



WATER CONSERVATION



Water conservation is already an important practice in our arid region. Efficient water use will become even more of a necessity as a warming climate exacerbates our water supply. Here in Salt Lake City, a majority of our water supply comes from snowmelt accumulated in the nearby Wasatch Mountains over the winter. As snow accumulation continues to decrease, smart use of our existing supply is essential.

Water-consuming appliances

Most water-consuming appliances, such as dishwashers and washing machines, have water-saving settings or cycles. Familiarize yourself and your coworkers with the most water efficient settings on your appliances. Additionally, post a note on the appliances to remind coworkers of the preferred default cycles.

Skip heavy wash cycles.

Select shorter wash cycles.

Only run wash cycles when appliances are fully loaded.

Plumbing Fixtures (Water Sense labeled)

Like appliances, it's possible to select plumbing fixtures that are more water-efficient, or to modify existing fixtures to use less water. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has created a list of water efficient fixtures that are designated with the agency's "WaterSense" label. Fixtures with this designation generally reduce water consumption 20% compared to their standard counterparts. Examples include:

Faucets with aerators can reduce water consumption by 30%.

Toilets with the water sense label use 20% less water than maximum federal standards.

Pre-rinse spray valves in commercial kitchens also save 20% if designated by WaterSense.

Landscaping

Other activities in your business hold opportunities for reducing your water foot print. Automating your watering schedule can reduce your landscaping contribution by 50%.

Or you can eliminate your landscape water activities entirely by xeriscaping your outdoor areas.

"Smart" irrigation controllers can be identified by WaterSense label.

Check out **Center for Water Efficient Landscaping** for landscaping and xeriscaping tips.

Additionally, reducing meat consumption in company meals also has major water-saving impacts globally.

Try eliminating meat and dairy one day per week—check out www.meatlessmonday.com for ideas

