



Every Drop Counts

Smart Water Use

www.nysefc.org/smartwateruse



General Tips for Industry

Please note that these suggested measures are not intended to overrule otherwise applicable federal, state, Tribal or local health and safety regulations.

General

- Designate a water efficiency coordinator with the responsibility and authority for a water conservation program.
- Develop a mission statement and a plan.
- Educate and involve employees in water efficiency efforts.
- Make administration and other employees aware of the water conservation coordinator's function.
- Read water meter daily to monitor and report the success of water conservation efforts.
- Seek employee ideas for water conservation using contests, rewards, and suggestion boxes.
- Determine the quantity and purpose of water being used.
- Survey your facilities to identify water use needs throughout the facility.
- Identify the location of water needs and the quantity and purpose of water being used.

Equipment

- Install high-pressure, low-volume nozzles on spray washers.
- Install in-line strainers on all spray headers; inspect nozzles regularly for clogging.
- Replace high-volume hoses with high-pressure, low-volume cleaning systems.
- As equipment wears out, replace with water-saving models.
- Equip hoses with spring loaded shutoff nozzles. See EPA WaterSense website.
- Install ultra-low flow toilets, or adjust flush valves or install dams on existing toilets.

Practices

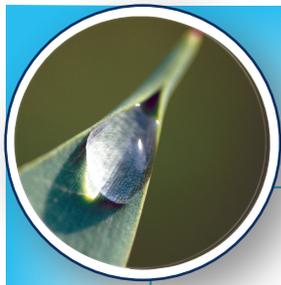
- Detect and repair all leaks.
- Identify discharges that may be reused and implement reuse practices.
- Some discharges with potential for reuse include:
 - Final rinses from tank cleaning, keg washers, fermenters;
 - Soak and rinse water from bottles and cans;

continued

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- Cooler flush water, filter backwash;
 - Pasteurizer and sterilizer water;
 - Final rinses in wash cycles;
 - Boiler makeup;
 - Refrigeration equipment defrost;
 - Equipment cleaning;
 - Floor and gutter wash
- Use fogging nozzles to cool products.
 - Handle waste materials in a dry mode where possible.
 - Adjust overflows from recirculation systems by controlling the rate at which make-up water is added including the following methods:
 - install float-controlled valve on the make-up line,
 - close filling line during operation, and
 - provide surge tanks for each system to avoid overflow.
 - Turn off all flows during shutdowns. Use solenoid valves to stop the flow of water when production stops.
 - Adjust flow in sprays and other lines to meet minimum requirements.

Outdoor Maintenance (including landscaping, pools and spas, turf management, and other outdoor water management issues)

- See the Tips for Outdoor Maintenance page for more information.