



We're all in the business of saving water

Whatever your business, please think about the water you use. Small changes to how you use water in the workplace can make a big difference and reduce your bills too.

See reverse for some great water saving tips!



Water for the North West

Employee awareness

- Introduce water saving information, employee suggestions scheme or arrange a water efficiency session to increase awareness of the importance of using water wisely.

In the toilet or washroom

- **Taps** - dripping taps can waste a lot of water over time and result in higher bills.
- **Urinal flushing** - uncontrolled urinals can waste hundreds of litres per hour. If you're replacing outdated equipment, using a control device can reduce water consumption by 70%.
- **Toilet flushing** - older toilets can use up to 13 litres per flush. Try a water saving device such as a 'Save-a-Flush' bag which you can order from our website.
- **Leaking toilets** – Modern dual flush (button operated) toilets can leak due to sticky buttons or passing valves. This can waste over 250 litres an hour so check all toilets for leaks.
- **Showers** - aerating showerheads can help reduce water use by up to 50%. Also, encourage your employees to keep to a four minute shower if at all possible to help reduce water use.

In the kitchen or canteen

- Use a dishwasher instead of washing up plates and mugs separately.
- Run a bowl of water rather than let it run to waste down the plug.
- A water cooler will give employees direct access to cold water rather than having to run a tap.

Grounds

- Thousands of litres of water can be wasted every day on grounds maintenance particularly during the summer months. Hoses and sprinklers use more water in one hour than a family of four will use in a day.
- **Water butts** - consider collecting rainwater in a tank or butt and using it for watering plants and shrubs. When landscaping try to select plants and shrubs that are tolerant of dry conditions.

Cleaning

- **Vehicle washing** – try to reduce your vehicle washing activities. When washing vehicles or equipment consider recycling the water.
- **Window cleaning** – look for opportunities to reduce or prioritise window cleaning activities.
- **Uniforms** - if you are asking your employees to wash their uniforms during the Coronavirus outbreak, please encourage them to only switch on washing machines when they have a full load if they are able to do this.

Monitor your water usage

- **Meters** - find and regularly read your meters and sub meters. Make someone responsible for reading meters either weekly or monthly. A marked increase in water usage may indicate a leak.

Check for leaking pipes

Leaking pipes can waste an incredible amount of water and could be costing your business a lot of money. Here are some tell-tale signs to help you spot leaks on your business premises:



- Damp patches in or outside your premises
- Lush vegetation in dry periods may be indications of leaking pipes
- Leaking overflow systems

Contacting United Utilities

If you have an emergency with your water supply or wastewater services please call us on **0345 672 3723**.

If you have any queries about your bill or need to discuss your charges please contact your retailer direct. You can find contact details for your retailer at open-water.org.uk/find-your-current-retailer

Your retailer may also provide a range of additional water-related services to support your business.