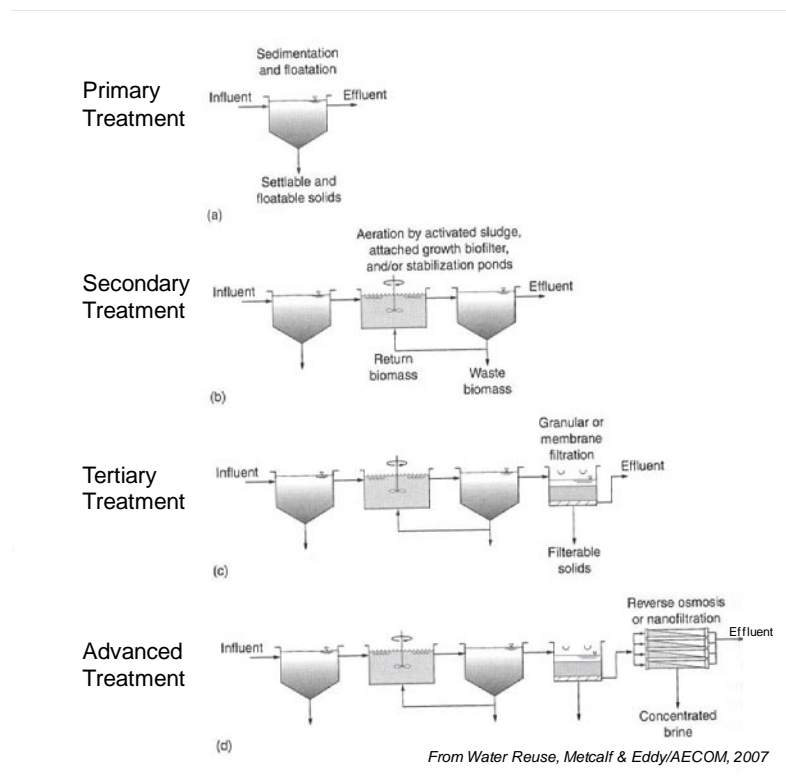
1 water to protect fisheries or protect use of the waters. Tertiary treatment is often  
2 required for recycled water where there is a high degree of human contact. Disinfection  
3 is usually required for either discharge or recycled water use to kill viruses and bacteria  
4 that can cause illness.”

5  
6 The CDHS specifies the levels of treatment for recycled water and publishes the  
7 standards in Title 22 of the California Code of Regulations. Beyond the treatment  
8 required for health protection, certain uses have specific water quality needs. High  
9 sodium or boron in water can be harmful to crops. Water hardness can cause scaling in  
10 industrial boilers. Nitrogen and phosphorus can stimulate algal growth in ponds or  
11 cooling towers. Sometimes specialized forms of tertiary treatment are needed to remove  
12 specific chemicals that would make recycled water unusable.”

13 The recycled water treatment process consists of a series of steps or stages. The steps may  
14 include:

- 15 • Primary sedimentation
- 16 • Activated sludge secondary treatment
- 17 • Secondary sedimentation, potentially including nitrification and denitrification
- 18 • Chemical coagulation with alum and polymer
- 19 • Dual media filtration
- 20 • Advanced treatment processes, such as reverse osmosis (RO), etc.
- 21 • Disinfection using chlorination or sodium hypochlorite

22 Figure 9-4 illustrates examples of these steps combined in a treatment process.



1 **Figure 9-4: Recycled Water Treatment Process.** Schematic of possible treatment steps to achieve  
2 different levels of treatment and potential recycled water use.

3 With the exception of a few ocean discharges, all municipal wastewater in the United States  
4 must receive a minimum of secondary treatment. To avoid polluting sensitive rivers, bays, or  
5 estuaries, tertiary treatment by dual media filtration (or equivalent) is frequently required. To the  
6 extent that treatment is required to meet pollution control levels to protect receiving waters, the  
7 cost of treatment is typically borne by the wastewater agency and sewer users. In many cases,  
8 the treatment already in place to satisfy pollution control requirements is satisfactory for many  
9 CII recycled water users. However, if specialized water quality needs of CII customers require  
10 additional recycled water treatment, the cost of the additional treatment would be allocated to a  
11 water supply function.

12 Reducing the salinity of the treated wastewater flow entering the recycled water distribution  
13 system in some cases is a key aspect of producing recycled water. Reverse osmosis (RO)  
14 commonly is used to remove salinity. The RO process produces a concentrated salt solution  
15 called brine. Disposal of brine can be costly and environmentally challenging.

16 The Santa Ana River Interceptor (SARI) system provides an example of a regional solution to  
17 the brine disposal challenge. SARI is a pipeline that conveys saline waters from many brine  
18 producers in the upper Santa Ana River region to the Orange County Sanitation District for  
19 treatment and disposal into the Pacific Ocean. It segregates high-salt wastewater from  
20 domestic wastewater, thus protecting the quality of domestic wastewater for reuse.

### 21 **9.2.1.3 Distribution System**

22 The non-potable recycled water distribution system typically includes a number of interrelated  
23 elements:

- 24 • Delivery System - A network of “purple pipes” (although large diameter pipes installed  
25 beneath streets are not always purple, purple is the color reserved for recycled water  
26 distribution pipes) sized to meet peak recycled water distribution demands. The flow  
27 capacity of the distribution pipes generally decreases as the distance from the treatment  
28 plant or storage facility increases and water deliveries are made. Except in systems in which  
29 recycled water is treated and approved for direct potable use, the recycled water delivery  
30 system must always be segregated from the potable water delivery system.  
31
- 32 • Pumping – Conveyance of recycled water from the treatment facility to its ultimate point of  
33 use often requires pumping. Wastewater collection systems are typically designed to use  
34 gravity flow to move wastewater through sewer mains to a lower point for treatment.  
35 Consequently, the finished recycled water product must sometimes be pumped back up to a  
36 higher elevation to maximize opportunities for use. Again, recycled water pumping systems  
37 must be separated from potable water pumping systems.  
38
- 39 • Storage – Recycled water storage assists in increasing the efficiency of the recycled water  
40 distribution system in three ways:  
41

- 1           ○ Recycled water produced during a time of day or time of year when demand is low  
2           can be retained for use when demand is high, which provides for more complete  
3           utilization of this resource.
- 4
- 5           ○ Storage reduces the capacity and size (and, therefore, the cost) of treatment,  
6           pumping, and distribution system pipe needed to meet peak irrigation demands  
7
- 8           ○ Allows for recycled water to be pumped to storage during lower cost non-peak  
9           energy demand periods thus reducing operational cost and allowing limited energy  
10          resources to be used for other purposes.
- 11
- 12         • Backflow and cross connection prevention: All recycled water delivery systems must include  
13          safeguards to prevent backflow, or the reverse flow of recycled water back into the public  
14          drinking water system. Additionally, a program must be in place to detect cross connections,  
15          or the inadvertent connection of the recycled water “purple pipe” to a potable water delivery  
16          system.
- 17
- 18         • Metering – All recycled water use must be metered and tracked separately from the potable  
19          water delivery system, a strategy that can also be helpful in identifying cross connections.
- 20
- 21         • Supplemental or backup water supply –The ability to add potable or non-potable water into  
22          the recycled water system either to meet peak water demands in the recycled water system  
23          or to provide a reliable backup supply to recycled water users in case the recycled water  
24          supply is interrupted for any reason, such as a wastewater treatment malfunction is  
25          commonly incorporated into recycled water systems.
- 26

27

28

## 29 **9.2.2 On-Site Infrastructure**

30 If an existing water user is going to convert part or all of its use to recycled water, its use site  
31 must undergo a use site retrofit and be designed to meet CDPH requirements before receiving  
32 that water. In new developments where recycled water delivery is planned, use sites can be  
33 designed from the beginning with separated potable and recycled water plumbing. Examples of  
34 use site design criteria include use of purple pipes and appurtenances, design to prevent  
35 overspray, and design of separate potable water and recycled water systems with appropriate  
36 air gaps or other acceptable backflow prevention devices to avoid cross-connections. Other use  
37 site issues may include the need for changes in on-site treatment process and other operating  
38 criteria to accommodate the differences in water quality. A cross-connection test is required  
39 before the use site is approved for recycled water use. Use site plans must be reviewed and  
40 approved by CDPH or the local county health department. All of this costs money for both users  
41 and suppliers of recycled water.

### 42 **9.2.2.1 Discharge**

43

44 (Note to reviewer - information to be added later)

45

1 **9.3 Recycled Water for CII Applications**

2 CII facilities are currently successfully integrating recycled water into many aspects of their  
3 process, as indicated in earlier sections of this report and in Table 9-4. Currently, municipal  
4 recycled water is being used for (the applicable Common Devices, Processes, and Practices  
5 Applicable to the Commercial, Institutional, and Industrial Sectors, identified in Section VII.C,  
6 are shown in parentheses):

- 7 • landscaping (5. Commercial Landscaping)
- 8 • process water
- 9 • boiler/cooling tower applications (3. Building Systems – Thermodynamic Processes)
- 10 • dual plumbing (6. General Building Sanitary and Safety Applications)

11 In 2009, commercial and industrial applications represented 8 percent of the total recycled water  
12 use in California. These applications have the potential to be expanded. This section  
13 addresses the issues or challenges associated with expanding the CII use of municipal recycled  
14 water and factors to consider when implementing the applications.

15

16 Resources

17 EBMUD – Watersmart Guidebook A Water-Use Efficiency Plan-Review Guide for New  
18 Businesses (EBMUD, 2008)

19 LA County – Recycled Water Urban Irrigation User’s Manual (2005)

20

21

Table 9-4

**CII SECTOR RECYCLED WATER APPLICATIONS<sup>1</sup>**

Note to reviewers: this table is a skeleton for linking the Title 22 table to actual uses. It can be expanded to include other uses, such as quenching, which have been approved but are not listed in Title 22 and are not addressed in other CII TF report sections. The right hand column in the final version would have references to specific case studies in the appendix. Currently that column holds comments I have from reviewing the existing sections. Is this helpful? As an alternative, we could go with a single table similar to what's on EBMUDs website

[http://www.ebmud.com/sites/default/files/pdfs/Recycled\\_Water\\_Uses\\_Allowed\\_in\\_California-2009.pdf](http://www.ebmud.com/sites/default/files/pdfs/Recycled_Water_Uses_Allowed_in_California-2009.pdf)

CII SECTOR	CII TASK FORCE REPORT SECTION	APPLICATION <sup>2</sup>						CASE STUDIES (now this holds comment)
		Cooling Tower Make up	Dual Plumbing	Landscaping	Process Water	Boiler Feed		
<b>Commercial and Institutional Sector Uses</b>								
Offices	VII.A.6.__.	●	○					Dual plumbing not mentioned
Prisons	VII.A.7.__.							Mentioned RW in a table, but no discussion
Schools and Educational Facilities	VII.A.9.__.	○						Landscape or playing field irrigation?
<b>Industrial Sector Uses</b>								
Food and Beverage	VII.B.2.b.__.							Section mentioned RW, but use not specified.
Microelectronics	VII.B.2.c.__.							Solar (manufacturing or operation?)
Petroleum refining and chemicals	VII.B.2.d.__.	●					●	all other uses except potable use. Additional treatment may be needed and its availability may be limited. (Refers to recycled section for details)
Pharmaceutical	VII.B.2.e.__.	○					○	all other uses except potable use. Additional treatment may be needed and its availability may be limited. (Refers to recycled section for details) Outdoor landscaping use was referred to



									earlier as the only non-potable water pharmaceutical use.
Power Plants	VII.B.2.f.____.	●							Section not complete, but it should be in there . . .
<b>NOTES:</b>									
1. Refer to Table 10-2 for a summary of recycled water applications approved under Title 22 of the California Code of Regulations (Division 4, Chapter 3, §60301 et seq.), based on required treatment levels.									
2. Filled circles are commonly applied applications of recycled water. Open circles are less commonly applied, but are approved. Small dots are applications which currently have limited application.									

