

ENERGY STAR®

Water Efficiency Treasure Hunt



Water Management Program

Feature	Y	N	Room for improvement?	Location (ex. Classroom 101)
★ Water management or reduction program in place				
★ A facility water use assessment has been performed				
★ Whole building and major water uses are submetered and tracked				
★ School has a water efficiency goal or target				
★ School's water use is consistently benchmarked in EPA's Portfolio Manager and results analyzed				
★ School has a designated staff person responsible for water management				
Communication plan in place to promote water management program				
★ Summer shutdown program in place (if school unoccupied during summer)				
★ A regularly scheduled walkthrough audit is performed in places water is used				
★ Low- and no-cost water-saving measures are considered (waterless urinals, etc.)				
★ School has an active water or water efficiency club or committee				
Water efficiency included in science curriculum				

Outdoor Water Use

Feature	Y	N	Room for improvement?	Location (ex. Classroom 101)
Sprinkler heads are regularly inspected for malfunction				
Irrigation system is free from visible leaks				
Leaks or malfunctions are repaired quickly				
Landscaping includes native and low-water plants and grasses				
Turf grass only present on sports or activity fields				
★ Irrigation system installed or audited by WaterSense labeled provider				
Products (e.g., irrigation controllers) used on premises are WaterSense-qualified				
Drip irrigation is installed				
★ Irrigation on a controller with moisture sensors				
A regularly scheduled walkthrough audit is performed in places water is used				
Watering occurs at night or early morning, not in the heat of the day				
Irrigation doesn't water sidewalks or walls, only plants				
★ Outdoor water is metered separately and usage tracked				
★ Greywater, captured rainwater, or other reused water is used				
★ Water features recirculate water				
Pools are covered to reduce water loss				

Indoor Water Use

Feature	Y	N	Room for improvement?	Location (ex. Classroom 101)
★ Watersense or other efficient fixtures installed in toilets/urinals				
★ Watersense or other efficient fixtures installed in breakroom and restroom				
★ Automatic sensors are regularly inspected for malfunction				
Leaks or malfunctions are repaired quickly				

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There are no drippy faucets or showers, or running toilets				
School is free from visible leaks				
Staff are reminded to wash only full loads of dishes				
Food is handscraped from dishes, rather than rinsed				
Process Water Use				
Feature	Y	N	Room for improvement?	Location (ex. Classroom 101)
★ Cooling/heating needs are reduced through energy-efficiency measures				
★ Cooling system uses graywater or other reused water				
★ Cooling system water is monitored regularly				
★ Cooling equipment is properly maintained				
★ Leaks or malfunctions are repaired quickly				

Activities that are marked with ★ may require support from your district's facilities department.

Sources:

- WaterSense Best Management Practices: <https://www.epa.gov/watersense/best-management-practices>
- Saving Water in Educational Facilities: <https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2017-01/documents/ws-commercial-factsheet-educational-facilities.pdf>

For more information about energy efficiency and ENERGY STAR K-12 Toolkit, please contact us through Ask a Question portal at www.energystar.gov/buildingshelp.