1

### 2 9.3.1 Water Quality Issues

3 Water quality is a key issue with almost every CII application of municipal recycled water use. It  
4 applies both to the quality of municipal recycled water currently available and to the needs of the  
5 proposed application. For example, proposed power plants are required by the California  
6 Energy Commission to consider recycled water for cooling tower use when the plant's  
7 application for certification is submitted. High concentrations of some dissolved minerals can  
8 affect how many times water can be cycled through the cooling towers and then the  
9 concentration of the discharge. These concentrations affect both the plant operation and waste  
10 disposal – both of which are costly to power plant operation. Table 9-5 summarizes key water  
11 quality issues and the BMP within this report where they are addressed.

Table 9-5		
<b>KEY WATER QUALITY ISSUES FOR CII RECYCLED WATER APPLICATIONS</b>		
Note to reviewers: this table is conceptual right now. Is it helpful?		
<b>APPLICATION</b>	<b>KEY WATER QUALITY ISSUES</b>	<b>BMP</b>
<b>Dual Plumbing</b>	Color	Tertiary treatment processes
<b>Landscaping</b>	Boron, salt	Source control, irrigation management
<b>Process Water</b>	Salt	Source control, reverse osmosis
<b>Boilers Feed</b>	Salt	Reverse osmosis
<b>Cooling Tower Make up</b>	Salt	Source control, on-site water conditioning

12

13 Supplemental treatment may be necessary to address water quality issues. In some cases, the  
14 water supplier provides additional treatment. For example, both the Long Beach Water  
15 Department and West Basin Municipal Water District operate recycled water plants that take  
16 wastewater effluent treated by other entities (and that meet Title 22 requirements for some  
17 reuses) and treat the water to higher standards. The more highly-treated recycled water is then  
18 distributed separately from its original inflow water.

19 In some cases, additional treatment is provided on-site by either the CII user or the recycled  
20 water supplier.

21

1 **9.3.2 Supply Issues**

2 Supply issues are those related to getting the recycled water to the end user. Refer to Section  
3 9.2.1 and Figure 9-1 for a description and schematic representation of public and on-site  
4 infrastructure.

5 **9.3.2.1 Public Infrastructure**

6 Development of a public infrastructure system is a substantial undertaking for a supplier. In  
7 most cases cooperation between water purveyors and wastewater agencies is required for the  
8 planning, design, and operation of recycled water systems. Recycled water systems often cross  
9 jurisdictional boundaries between water suppliers, cities, and wastewater agencies. Interagency  
10 agreements are often required to implement municipal recycled water projects. In some cases,  
11 supplemental agreements between local wastewater and water agencies are needed because  
12 some wastewater suppliers are not permitted to deliver treated water or may prefer that potable  
13 water suppliers take on the function of recycled water supply and/or distribution. Under current  
14 practices, a separate “purple pipe” infrastructure is required, which involves coordinating  
15 locations with existing infrastructure, monitoring cross-connection issues, and maintaining the  
16 system. It also involves conducting a customer survey to determine the financial viability of the  
17 system and whether the supplier is able to operate and maintain it.

18 Public infrastructure may also include planning and constructing a regional brine disposal  
19 system, such as the Santa Ana Regional Interceptor (SARI) system.

20 **9.3.2.2 On-site Infrastructure**

21 If the municipal recycled water available to a CII user does not meet the water quality standards  
22 it needs to incorporate recycled water into its water supply, then the CII user may:

- 23
- 24 • Install additional on-site treatment facilities
  - 25 • Address differences in wastewater disposal issues – either to the existing wastewater  
26 provider or identifying on-site wastewater disposal options
  - 27 • Modify the on-site process to accommodate different water quality

28 In addition, the CII user is responsible for installing the conveyance facilities (pipeline, valves,  
29 and pumps) necessary to move the water from the public infrastructure installed to the property  
30 line to the point of use. The CII user must also operate and maintain any on-site infrastructure  
31 and train its employees to work with recycled water. On-site treatment plants require  
32 maintenance and potentially periodic component replacement, as well as additional energy and  
33 chemical costs. Backflow and cross connection monitoring and maintenance are also required  
34 by CDPH.

35 In most cases the price of recycled water is set at a discount from potable rates to encourage  
36 recycled water use and to offset on-site costs borne by CII customers. In some cases, the price  
37 savings a water supplier often provides to the CII user to receive recycled water instead of  
38 potable water does not offset the additional costs incurred by receiving it. Water utilities have  
provided various mechanisms to assist the financing of on-site costs.

1 **9.3.2.3 Supply Interruption, Backup Requirements**

2 Most non-landscape CII municipal recycled water applications require a dependable water  
3 supply. If, for some reason, recycled water is not provided, then operations may need to be  
4 suspended. If supply reliability is a key issue for the CII user, then it may need to identify a  
5 back-up water supply or require assurances from the recycled water supplier that supplies will  
6 not be interrupted. This can be a challenge for large water users and can also increase the  
7 costs for developing recycled water supplies. Many recycled water suppliers ensure a reliable  
8 supply by designing the ability to add potable or suitable non-potable water into recycled water  
9 systems during any shortfall or interruption in recycled water supply.

10 **9.3.2.4 Seasonal Demand**

11 Seasonal demand for recycled water is mainly a challenge for recycled water suppliers.  
12 Currently, landscape irrigation is the most common CII application of municipal recycled water.  
13 However, the demand for landscape irrigation is primarily a spring-summer-fall demand  
14 because winter rains reduce or remove the need for supplemental year-round irrigation in  
15 California. Landscape irrigators are important recycled water customers because they are often  
16 high-volume users and are somewhat flexible in delivered water quality. Some water suppliers  
17 have addressed this by ceasing winter production of recycled water (which reduces revenue),  
18 developing winter storage, or supplementing peak demands with other supply such as non-  
19 potable groundwater.

20 **9.3.3 Emerging Technologies (or Alternate Distribution Options?)**

21 Because of the inherently high costs of dedicated recycled water distribution systems,  
22 complexities in installing new infrastructure in areas with limited access, and the tendency for  
23 wastewater treatment facilities to be located downstream and at a distance from potential  
24 recycled water users, extensive work is being done to look at alternative methods for distributing  
25 recycled water. These include:

- 26 • Satellite Plants – A smaller wastewater treatment facility is located on a regional wastewater  
27 collection trunk line. It takes some of the raw sewage off of the trunk line, treats it to the  
28 recycled water standards for its local customers, and returns treatment residuals to the trunk  
29 line. In this way, treatment facilities can be located more centrally to the market for recycled  
30 water.
- 31 • Potable System Distribution – If recycled water could be treated to a level that is acceptable  
32 for drinking, the recycled water could be distributed in the same pipeline system as potable  
33 water, eliminating the need for a separate purple pipe distribution system. The added costs  
34 of recycled water treatment to potable standards might be more than offset by the  
35 elimination of a recycled water distribution system. Direct potable reuse is not currently  
36 authorized in California. However, SB 918, as described in section 9.1.4, provides that this  
37 concept of direct potable reuse be studied further and that an expert panel make  
38 recommendations on it.

39 **9.4 Public Infrastructure Needs for Increasing CII Recycled Water Use**

1 The components of public infrastructure for specific municipal recycled water systems are  
2 described in Section 9.2.1. The needs for a local or regional system are specific to the unique  
3 characteristics of the area: the quality of wastewater, the locations and types of wastewater  
4 treatment in place to serve pollution control needs, the added treatment that might be needed to  
5 meet recycled water customer needs, the types of recycled water users and their needs, and  
6 the proximity of recycled water users to the sources of recycled water. These needs are  
7 determined through a systematic planning process to investigate all issues and assess the  
8 potential market for recycled water and public acceptance of a project.

9 Because of the comprehensive local planning still required to identify public infrastructure  
10 needs, identifying aggregate needs at a statewide level is not currently possible. Nevertheless,  
11 the overall pace of increasing the infrastructure is lower than anticipated. Despite the gains in  
12 California's use of recycled water since the early 1990s, California is not on target to attain the  
13 various projections of 2030 recycled water use potential: 1.85 to 2.25 MAF (based on the RWTF  
14 of 2003) and 2.5 MAF (based on the SWRCB Recycled Water Policy). If the pace of adding  
15 recycled water use that was set between 1990 and 2009 is maintained for the period between  
16 2011 and 2030, the state will only be recycling about 1.1 MAF by 2030. Strong focus and  
17 direction are needed to make better progress to achieving a goal of at least 2 MAF by 2030.  
18 Water recycling goals will not be met with only non-potable reuse, and additional potable reuse  
19 will be required. This section addresses the requirement that the CII Task Force was directed  
20 by Water Code section 10608.43(c): to evaluate "public infrastructure necessary for delivery of  
21 recycled water to the commercial, industrial, and institutional sectors." It includes  
22 recommendations that may assist in improving the progress toward increasing CII recycled  
23 water use. Section 11, meanwhile, includes ten current barriers to water recycling and identifies  
24 solutions to overcome each of the barriers.

#### 25 **9.4.1 Current Recycled Water Implementation**

26 Recycled water currently is produced and distributed on a local level. This local component  
27 allows suppliers to maintain control of their systems and meet the needs of their customers. It  
28 also enables water suppliers with water source challenges to increase local supplies and reduce  
29 dependency on imported water.

30 Maintaining local and regional control of recycled water works well. However, the State of  
31 California sees an overall benefit to expanding recycled water use because doing so supports  
32 the overall objective of water supply reliability and sustainability.

33 Experience has shown that the success of a local municipal recycled water project depends on  
34 good planning and local interagency cooperation.

#### 35 **Recommendation 9.4.1.1 Encourage More Planning**

36 Section XI contains recommendations for overcoming current barriers to water recycling,  
37 however, obstacles to good water recycling planning have been identified as well. The Task  
38 Force encourages local planning efforts to maximize the potential implementation of recycled  
39 water use and recommendations to accomplish this goal have been identified below.

40 Implementers: Local and regional water suppliers and wastewater management agencies

1

## 2 **Recommendation 9.4.1.2 Follow Good Planning Practices**

3 The Task Force also recommends that good planning practices be followed to ensure that  
4 projects are cost-effective and successful. There are several good sources for guidance on  
5 planning and local efforts should consider the following as potential resources:

- 6 • U.S. EPA guidance manual (obtain proper citations)
- 7 • CUWA draft handbook
- 8 • Metcalf & Eddy text
- 9 • Asano, Technomics book
- 10 • WEF manual of practice

11 Implementers: Local and regional water suppliers and wastewater management agencies 9.4.2  
12 Justification for Additional Recycled Water Funding

13 Sufficient state-wide infrastructure is a fundamental requirement for water recycling to support  
14 meeting State water resource supply expectations. Infrastructure trends have been governed by  
15 shifts in the purpose of reuse as it evolved from wastewater disposal to a water supply.  
16 Currently, local water and wastewater agencies are postponing or shelving planned projects  
17 because of fiscal challenges. If additional projects are not implemented, increased recycled  
18 water use will not occur.

19 Augmenting current statewide recycled water funding, even in light of current statewide budget  
20 issues is a long-term benefit to the state for the following reasons:

- 21 • California is expected to experience continued population growth and recurring periods of  
22 drought, so it is imperative that existing water supply is used as efficiently as practical.
- 23 • Establishing and fully utilizing recycled water supplies reduce dependence on imported  
24 water and provide local water sources.
- 25 • Potentially reducing the amount of water diverted south through the Delta, by supporting  
26 local development of recycled water supplies, may have an environmental benefit to the  
27 Delta.
- 28 • Global warming will continue to strain statewide water management issues. Development of  
29 local water resources will provide the state's communities with better self reliance.
- 30 • Using recycled water may reduce greenhouse gas emissions because less energy is  
31 needed to treat and reuse water than to convey fresh water long distances.

## 32 **9.4.3 Known Issues**

33 Section 11 addresses many barriers to increasing recycled water use in California. Two  
34 infrastructure needs were identified:

- 35 • Local Delivery Infrastructure Needs – Some recycled water purveyors have been able to  
36 construct and implement recycled water facilities. However, establishing customer bases  
37 and delivering recycled water to identified customers has been problematic. Additional

1 funding would support installation of additional conveyance and could also be used to  
2 support appropriate onsite infrastructure improvements.

- 3 • Brine Disposal Needs – Brine disposal continues to be a significant obstacle to expanding  
4 recycled water development, particularly in inland communities. Southern California has  
5 successfully developed portions of the Santa Ana Regional Interceptor, a brine export line.  
6 Expansion of the infrastructure would enable completion and expansion of the system and  
7 provide opportunities for additional recycled water supply.

#### 8 **9.4.4 Specific Public Infrastructure Needs**

9 A statewide master plan for municipal recycled water could assemble in one place the results of  
10 many local and regional planning activities. This plan would provide a basis for targeting state  
11 and local efforts most effectively.

#### 12 **Recommendation 9.4.4.1 Develop State Master Plan and Targeted Funding**

13 Statewide investment in supporting additional recycled water project implementation should  
14 focus on the following steps. Step 1 would begin immediately. Steps 2 and 3 would begin as  
15 soon as possible to support additional project development as Step 1 is implemented.

- 16 1. Develop a Statewide Recycled Water Master Plan. Working with local and regional  
17 stakeholders, review the recently completed 2009 Municipal Recycled Water Survey and  
18 identify customer bases and geographic areas where the greatest additional benefit can  
19 be realized by increasing recycled water use. Working with the stakeholders, identify  
20 specific projects and actions that can be implemented to realize the statewide recycled  
21 water use potential of at least 2 MAF of recycled water use by 2030. Evaluate whether  
22 the current approach to funding recycled water projects (state grant and low-interest loan  
23 funding through DWR and SWRCB) is the most cost effective approach to implementing  
24 the master plan.
- 25 2. Provide additional funding to existing recycled water suppliers who have excess  
26 treatment capacity to install additional infrastructure or provide grants for local on-site  
27 infrastructure improvements to enable developing the additional customer base for  
28 recycled water.
- 29 3. Provide additional funding to brine management projects that would enable increased  
30 use of municipal recycled water.

31 Implementers: DWR, SWRCB, regional and local water suppliers

#### 32 **9.5 Funding/Cost**

33 While identifying specific infrastructure necessary for delivery of recycled water to CII sectors is  
34 not possible, the overall costs for this infrastructure can be estimated based on historic data and  
35 experience. The Recycled Water Task Force provided an estimate in 2003 of state-wide capital  
36 investment needed to increase all municipal recycling from 0.5 to 2.0 MAF (1.5 MAF increase)  
37 by 2030. The total capital investment was estimated to be between \$9.2 and \$11 billion (in 2003  
38 dollars) (note to reviewer – this needs to be converted to 2011 dollars). This represents an initial  
39 capital investment of about \$6,600 per acre-foot per year of project capacity. Amortized over  
40 the life of the project, the unit cost is about \$425 per AF. Operations and maintenance costs,

1 meanwhile, were expected to average \$300 per AF (2003 dollars). The RWTF report noted that  
2 there was a wide range of costs for municipal recycled water projects, from essentially no extra  
3 cost to over \$2,000 per AF for capital and operational costs combined.

4 Because of the expected high cost of the recycled water projects, additional funding assistance  
5 for the local and regional agencies implementing and operating the water recycling projects was  
6 the recommendation of RWTF. This recommendation has been implemented through grants  
7 and loans administered both by the State Water Board and the Department of Water  
8 Resources.

9 A more recent estimate for selected projects in the San Diego area was provided in a  
10 September 15, 2010, report to the San Diego County Water Authority Board of Directors. A  
11 range of those unit costs in dollars per acre foot after cost credits that includes annual capital  
12 cost and annual operating costs are displayed below. The proposed potable projects include  
13 unusually costly conveyance systems necessary to reach the blending point.

14	Type of projects and number	Range of Unit Cost (\$/AF)
15	Existing non-potable projects (4)	\$1,259 - \$1,662
16	Proposed non-potable projects (5)	\$1,000 - \$2,437
17	Proposed potable projects (2)	\$1,400 - \$1,814

## 18 9.6 Successful Partnerships (case studies)

19 Note to reviewer: information to be added later

20

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## **10 Evaluation of Institutional and Economic Barriers to Recycled Water Use**

Increasing the amount of recycled water used in California supports the State’s water supply resources and provides environmental benefit. However, barriers potentially hinder the continued expansion of recycled water use in California. This Section builds upon the background information provided in Section 9 and identifies barriers and solutions to increasing CII recycled water use in California, in accordance with Water Code Section 10608.43(d).

The CII Task Force (CIITF) developed a list of 10 current barriers to integrating municipal recycled water into CII applications. CIITF ranked the barriers based on their potential to limit increasing local and regional recycled water use and identified possible solutions. The CIITF also evaluated obstacles and recommendations of the RWTF (DWR, 2003), and it reviewed and assessed the current level of implementation of the recommendations. Last, the Task Force evaluated obstacles not addressed by the RWTF, drawing upon professional experience and knowledge. The barriers reflect a range of different factors related to CII customers, recycled water producers and distributors, State policymakers and regulators, and others.

The institutional and economic barriers to increasing the use of municipal recycled water in CII applications identified by the CIITF are listed below and ranked according to their overall level of importance in limiting State-wide use of recycled water of municipal origin by the CII sector.

1. Infrastructure Cost and Feasibility
2. Regulatory Impediments
3. Awareness and Education of Recycled Water Quality
4. Public/Customer Acceptance
5. Cost for CII Users
6. Source Water Quality
7. Recycled Water Supply Reliability
8. Terminology Used in Describing Process
9. Data for Tracking Use
10. Institutional Coordination among Agencies



1 Summaries of each of these barriers, along with potential solutions, may be found below. Water  
2 agencies, recycled water users, State regulatory agencies, and organizations expected to have  
3 the greatest involvement in implementing each solution are identified with the understanding  
4 that other stakeholders and organizations may be involved during the implementation process.  
5 In some cases, the CIITF recommends State funding or changes in State law, which would  
6 require action by the Legislature. The section also includes examples of case study experience,  
7 including a discussion of the barriers and solutions, and the Appendix includes more information  
8 on each of the case studies cited.

## 9 **Background**

10 As noted in Section 9, water recycling in California has overcome barriers to achieve its current  
11 level of success. The 2003 RWTF report identified issues and made recommendations for  
12 addressing barriers. The 2009 SWPU provided a status report on implementation of the RWTF  
13 recommendations as well as making four additional new recommendations.

14 The RWTF identified and adopted 26 issues with respective recommendations to address  
15 obstacles, impediments, and opportunities that would allow Californians to increase their use of  
16 recycled water. Additionally, the RWTF adopted 14 of the issues as key and deserving of more  
17 immediate attention. Those issues included:

- 18 • Funding for water recycling projects
- 19 • Community value-based decision-making model for project planning
- 20 • Leadership support for water recycling
- 21 • Educational curriculum
- 22 • State-sponsored media campaign
- 23 • Uniform Plumbing Code Appendix J
- 24 • CDHS guidance on cross-connection control
- 25 • Health and safety regulation
- 26 • Incidental runoff
- 27 • Uniform interpretation of State standards
- 28 • Water softeners
- 29 • Uniform analytical method for economic analyses
- 30 • Research funding
- 31 • University academic program for water recycling

32  
33 While other issues were deemed to be important, the RWTF recommended these 14 as the  
34 focus of statewide efforts to increase the use of recycled water.

35 The 2009 State Water Plan Update (SWPU) provided information on progress made in  
36 implementing a number of the RWTF's recommendations including:

- 37 • AB 334 (2003 statutes, chapter 172) allowing local water agencies more authority to  
38 address wastewater salinity levels from residential water softeners
- 39 • Symbol code changes to notify the public not to drink recycled water
- 40 • Additional support by State agencies for recycled water
- 41 • Development of a fifth grade water recycling educational curriculum

- 1 • Additional federal funding for water recycling through the U.S. Bureau of
- 2 Reclamation
- 3 • SWRCB direction on regulation and enforcement of incidental recycled water runoff
- 4 • SWRCB funding for water recycling research
- 5

6 Subsequently, Appendix J of the Uniform Plumbing Code (UPC) has been amended as  
7 recommended.

8 The 2009 State Water Plan also included four recommendations to increase recycled water use.

- 9 1. State and local agencies and stakeholders should implement, as appropriate, the  
10 RWTF recommendations. The recommendations can be used as a toolbox for  
11 communities to improve their planning of recycled water projects.
- 12 2. The SWRCB should establish a centralized data repository of recycling facilities and  
13 programs that contains basis information such as type of treatment, volume of water  
14 recycled, uses of recycled water, and costs of operation. Additionally, a systematic  
15 reporting process should be established to ensure maintenance and integrity of the  
16 data for future reference.
- 17 3. State agencies should develop a uniform interpretation of State standards for  
18 inclusion in regulatory programs and integrated water management plans (IRWMs),  
19 and they should clarify regulations pertaining to water recycling, including permitting  
20 procedures, health regulations, and the impact on water quality.
- 21 4. The State should expedite the availability of funding regional Salt Management Plans  
22 necessary to increase the potential of recycled water.

23  
24 These previous recommendations served as a foundation as the CIITF developed the following  
25 list of barriers and solutions.

## 26 **10.1 INFRASTRUCTURE COST AND FEASIBILITY**

27 Cost and feasibility of water recycling infrastructure to deliver recycled water to the CII use site  
28 and then use recycled water at CII sites are the primary limitations on recycled water use in CII  
29 applications.

30 Conveyance of recycled water through parallel distribution systems to end users (purple pipes),  
31 while a necessary and appropriate component of the State's strategy to achieve the goal of  
32 increasing water recycling, is cost-prohibitive for many communities. Compounding the cost of  
33 installing a separate water distribution system is the complex piping and other facilities already  
34 buried in streets, especially in dense urban areas. Furthermore, traffic disruptions during  
35 construction result in inconvenience and additional costs.

36 As noted in Section 10, indirect and direct potable reuse can provide opportunities to use  
37 municipal recycled water without the need for complex dual distribution systems. The trade-offs  
38 may be the need for advanced wastewater treatment or construction of long transmission  
39 pipelines to convey recycled water to groundwater or surface water sites, or to suitable locations  
40 for connecting directly into potable distribution systems. Indirect potable reuse through  
41 groundwater recharge has a long and successful history in California and its continued  
42 expansion is expected. Advanced treatment technologies with proven performance and  
43 reliability that have been used for groundwater injection projects provide the foundation for other

1 indirect and direct potable reuse projects. A legislatively mandated path to the further evaluation  
2 of indirect potable reuse through surface water augmentation and a report to the legislature  
3 investigating the feasibility of developing regulatory criteria for direct potable reuse were  
4 included in Senate Bill 918 which was enacted in 2010.

### 5 **Solution 10.1.1 – Conduct Local and Regional Water Recycling Planning** 6 **Analyzing All Options**

7 Agencies often plan water recycling projects with preconceived limitations that may preclude  
8 opportunities for exploring recycled water markets outside of certain jurisdictional boundaries,  
9 taking advantage of certain sources of recycled water, or exploring potable reuse. Guidance on  
10 good planning concepts can be found in the following resources: Metcalf and Eddy text, CUWA  
11 draft guidelines, Water Environment Federation Manual of Practice, U.S. EPA Guidelines.

12 Implementers: Water supply and wastewater agencies.

#### 13 *Example – recycled water planning*

14 The development analysis from the City of Riverside’s Potable Reuse Project provides a helpful  
15 insight into the considerations involved in determining which type of recycled water project is  
16 best for a community, potable or non-potable. Riverside developed two options:

- 17 • Purple Pipe: 10,000 AFY could be served to 740 customers through 172 miles of  
18 distribution pipeline at a capital cost of \$550 million. The cost of this project is  
19 equivalent to \$42/month for each customer, which is greater than the current  
20 average user cost of \$35/month.
- 21 • Indirect Potable Reuse: The City’s water supply could be increased by 10,000 AFY  
22 at a capital cost of \$95 million by adding 6 miles of pipe to convey recycled water to  
23 groundwater recharge basins. The City can use existing infrastructure to remove  
24 groundwater and distribute it to customers. The cost of this project is equivalent to  
25 \$9/month for each customer.

26 As a result of the analysis, the City considered the purple pipe option infeasible because of cost  
27 and community disruption reasons. Instead, it is implementing the indirect potable reuse option  
28 based on its low cost.  
29

### 30 **Solution 10.1.2 – Seek or Provide Funding Sources to Facilitate Local Projects**

31 Local agencies can take advantage of various regional, State, and federal funding sources to  
32 make water recycling projects financially feasible. In addition, regional agencies could develop  
33 financial incentives that would facilitate local projects that have regional benefit. The following  
34 examples show how water agencies have helped overcome infrastructure cost barriers,

35 Implementers: Regional, State, and federal agencies, State Legislature, U.S. Congress.

36 Examples:

- 37 1. Efforts by the City of Santa Clara to provide recycled water to Air Products, a  
38 provider of industrial gases, demonstrate how distribution system problems can be  
39 overcome. City staff realized that a new 1,300-foot pipeline would be needed to

1 reach the Air Product facility fence line. The City applied for and received stimulus  
2 funds through the Bureau of Reclamation's Title 16 Program.

3 2. The Central Contra Costa Sanitary District could provide up to 22,500 AFY to local  
4 refineries in Martinez, CA if adequate funding were available. Recycled water would  
5 be used to replace water from the Delta that is currently used for cooling towers and  
6 boiler feed. Producing and delivering recycled water would require new tertiary  
7 treatment and distribution facilities at an estimated cost of \$100 million. CCSD is  
8 seeking federal funding assistance through the Water Resources Development Act  
9 (WRDA).

10 3. The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (Metropolitan) Local  
11 Resources Program provides incentive funding in the amount of \$250/AF for  
12 delivered recycled water to its member water suppliers. Metropolitan also provided  
13 incentives for institutional on-site retrofits during 2009-2010, which were used to  
14 expedite the connection of customers to the local recycled water system. While  
15 Metropolitan continues to offer \$250 per acre foot for projects that are not cost  
16 effective, the on-site retrofit incentives are no longer offered

17  
18 **Solution 10.1.3 – Evaluate the need for on-site retrofit and other**  
19 **accommodations for the use of recycled water and the associated costs**

20 To convert an existing site from the use of potable to recycled water results in costs that, if  
21 borne by the customer, may make recycled water use infeasible. The costs can range widely,  
22 from very little to hundreds of thousands of dollars per site. The cost analysis from the  
23 customer perspective would be similar to the procedure described in Section 6. Proponents of  
24 recycled water projects should plan for on-site facilities and develop strategies for paying for  
25 them.

26 Implementers: Water supply and wastewater agencies, CII water users.

27 **Example:** The BP Carson Refinery (BP Carson) is located on 630 acres in Los Angeles County  
28 near the Long Beach and Los Angeles Harbors. It is one of the largest refineries in California  
29 and is a major producer of clean fuels. It processes a variety of different crudes from all over  
30 the world and supplies 25 percent of the Los Angeles gasoline demand and 15 percent of the jet  
31 fuel to Los Angeles International Airport.

32  
33 In this case, much of the cost stems from requirements to protect the public health and ensure  
34 the safety of public water supplies. The refinery uses recycled water provided by West Basin  
35 Municipal Water District. Since a mixture of potable and recycled water is used at the facility, the  
36 system requires the use of air gaps to prevent backflow if the potable system goes down for any  
37 reason. The air gaps are required by the Health Department, and simple check valves or block  
38 valves are not sufficient. Installing multiple air gaps throughout the facility and meeting other  
39 mandatory regulations is costly but necessary to enable the use of recycled water.  
40

1 These costs include air gaps, instrumentation and controls systems, and storage tanks that  
2 ensure an uninterrupted supply and that backflow does not occur if a pressure outage or  
3 reduction occurs in the city water supply line.  
4

#### 5 **Solution 10.1.4 - Fund Development of Indirect and Direct Potable Reuse** 6 **Regulations**

7 Indirect potable reuse through groundwater recharge currently augments the groundwater  
8 supply available to potable customers, including CII customers, thereby providing a more  
9 reliable and potentially cheaper water supply. The potential exists for expanding indirect  
10 potable reuse through surface water augmentation and, eventually, direct potable reuse. The  
11 Legislature, through SB 918 (2010 Statutes, Chapter 700), prescribes a pathway to address the  
12 public health issues of indirect and direct potable reuse and adopt regulations as appropriate.  
13 However, the ability of the California Department of Public Health to conduct advisory panels  
14 and draft appropriate regulations is uncertain without increased funding.

15 Responsible implementers: Legislature.

16 Examples:

17 Three current projects are on the forefront of advancing the use of recycled water in California.

- 18 1. The West Basin Municipal Water District Edward C. Little Water Recycling Facility  
19 injects recycled water as a seawater intrusion barrier. The water migrates slowly  
20 from the point of injection to the points of extraction, where it is eventually pumped  
21 and treated by retail agencies and distributed to retail customers.
- 22 2. The Orange County Water District Groundwater Replenishment System has also  
23 injected recycled water as a seawater intrusion barrier. In 2007 it launched the  
24 Groundwater Replenishment System that now produces 70 million gallons per day  
25 (MGD) of advance treated recycled water to augment drinking water supplies  
26 through surface spreading in recharge basins. In 2011, efforts began to expand the  
27 system to increase flow to 100 MGD and add drinking water aquifer injection wells.
- 28 3. The City of San Diego Water Purification Demonstration Project will examine the  
29 safety of augmenting a surface water reservoir with highly treated recycled water.  
30 The demonstration phase involves a 1 MGD treatment facility. The eventual goal is  
31 to produce 16 MGD. It is anticipated that the demonstration project will continue  
32 through early 2013. Upon completion of the demonstration phase, the proposed full  
33 scale project will be presented to the City Council and Mayor for approval

#### 34 **Solution 10.1.5- Provide Greater State Funding for Recycled Water Projects** 35 **Commensurate With Benefit to State**

36 Because of the complex institutional structure for water supply and delivery in California, retail  
37 water suppliers use a variety of approaches to assess the true costs for developing new water  
38 supplies. Major new water development projects are often sponsored by regional, State, or

1 federal agencies; water recycling projects, on the other hand, are typically sponsored by local  
2 water suppliers. The cost comparison conducted by local water suppliers may involve  
3 comparing the capital and operational costs of a new water recycling project to the price  
4 charged by wholesale water suppliers; it may be compared to the marginal cost of developing  
5 alternative water supplies; or it may be considered as part of a diversified water supply portfolio  
6 in an effort to improve supply reliability. In addition, the price charged to the customer is typically  
7 an average cost of many existing water sources including new and existing water supplies from  
8 a local perspective, many new non-potable recycled water projects are more costly than the  
9 existing supply costs or the wholesale cost of water, so they may be rejected. From a supply  
10 perspective, recycled water may be similar in cost to or higher than other marginal water  
11 supplies depending on local circumstances.

12 State and federal funding subsidies can be a mechanism for promoting recycled water projects,  
13 particularly in areas where their value is great to society but the cost to local water users is too  
14 great. The value to society typically comes in the form of environmental benefits in waterways  
15 such as the Delta and rivers resulting from the use of recycled water instead of fresh water. The  
16 environmental benefits can also include reduced energy use. These benefits may accrue State-  
17 wide and warrant State financial assistance.

18 State and federal financial assistance in the form of low interest loans and grants to local  
19 agencies have been provided for many years. In fact, the State Water Board has provided over  
20 \$760 million since 1978 for water recycling projects built for water supply purposes. In addition  
21 to State Water Board funding, the Department of Water Resources provides Proposition 84  
22 Integrated Regional Water Management grants for water recycling. Nevertheless, the currently  
23 available funding is inadequate, especially in the form of grants.

24 Potential responsible implementers: Legislature

### 25 **Solution 10.1.3 – Provide incentives for installation of customer-side (on-site)** 26 **infrastructure**

27 As described above, on-site costs at customer sites can be considerable. Recycled water  
28 suppliers should consider providing technical and financial assistance to reduce the cost to the  
29 customer or help the customer spread the costs over several years. The California Public  
30 Utilities Commission (CPUC) regulates water rates and other management of investor-owned  
31 water utilities. The CPUC should support rate structures and utility subsidies to provide an  
32 incentive to CII customers to use recycled water.

33 The State could also provide incentives or grants for developing on-site water recycling facilities.  
34 On-site “package plants,” for example, collect waste water and other wastewater flows, then  
35 treat and reuse the recycled water at customer’s location. Another example is distributed  
36 wastewater treatment systems similar to those successfully used at the Port of Portland, Oregon  
37 and the New York Solaire apartment complex. (See, “Valuing Decentralized Wastewater  
38 Technologies,” prepared by the Rocky Mountain Institute for the U.S. Environmental Protection  
39 Agency, November, 2004 for additional information.)

40 Implementers: Water supply agencies, CPUC.

1 **10.2 REGULATORY IMPEDIMENTS**

2 The Task Force affirms the need for strong public health and environmental protection.  
3 Statutory and regulatory requirements and the interpretation of those requirements by the State  
4 Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB), the nine Regional Water Quality Control Boards  
5 (RWQCB), the California Department of Public Health (CDPH), and local health and local  
6 building officials have a significant impact on the costs associated with the production, delivery,  
7 and use of recycled water. With some exceptions, these costs serve to protect public health,  
8 water quality, and the environment, and they help to ensure public confidence in recycled water.  
9 As can be expected, however, regulatory bodies throughout the State interpret the requirements  
10 differently. Complex and inconsistently implemented regulations may discourage recycling by  
11 creating regulatory uncertainty or confusion as well as an unnecessary cost burden. This  
12 section is intended to provide recommendations on some key areas where the regulatory  
13 agencies can offer additional guidance and consistency and to identify areas where statutory or  
14 regulatory clarification may be needed. Where appropriate, the report offers recommendations  
15 to build on existing successful efforts by the State regulatory agencies in improving regulatory  
16 oversight and permitting.

17 Three major regulatory and statutory issue areas have been identified:

- 18 1. Re-codification and update to the recycled water statutes  
19 2. Need to fund updates to recycled water regulations  
20 3. Consistent implementation of regulations and policies by the various regulatory  
21 agencies.  
22

23 **Solution 10.2.1 – Revise Water Recycling Statutes**

24 Currently, the recycled water statutes appear in various sections of the Water Code and Health  
25 and Safety Code. The recycled water community would like recycled water to have an equal  
26 level of credibility with other water supplies. Re-codification of the laws to consolidate and  
27 simplify recycled water statutes into a section of the code dedicated to “water recycling” would  
28 help recycled water purveyors, users and regulators better locate, understand, and use the  
29 appropriate sections of the code.

30 Other concerns about the statutes have been expressed and statutory changes have been  
31 proposed. The Task Force does not specifically endorse or reject any of these changes, but it  
32 does support further analysis. The proposed changes are:

- 33 • Amend statutes to provide for a simplified and consistently implemented permitting  
34 approach to govern most recycled water projects. Currently there are four different  
35 types of permits issued for recycled water projects.  
36 • Have the CDHP regulate the use of “advanced treated” recycled water to be used for  
37 potable reuse, and have the RWQCBs regulate other uses of recycled water.  
38 “Advanced treated purified water” would constitute a level of treatment higher than  
39 tertiary treatment as defined in Title 22 of the current State regulations and would

1 include treatment equivalent to reverse osmosis and advanced oxidation treatment  
2 processes.

- 3 • Change the definition of “waste” in Section 13050(d) of the Water Code and other  
4 sections of statute. Recycled water should continue to be regulated to protect public  
5 health, and it should be recognized and regulated in the appropriate statute(s) as a  
6 valuable resource, not as a waste product.
- 7 • Update the statutes to address constituents of emerging concern if an update to the  
8 State Board’s Recycled Water Policy cannot adequately address the issues.

9  
10 Implementers: SWRCB, CDPH, and Legislature.

### 11 **Solution 10.2.2 - Provide Consistent Implementation of the SWRCB’s Recycled** 12 **Water Policy and Revise Policy as Appropriate**

13 a. The SWRCB’s Recycled Water Policy provides for the development of stakeholder-driven  
14 regional or sub-regional salt and nutrient management plans to replace regulation of salts and  
15 nutrients solely on individual recycled water projects and to consider all relevant sources of salt  
16 and nutrients. Regulatory requirements to develop criteria for monitoring of constituents of  
17 emerging concerns and stakeholder development of salt and nutrients management plans  
18 should be developed by Regional Water Boards consistent with State Water Board and CDPH  
19 efforts. Several successful efforts provide good examples to follow.

20 Implementers: RWQCB’s, SWRCB, Stakeholders

21 **Examples:** Four RWQCB’s provide good examples of proactively working with stakeholders on  
22 implementing salt and nutrient management plans. These efforts range from Regional Boards  
23 that have had long-term successes to those that are in the early phases.

- 24 • Region 8 was an early adopter of the stakeholder driven salt and nutrient  
25 management planning approach. It supported a maximum beneficial use approach  
26 that was incorporated into the basin plan, and it provided a positive example for the  
27 SWRCB’s Recycled Water Policy approach to addressing salt and nutrients. This  
28 stakeholder group has since expanded its efforts to include constituents of emerging  
29 concerns.
- 30  
31 • Following adoption of the Recycled Water Policy, Region 9 staff worked with  
32 stakeholders to develop and approve guidelines for the development of salt and  
33 nutrient management for the numerous small basins in the region. These guidelines  
34 allow stakeholders to focus their efforts on the highest priority basins and provide  
35 regulatory certainty for any agency/stakeholder that participates. DWR, in its IRWM  
36 Plan/Proposition 84 Planning grant, has provided funding to assist in developing  
37 these plans.
- 38  
39 • In July 2008, the Central Valley Salinity Coalition (CVSC) was formed. It represents  
40 stakeholder groups working with the Region 5 in the CV-SALTS effort, and its  
41 purpose is to organize, facilitate, and fund efforts needed to fulfill the goals of CV-  
42 SALTS. CVSC coordinates the meetings of the CV-SALTS committees, maintains  
43 an independent web site, and manages the projects originating from this effort.



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- In November 2010, Region 4 staff held an initial workshop to introduce the salt and nutrient plan concept to stakeholders. Since that time, five major basin groups have been formed to develop the plans: Central and West Basin, San Gabriel and Raymond Basins, San Fernando Basin, Pleasant Valley, Oxnard and Las Posas Basins, and Lower and Upper Santa Clara Basins. Each basin group has an assigned Regional Board staff person with local agencies taking the lead as stakeholders. One basin group (Santa Clara) is receiving IRWM funding for its plan. The Regional Board is providing guidance and updates for the plans through their website, an email distribution list, and stakeholder meetings.

12 b. An expert panel on monitoring constituents of emerging concern made recommendations to the SWRCB in a report dated June 25, 2010. The SWRCB and CDPH should evaluate the recommendations, propose changes as appropriate to the SWRCB's Recycled Water Policy, and incorporate the recommendations into the groundwater recharge criteria being developed by CDPH. The policy update should also address the additional work needed to expand laboratory methods and to monitor for future emerging constituents.

18 Implementers: SWRCB in cooperation with CDPH, the Expert Panel, and other potential monitoring entities (USGS under GAMA)

20 c. MS4 permits issued by RWQCBs are a mechanism that can be used for regulating recycled water runoff consistent with other landscape over-irrigation runoff. MS4 permits can put recycled water on par with other potable water supplies. Currently the SWRCB's Recycled Water Policy allows for the use of both MS4 and NPDES permits to regulate runoff for recycled water landscape irrigation sites. The State Board should work with stakeholders to evaluate whether MS4 permits should be the favored approach where those permits are available.

26 Implementer: SWRCB.

27 **Solution 10.2.3 – Ensure Consistent Implementation of Use Site Oversight**  
28 **throughout the State.**

29 The oversight of sites where recycled water is proposed or used is currently provided by two State agencies: the RWQCBs and CDPH. CDPH reviews proposed use sites for compliance with Title 22, Health and Safety Code and Water Code requirements, and it makes recommendations to the project proponent either through the Regional Board or in a manner consistent with Regional Board master permit requirements. This task can be delegated to county health departments as a fee-for-service with the permission of the project proponent, as long as the County follows CDPH regulatory guidance. Once recycled water use begins, the regulatory responsibility shifts to the RWQCBs through enforcement of permits. The Regional Board permits incorporate applicable provisions of Title 22 regulations as well as case-by-case recommendations from CDPH.

39 To the extent possible, CDPH recommendations to the Regional Boards should be consistent throughout the State based on the need for public health protection. They should not vary based on availability of local staff resources. CDPH and the RWQCBs need sufficient resources to ensure adequate public health protection. In addition, consideration should be given to

1 delegating increased review, approval, and site oversight responsibilities to the recycled water  
2 purveyors when the purveyor can demonstrate the necessary ability.

3 Implementers: CDPH, RWQCBs, local County health departments, and recycled water  
4 purveyors.

### 5 **Solution 10.2.4 - Revise Water Recycling Regulations and California Plumbing** 6 **Code**

7 Specific changes are needed to the water recycling regulations in Title 22 and Title 17 of the  
8 California Code of Regulations to eliminate unnecessary restrictions and inconsistencies, as  
9 well as to align recycling regulations with the California Plumbing Code (CPC). CDPH currently  
10 has areas of Title 22 and Title 17 out for review and update, but it does not have the resources  
11 needed to complete the updates. The regulations and the CPC need to be clear on the  
12 oversight needed for dual plumbed facilities. Appendix X includes descriptions of some of the  
13 possible changes to Title 22 and Title 17

14 Implementers: CDPH, DWR, California Building Standards Commission.

### 15 **Solution 10.2.5 -Ensure that the Ocean Plan Update Adequately Addresses** 16 **Brine Disposal from Recycled Water and Groundwater Facilities**

17 Salt removal and disposal from recycled water and groundwater facilities are important parts of  
18 implementing the SWRCB's Recycled Water Policy. In short, properly disposing of brine via  
19 ocean discharge is critical to implementing the Policy. Because brine disposal from recycled  
20 water and groundwater facilities is not specifically addressed in the Ocean Plan, recent  
21 RWQCBs permits have taken a strict interpretation of the regulations by not allowing blending of  
22 brine water to meet the ocean plan standards for turbidity, based on guidance from the United  
23 States Environmental Protection Administration (USEPA.) As of the Fall of 2011, SWRCB has  
24 been in the process of revising its Water Quality Control Plan For Ocean Waters Of California  
25 (Ocean Plan) to address disposal of brine, including brine produced by reverse osmosis  
26 systems at recycled water and groundwater treatment facilities. Ocean Plan review provides the  
27 SWRCB with an opportunity to develop a policy that recognizes the importance of advanced  
28 treatment in achieving the State's water recycling goals while at the same time protecting  
29 beneficial uses in the ocean.

30 Potential Implementers: SWRCB and USEPA

## 31 **10.3 AWARENESS AND EDUCATION OF RECYCLED WATER QUALITY**

32 Some CII users and recycled water suppliers are not aware of how recycled water can be  
33 managed and used in particular CII settings. As a result, some of these CII users resist using it.  
34 Potential CII users and suppliers need to develop a technical understanding of how recycled  
35 water can be properly and successfully used in unique water use situations.

### 36 **Solution 10.3.1 - Educate Potential Recycled Water Users and Suppliers**

1 An effort should be launched to educate CII users about recycled water use opportunities using  
2 technical information and examples. Additionally, those users should be made aware of  
3 opportunities to participate in implementing the solutions recommended in this report. Recycled  
4 water producers, State and local agencies, industry trade associations, the WateReuse  
5 California, Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA), and environmental advocacy  
6 groups should provide information about successful uses of recycled water through workshops,  
7 at trade shows, in trade publications, at public forums and other venues. Finally, BMPs that  
8 address water quality issues such as on-site treatment and blending with other water sources  
9 should be developed.

10 In addition, agencies producing and supplying recycled water must be educated and fully  
11 understand the unique water supply and quality needs of potential CII customers.

12 Implementers: DWR, WateReuse California, recycled water user, trade groups, environmental  
13 advocacy groups and ACWA

14 **Example:** The University of California San Diego recycled water project provides an example of  
15 how awareness barriers can be overcome. In 1998, the faculty opposed using recycled water on  
16 campus. The City of San Diego arranged a tour of the North City Water Reclamation Plant  
17 which calmed the faculty's fears when they understood the level of effort being put in the  
18 treatment to ensure the safety of the public.

### 19 **Solution 10.3.2–Create and Promote Information on use of Recycled Water in** 20 **CII**

21 WateReuse California, in conjunction with industrial trade associations, should create and  
22 disseminate information on recycling opportunities in various CII settings. The newly created  
23 Industrial Reuse Committee of the WateReuse Association would be a good source for this  
24 information. This committee was formed to promote and maximize the use of recycled water in  
25 industrial settings, and it includes representation from both the public (municipal agencies) and  
26 private (industrial users and potential users) sectors. The committee's work addresses the use  
27 of recycled water in cooling towers, high purity settings, food/beverage processing, industrial  
28 processes in general, and internal reuse.

29 In addition, WateReuse California, in conjunction with industrial trade associations, should  
30 increase awareness by providing information at trade shows and in trade publications, and by  
31 speaking in non-traditional settings.

32 Potential responsible implementers: WateReuse California

## 33 **10.4 PUBLIC/CUSTOMER ACCEPTANCE**

34 Successful implementation of water recycling projects requires support from

- 35 • the general public
- 36 • customers of recycled water
- 37 • neighbors of customers using recycled water

- policy makers and decision makers

As surveys have shown, public acceptance declines as the potential for human exposure increases. Some members of the public and policy-makers have an aversion to water recycling, often based on a misunderstanding of its safety. To the extent that potential CII users perceive that their customers will not accept products produced with recycled water, or neighbors will resist use of recycled water in the community, CII users will prefer other water supplies. Indirect and direct potable reuse projects, which are needed to achieve the State's recycling goals, are especially dependent on public acceptance.

### **Solution 10.4.1- Educate and Promote Recycled Water**

The public and policy-makers should be educated by providing information to industries, residential customers, and water utilities about the safety, environmental, energy, and green house gas benefits of recycled water. As the RWTF concluded, the public responds positively to projects responsive to community needs, such as the need for a safe, reliable water supply. Recycled water must be promoted within this broader context. Thus, it is important that the public understand the water cycle in general, and the urban water cycle in particular.

An effective State-wide information campaign would offer authoritative views from recognized experts including SWRCB, DWR, CDPH, and independent research groups, such as the Pacific Institute and environmental NGOs. This campaign would be similar in scope to the State's multi-year and highly effective efforts to promote solid waste recycling and energy conservation ("Flex Your Power"). It would position water recycling like other types of recycling: as being part of good citizenship. Consider aligning water reuse with the sustainability/green movement. Business and industry groups should also actively support and promote recycled water use throughout their industry and with their local elected officials. Additionally, a "tool kit" should be developed for use by agencies involved in producing or marketing recycled water. Finally, it will be important to avoid conflicting Statewide and local messages by using complementary programs and materials.

Potential responsible implementers: DWR, WasteReuse California, ACWA, and Industry groups.

**Examples:** The Del Sur Planned Community Homeowners Association in the City of San Diego is an excellent example of how homeowners have been made aware of recycled water use and signage in public areas. Del Sur's vision is to be eco-friendly and embrace many environmental practices. Additionally, the City of San Diego has implemented the Water Purification Demonstration Project, which will examine the safety of augmenting a surface water reservoir with highly treated recycled water. The demonstration phase includes a strong public outreach element as the city is giving tours to the public of the demonstration facility. Seeing and understanding the treatment facilities can raise the public's level of confidence in the safety of the water supply.

### **Solution 10.4.2 - Implement Community Value-based Decision-making Model for Project Planning**

1 Public participation and representation is founded on the idea that those who are affected by  
2 decisions or policies are capable and should participate or be represented in policy-making  
3 processes. The public should be involved throughout all project phases, including planning,  
4 deliberation, decision, design, and implementation. The public commonly has full access to  
5 information on proposed projects, such as through the environmental review processes required  
6 by the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the federal National Environmental  
7 Policy Act (NEPA), but under these acts, the minimum public notification requirements are  
8 sometimes inadequate to engage the public. Public agencies that develop recycled water  
9 projects are required to hold public meetings and consider public input as a basis for recycled  
10 water project decisions, but members of the public sometimes lack sufficient information about  
11 local water issues and alternative water resources options to establish a well-informed position  
12 on a project. .

13 Early public involvement can assist the project proponent in identifying and responding to the  
14 concerns of the public. Public participation creates empowerment, and empowerment yields a  
15 sense of collaboration. With the need to supply additional water in the State and the potential  
16 use of recycled water projects to meet that need, decision-makers at water utilities and  
17 regulators should make an investment in the public arena so that their decisions will most fully  
18 benefit their constituents, customers and communities.

19 Determining a community's values, then making decisions based on that information is the  
20 foundation of a community value-based decision-making model. This model encourages  
21 participants to recognize that most people believe in a unified set of fundamental values then  
22 takes them further, into the realization that these values can be the basis for consistent and  
23 improved decision making. A values-based decision-making model should embody the general  
24 public participation principles listed in the introduction to this section.

25 Implementers: Water suppliers.

## 26 **10.5 COST FOR CII USERS**

27 Cost is often the most important factor for CII users in deciding whether to accept the use of  
28 recycled water. Generally, CII users will assess the net cost of recycled water in relation to the  
29 cost of potable or other fresh water sources. The key components of cost to CII users are the  
30 prices of recycled and potable water, the on-site costs to convert from potable to recycled water,  
31 and operating costs of using recycled water compared to potable water. Use of recycled water  
32 in some settings results in increased operating costs for the user. For example, recycled water  
33 use in cooling towers may necessitate additional treatment or fewer cycles. Recycled water can  
34 result in increased flows or waste loads to the sewer, thus increasing sewer fees in many  
35 jurisdictions. Without recycled water purveyor awareness of such costs, the pricing of recycled  
36 water can create a cost barrier. Higher net costs in using recycled water compared to using  
37 potable or fresh water can discourage CII users from accepting recycled water.

### 38 **Solution 10.5.1 – Base Recycled Water Pricing on Total Cost of Use and Provide** 39 **Incentives**

1 As noted in section 10.1, on-site capital and operating costs for recycled water can be greater  
2 than that of using potable water. In addition to direct funding assistance to customers to  
3 compensate for on-site costs, water pricing is another way water suppliers can address on-site  
4 cost burdens. Recycled water should be priced relative to potable water but adjusted to reflect  
5 on-site costs. Doing so generally results in recycled water being priced at a lower rate than  
6 potable water. If customers are self-supplied and do not purchase fresh water from a water  
7 supplier, as is frequent for CII customers, the recycled water price will have to reflect the costs  
8 to the customer for obtaining water from its own source. Implementers: Retail water suppliers.

## 9 **10.6 SOURCE WATER QUALITY**

10 Many CII uses are sensitive to water quality, and recycled water typically has more minerals and  
11 organic content than many available alternative supplies. Subtle changes in water quality, such  
12 as increases or decreases of certain minerals or chemical species, can dramatically change the  
13 suitability of recycled water or the treatment requirements for use in an industrial process.  
14 Landscape plants can be sensitive to certain chemicals potentially present in recycled water,  
15 such as boron, or can be affected by changes in soil conditions caused by salinity. Indirect and  
16 direct potable reuse projects will need to be designed to protect the public health and to  
17 consider the potential for Constituents of Emerging Concern (CECs) or other public health-  
18 related issues. Many water quality concerns associated with recycled water can be and are  
19 addressed with additional treatment by the water utility, on-site treatment, or other water  
20 management practices.

### 21 **Solution 10.6.1 – Provide Water Quality Suitable for Intended Use**

22 To facilitate the use of recycled water in CII settings, water quality can either be improved by the  
23 supplier through additional treatment and/or source control, or the individual users can improve  
24 treatment and control processes.

25 Local agencies and WaterReuse California, should work together and in cooperation with other  
26 trade groups to identify water quality issues for categories of CII users and solutions. Specific  
27 examples include:

- 28 • Collaboration between utilities and CII users to identify water quality issues and  
29 solutions. Those solutions may be technological and/or economic.
- 30 • Provide additional treatment and/or source control such that recycled water quality is  
31 fit for the purpose.
- 32 • Recycled water producers should develop rigorous water quality control practices.
- 33 • CII users should modify their operation to the extent practicable to accommodate the  
34 quality of available recycled water.

35  
36 Implementers: Water supply agencies, CII users, WaterReuse California, industry trade  
37 associations.

38 Examples:

1 **Institutional Example:** San Jose State University has completed an evaluation of source water  
2 options that proved useful in selecting its cooling tower supply choice. A computer-based  
3 modeling program helped determine the program control limits for the cooling tower using both  
4 recycled water and well water. The modeling program determined that the plant could run the  
5 cooling water system at a maximum of six cycles with the new control using either recycled  
6 water or well water, keeping the sewer flow the same regardless of water source.

7 **Commercial Example:** In 1994, the Pebble Beach Company teamed up with seven other local  
8 agencies in a unique private/public partnership to deliver recycled water for irrigation to seven  
9 golf courses in Pebble Beach, California, including world-renowned Pebble Beach Golf Links.

10 The golf courses began irrigating with tertiary-treated recycled water in 1994. During the first  
11 few years of operations, the project underwent constant reviewed and modification.

12 It became apparent that the recycled water was of low quality when he golf courses began  
13 experiencing some problems with the turf grass on the greens. The problem was determined to  
14 be caused by high sodium concentrations – at times as high as 200 mg/L – and high  
15 concentrations of total dissolved solids (TDS) concentrations – at times as high as 1000 mg/L.

16 As an initial solution, potable water was used periodically to flush salts away from the plant root  
17 systems. All of the involved organizations and agencies began studying technical solutions to  
18 improve water quality and quantity, as well as methods for financing the improvements. This  
19 work led the groups to begin Phase Two of the Water Reclamation Project with the intent of  
20 improving water quality and increasing the quantity of recycled water available for irrigation.

21 In 2006, a second project was commissioned to install advanced treatment for reducing sodium  
22 to a level satisfactory for the golf courses to use 100% recycled water without potable water  
23 flushes and to improve the storage capacity of recycled water in an abandoned reservoir to  
24 meet the peak irrigation demands of the golf courses.

25 After three years of operation, no water quality issues are being reported, and the reservoir is  
26 working perfectly for meeting the seasonal irrigation demands.

27 **Industrial Example:** BP Carson has overcome water quality challenges as well. Recycled water  
28 entering the refinery that is treated with RO is corrosive by nature, so a separate non-carbon  
29 steel pipeline/distribution system was built inside the refinery to accommodate the use of this  
30 water.

31  
32 The Title 22 standard tertiary-treated recycled water stream coming from West Basin's facility in  
33 El Segundo is nitrified at the Carson Facility. This water is high in iron and phosphates due to  
34 upstream water quality treatments and may limit the number of cycles the water can be used in  
35 the cooling towers, an effect that is reduced by the blending of RO water into the nitrified supply.

36  
37 Chemical treatment programs need to be adjusted when switching from the city water supply to  
38 a predominantly recycled supply, especially in cooling towers. The water quality from the  
39 Carson Regional Facility is generally of very consistent quality, especially compared to city  
40 water, which can change seasonally or when city water sources are switched. However,

1 sudden quality changes can also occur with recycled water. Good communication between the  
2 recycled plant operator and the refinery operators minimize the impacts of these changes  
3

## 4 **10.7 RECYCLED WATER SUPPLY RELIABILITY**

5 Recycled water is an extremely reliable supply in that it is produced consistently in summer and  
6 winter, and in dry and wet years. In some cases, however, recycled water treatment and  
7 distribution systems may be subject to service interruptions due to operational issues that are  
8 often more complex than typical potable water treatment and distribution systems. In some  
9 cases, recycled water distribution systems are designed to a reliability standard necessary for  
10 an expected predominant use, usually landscape irrigation, and then other uses with greater  
11 reliability needs are later connected. In addition, potable water systems tend to have a much  
12 greater level of redundancy in the conveyance and distribution system than singular recycled  
13 water production facilities. This reduced level of on-stream availability discourages reuse by  
14 potential CII and landscape users with a service interruption standard more stringent than that  
15 of the recycled water system to which they may otherwise wish to connect. Service interruption  
16 could cause production impacts or business impacts to the golf industry and, at certain types of  
17 industrial facilities, safety or environmental impacts.

### 18 **Solution 10.7.1 – Consider Increased Recycled Water System Reliability** 19 **Features and Backup Water Supply**

20 The reliability of recycled water systems needs to be commensurate with the types of water  
21 demands being served and the needs of recycled water users. Alternatives include more robust  
22 recycled water treatment and delivery systems and alternative backup water supplies.  
23 Incorporating backup water supplies is often more cost-effective than increasing redundancy or  
24 capacity of recycled water facilities that will only be used in rare or infrequent situations.  
25 Alternative approaches are usually available to meet the reliability needs of the system,  
26 including:

- 27 • Improve the reliability of the recycled water infrastructure.
- 28 • Provide recycled water storage backup supply for customers intolerant of service  
29 interruption.
- 30 • Encourage CII customers to have on-site storage where appropriate
- 31 • Provide a more robust recycled water plant design that includes redundant pumping  
32 systems, backup power supplier for critical equipment.
- 33 • Provide potable or other backup water supply at individual customer sites in the  
34 event of loss of recycled water at the user facility.
- 35 • Provide the ability to add supplemental potable or nonpotable water to the recycled  
36 water distribution system to meet peak demands or replace recycled water during  
37 interruptions of recycled water availability.
- 38 • Provide a recycled water infrastructure system that can, if needed, be fed from  
39 multiple sources rather than from a single dedicated recycled water plant.  
40



1 Potential responsible implementers: Water supply agencies and users

## 2 **10.8 TERMINOLOGY USED IN DESCRIBING THE PROCESS**

3

4 Terminology and information presented by water recycling professionals can be dauntingly  
5 technical, and often, multiple terms variously and inconsistently describe the same product or  
6 technology. This terminology, which describes treatment technology, types of recycled water,  
7 and water quality issues, derives from engineering and regulatory sources, and it can be  
8 confusing to recycled water users and other stakeholders.

9 For example, Title 22 requires signage stating “RECYCLED WATER – DO NOT DRINK,” yet  
10 recycled water is sometimes introduced into potable water sources, such as groundwater. Some  
11 recycled water products are branded (e.g., NEWater in Singapore); some are simply called  
12 “recycled water”; and others are called reclaimed water. Professionals and public officials need  
13 to understand their audience when communicating and use appropriate terminology.

### 14 **Solution 10.8.1- Establish Terminology**

15 Water recycling professionals should establish universal terminology that is transparent,  
16 comprehensible, and consistent with State statutes and regulations. This language should be  
17 carefully used in all media contacts, in project development, and education. Likewise, technical  
18 scientific and engineering terminology is needed for communication within scientific and  
19 engineering community, and, because the general public will not readily understand it, it may  
20 not be suitable for communicating with the general public.

21 Potential responsible implementers: WateReuse California

### 22 **Solution 10.8.2- Use New Terminology**

23 The industry should communicate consistent, clear terminology to water industry professionals  
24 and seek its widespread use. State agencies should incorporate this terminology in laws and  
25 regulations. Those agencies should agree to recognize the language in waste discharge  
26 requirements and standardize its use.

27 Potential responsible implementers: SWRCB, CDPH, DWR, WateReuse California, and ACWA

## 28 **10.9 DATA FOR TRACKING USE**

29 The lack of reliable data about the quantity and types of water recycling occurring in California is  
30 a barrier to recycling in that public policies and goals about recycling need to be informed by  
31 facts. Management of the recycled water assets in California requires data.

### 32 **Solution 10.9.1 – Create Unified Recycled Water Use and Compliance** 33 **Reporting System**

34 There should be consistent reporting requirements and a web-based reporting system that  
35 meets regulatory compliance needs of regional water quality control boards and data gathering

1 needs of water supply planners. This system would help manage the data needed to evaluate  
2 attainment of State goals, such as the amount of recycled water produced, the fraction of total  
3 M&I and agricultural demand met by recycled water (DWR, SWRCB), and reduction of  
4 discharge(SWRCB, RWQCBs). One option that may serve this purpose is a comprehensive  
5 plan to manage such data using an existing SWRCB-funded database constructed by the WRF.

6 Potential responsible implementers: SWRCB, CDPH, WaterReuse California, and DWR

7

## 8 **10.10 INSTITUTIONAL COORDINATION BETWEEN AGENCIES**

9 In some areas, multiple utilities are involved in providing recycled water to a customer. The retail  
10 water utility may have disincentives to substitute recycled water for the supply it currently  
11 supplies, especially in cases where the recycled water would be provided by a separate utility.  
12 Disincentives can include lost revenue.

### 13 **Solution 10-.10.1 - Review Duplication of Service Regulations**

14 A review of duplication of service and other regulations to identify possible solutions should be  
15 undertaken. Additionally, investor-owned utilities should be encouraged to build and rate-base  
16 reuse projects as allowed by the CPUC.

17 Potential responsible implementers: WaterReuse California, ACWA, CPUC, and Legislature

### 18 **Solution 10.10.2 – Provide Agency Partnering Case Studies**

19 Provide case studies where partnering between water, waste water and other utilities has been  
20 effective in providing recycled water to CII customers.

21 For example, the EBMUD Board of Directors adopted a resolution authorizing work with other  
22 sanitation districts to allow those districts to provide recycled water supply within the service  
23 area and receive a waiver on "service duplication act" protections.

24 Potential responsible implementers: WaterReuse California

25

## 26 **Appendix X – to be included in the Appendix**

27 Specific changes to water recycling regulations in Title 22 of the Health and Safety Code are  
28 needed to eliminate unnecessary restrictions and inconsistencies. The following are the specific  
29 recommended changes to regulations:

30 Revise CDPH regulations to:

- 31 • Add a definition for “Cafeteria” to Section 60301 of Title 22.

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- Amend “Operation requirements” section of Sections 60301 and 60304 to Title 22 to reflect new language recently adopted by the Building Standards Commission regarding requirement for cross-connection testing every four years.
- Modify the “Use Area Requirements” in Section 60310(i) to Title 22 to conditionally allow for the use of hose bibbs at sites open to the general public.
- Revise the definition of “approved Water Supply” in Title 17 Section 7383(a) as follows: “...State or local health agency.”
- Change definition to “Water Supplier in Title 17 Section 7583(l) to read “...is the entity that owns and/or operates the public water system.”
- Use the language found in the current Title 17 Section 7585 which does not require the water supplier to be “responsible for abatement of cross-connections which may exist within a water user’s premises.”

## Appendix C: Glossary

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**Aggregate-level metric:** A metric that does not apply to a specific set of conditions, such as system-wide or sector-wide measures.

**Alternative turf:** See Synthetic turf.

**Alternative water source:** Any non-potable water source used for irrigation purposes.

**Artificial turf:** See Synthetic turf.

**As-built documentation:** Set of reproducible drawings that show significant changes in the work made during construction and that are usually based on drawings marked up in the field and other data furnished by the contractor (MWELo, Section 491).

**Back flow prevention device:** A safety device used to prevent pollution or contamination of the water supply due to the reverse flow of water from the irrigation system (MWELo, Section 491).

**Benchmark:** (1) A particular (numerical) value of a metric that denotes a specific level of performance; (2) A current value or beginning value of a metric.

**BMP:** Best management practices; recommended methods or practices designed to increase irrigation efficiency and uniformity thereby reducing water consumption and runoff, protecting water quality.

**Commercial water user:** "Commercial water user" means a water user that provides or distributes a product or service. (CWC §10608.12(d)).

**Confounding-factors:** Factors affecting the numeric value of a metric that are not related to the purpose of a metric.

**Conservation Index (CI):** Nomenclature denoting conservation metric.

**Commercial, institutional, and industrial customers;** examples of commercial users include customers who provide or distribute a product or service, such as hotels, restaurants, office buildings, commercial businesses, or other places of commerce; institutional customers include schools, courts, churches, hospitals, and government institutions regardless of ownership; industrial customers are those who primarily manufacture or process materials as defined by NAICS.

**Definitional noise:** The inaccuracies in both the numerator and denominator of a metric as a result of different definitions used for collecting data.

**Direct potable reuse:** The planned introduction of highly treated recycled water either directly into a potable water supply distribution system downstream of any water treatment plant or into a raw water supply immediately upstream of a water treatment plant. (Paraphrase of Water Code §13561(b)).

**Direct reuse:** The use of recycled water that has been transported from a wastewater treatment plant  
2 to a reuse site without passing through a natural body of either surface water or ground water.

**Economic Efficiency:** An efficiency measure that incorporates the concept of value, such as including  
4 a monetary or resource factor.

**Efficiency:** The ratio of output to input or vice versa. Water use metrics and benchmarks are  
6 inextricably linked to the concepts of “water conservation” and “water-use efficiency.” Therefore,  
7 it is also helpful to define these concepts in the context of evaluating water use. The term  
8 “efficiency” derives from engineering practice where it is typically used to describe technical  
9 efficiency, or the ratio of output to input.

**Evapotranspiration:** A combination of water transpired from vegetation and evaporated from the soil  
11 and plant surfaces (ASABE, 1998).

**Existing landscape:** For the purposes of this BMP, an established landscape associated with a CII  
13 site.

**Graywater:** Untreated wastewater that has not been contaminated by any toilet discharge, has not  
15 been affected by infectious, contaminated, or unhealthy bodily wastes, and does not present a  
16 threat from contamination by unhealthful processing, manufacturing, or operating wastes.  
17 Graywater includes wastewater from bathtubs, showers, bathroom washbasins, clothes washing  
18 machines, and laundry tubs, but does not include wastewater from kitchen sinks or  
19 dishwashers. (Water Code §14876)

**Groundwater recharge:** The infiltration or injection of water into a groundwater aquifer.

**Hardscape:** Any durable material pervious and non-pervious (MWELo, Section 491).

**Hydro-zones:** Portion of the landscaped area having plants with similar water needs. A hydro-zone  
23 may be irrigated or non-irrigated (MWELo, Section 491).

**Indirect potable reuse:** The planned incorporation of recycled water into a raw water supply such as in  
25 potable water storage reservoirs or a groundwater aquifer resulting in mixing and assimilation,  
26 thus providing an environmental buffer. (Metcalf & Eddy/AECOM textbook, consistent with  
27 definition of “indirect potable reuse for groundwater recharge” in Water Code §13561(c)) Note  
28 that as “surface water augmentation” has been defined in the Water Code, it has been  
29 distinguished from direct potable reuse and would be a form of indirect potable reuse.

**Indirect reuse:** The use of recycled water indirectly after it has passed through a natural body of water  
31 after discharge from a wastewater treatment plant.

**Industrial Water User:** "Industrial water user" means a water user that is primarily a manufacturer or  
33 processor of materials as defined by the North American Industry Classification System  
34 [\(NAICS\) code sectors 31 to 33](#), inclusive, or an entity that is a water user primarily engaged in  
35 research and development (CWC §10608.12(h)).

**In-line irrigation:** See Subsurface irrigation.

**Institutional Water User:** "Institutional water user" means a water user dedicated to public service.  
2 This type of user includes, among other users, higher education institutions, schools, courts,  
3 churches, hospitals, government facilities, and non-profit research institutions. (CWC§10608.12  
4 (i)).

**Irrigation scheduling:** Determining when to irrigate and how much water to apply based on  
6 measurements or estimates of soil moisture or crop water used by a plant (NRCS, 1997).

**Irrigation system design:** Drawings and associated documents detailing irrigation system layout, and  
8 component installation and maintenance requirements (IA, 2010).

**Landscape budget:** A volume of water allocated to the entire landscape area for some period of time.  
10 This allowance is established by the water purveyor for the purpose of ensuring adequate  
11 supply of water resources (IA, 2010).

**Maximum Applied Water Allowance (MAWA):** The upper limit of annual applied water for the  
13 established landscaped area as specified in MWELo Section 492.4 (MWELo, Section 491).

**Metric:** A unit of measure (or a parameter being measured) that can be used to assess the rate of  
15 water use during a given period of time and at a given level of data aggregation (e.g., system-  
16 wide, sector-wide, customer level, or end-use level). Another term for a *metric* is *performance*  
17 *indicator*.

**Microclimate:** Climate of a small, specific area that may contrast with the climate of the overall  
19 landscape area due to factors such as wind, sun exposure, plant density, or proximity to  
20 reflective surfaces (MWELo, 491).

**Mulch:** Any organic material, such as leaves, bark, straw, and compost, or inorganic mineral material,  
22 such as rocks, gravel, and decomposed granite left loose and applied to the soil surface for the  
23 beneficial purposes of reducing evaporation, suppressing weeds, moderating soil temperature,  
24 and preventing soil erosion (MWELo, 491).

**MWELo:** The Model Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance of the Department of Water Resources  
26 California Code of Regulations.

**North American Industry Classification System (NAICS):** The North American Industry  
28 Classification System (NAICS) is the standard used by Federal statistical agencies in classifying  
29 business establishments for the purpose of collecting, analyzing, and publishing statistical data  
30 related to the U.S. business economy. NAICS is based on a production-oriented concept,  
31 meaning that it groups establishments into industries according to similarity in the processes  
32 used to produce goods or services.

**NAICS codes:** North American Industry Classification System codes provide comparable statistics  
34 about business activity across North America.

**New construction landscape:** For the purposes of this BMP, a new building with a landscape or other  
36 new landscape associated with a CII site.

**New landscape:** See New construction landscape.

**Performance indicator:** The same meaning as “metric.”

**Permeable:** Any surface or material that allows the passage of water through the material and into the underlying soil (MWELo, 491).

**Planned reuse:** The deliberate direct or indirect use of recycled water without relinquishing control over the water during its delivery.

**Process water:** "Process water" means water used for producing a product or product content or water used for research and development, including, but not limited to, continuous manufacturing processes, water used for testing and maintaining equipment used in producing a product or product content, and water used in combined heat and power facilities used in producing a product or product content. Process water does not mean incidental water uses not related to the production of a product or product content, including, but not limited to, water used for restrooms, landscaping, air conditioning, heating, kitchens, and laundry. (CWC§10608.12 (l)).

**Rainwater harvesting:** Rainwater collection and distribution systems used as an alternative water source for irrigation (AWE, 2010).

**Reclaimed water:** Same meaning as “recycled water.” (Water Code §26)

**Recycled water:** Water [that], as a result of treatment of waste, is suitable for a direct beneficial use or a controlled use that would not otherwise occur and is therefore considered a valuable resource. (Water Code §13050(n))

**Rehabilitated landscape:** Any re-landscaping project that requires a permit, plan check, or design review, meets the requirements of MWELo Section 490.1, and the modified landscape area is equal to or greater than 2,500 square feet, is 50% of the total landscape area, and the modifications are completed within one year (MWELo, Section 491).

**Scaling variable:** Variable that can be used to standardize or characterize per unit rates of water use. Also called “scaling factor.”

**Standard Industrial Classification (SIC):** A classification system for commercial, industrial, and institutional activities that classifies establishments by their primary type of activity and organizes industries in an increasing level of detail ranging from general economic sectors (e.g., manufacturing, services) to specific industry segments (e.g., commercial sports, laundry businesses). This system organizes industries by their output. SIC was replaced by the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) in 1997.

**Soil management:** Utilizing a soil analysis report that includes soil properties such as soil type and infiltration rate when designing and scheduling irrigation systems.

**Subsurface irrigation:** Application of water below the soil surface through emitters, with discharge rates generally in the same range as drip irrigation. The method of water application is different

1 from and not to be confused with sub-irrigation where the root zone is irrigated by water table  
2 control (ASABE, 1998).

**Surface water augmentation:** The planned placement of recycled water into a surface water reservoir  
4 used as a source of domestic drinking water supply (Water Code §13561(d)) or into any surface  
5 water when discharged for the purpose of aquatic habitat enhancement.

**Synthetic turf:** A product manufactured to look like natural turfgrass; a permeable ground cover made  
7 from synthetic fibers.

**Target:** A benchmark that indicates a state of achievement expected at some time in the future.

**Turf:** A ground cover surface of mowed grass (MWELo, Section 491).

**UM:** A water use metric acronym expressed as “usage ratios” or “usage rates.” The “ratio” metric  
11 designates the quotient obtained by dividing the volume of water sold over a specified period of  
12 time (day, month, season or year) by a scaling factor (e.g. number of accounts, population  
13 served or number of employees). Additional letters, superscripts and subscripts can be added  
14 to the UM acronym to designate user sector and the scaling variable being used.

**Unplanned reuse:** Unplanned reuse of treated wastewater effluent after disposal. Also called  
16 “incidental reuse.”

**Warm season turf:** Grasses that grow vigorously in warm summer months and then generally enter  
18 some state of dormancy in winter thereby having a lower water need compared to cool season  
19 turf. Examples of warm season grasses include Bermuda, Zoysia and Buffalo grasses.

**Water audit:** Also known as an irrigation survey, a water audit is an in-depth evaluation of the  
21 performance of an irrigation system that includes, but is not limited to: inspection, system tune-  
22 up, system test with distribution uniformity or emission uniformity, reporting overspray or runoff  
23 that causes overland flow, and preparation of an irrigation schedule (MWELo, Section 491).

**Water budget:** Volume of irrigation water required to maintain a functional, healthy landscape with the  
25 minimum amount of water. A water budget is established through a method of water-efficiency  
26 standards for landscapes by providing the water necessary to meet the ET of the landscaped  
27 area.

**Water conservation:** A reduction in water use, water losses, or waste.

**Water-efficient landscape:** A landscape that minimizes water requirements and consumption through  
30 proper design, installation, and management (AWE, 2010).

**Water use efficiency:** For the purposes of this BMP, how well the irrigation water is managed and how  
32 well the manager minimizes the additional amount of water needed by the landscape after  
33 accounting for non-uniformity and weather (IA, 2010).



**Water reclamation:** (1) Same meaning as definition 1 for “water recycling.” (2) The treatment of water  
2 of impaired quality, including brackish water and seawater, to produce a water of suitable quality  
3 for the intended use.

**Water recycling:** (1) The process of treating wastewater for beneficial use, storing and distributing  
5 recycled water, and the actual use of recycled water. (2) The reuse of water through the same  
6 series of processes, pipes, or vessels more than once by one user, wherein the effluent from  
7 one use is captured and redirected back into the same use or directed to another use within the  
8 same facility of the user.

**Water reuse:** (1) The use of treated wastewater for a beneficial purpose, such as agricultural irrigation  
10 and industrial cooling. (2) The additional use of previously used water.

**Winterization:** The process of removing water from the irrigation system before the onset of freezing  
12 temperatures (IA, 2010).

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