Water Conservation for Hotels

General Suggestions

- Increase employee and visitor awareness of water conservation. Brochures explaining how to conserve water are available from the Board of Water Supply.
- Read water meter daily to monitor the success of water conservation efforts.
- Conduct contests promoting water conservation (e.g., posters, slogans or conservation ideas) and locate conservation suggestion boxes in prominent areas.
- Install signs that encourage water conservation in employee and customer restrooms and common areas.
- As appliances or fixtures wear out, replace with water-saving models. Install flow reducers and faucet aerators on all plumbing fixtures.
- When cleaning with water is necessary, use budgeted amounts. When possible, use a broom or rake.
- Presoak utensils and dishes and wash vegetables in ponded water instead of using a running water rinse.
- Avoid thawing food under running water. Use other available alternatives, including microwave ovens.
- Minimize use of ice machines and adjust them to dispense less ice.
- Do not use running water to melt ice in the sink strainers.

Building Maintenance

- Minimize the water used in cooling equipment, such as air compressors, in accordance with the manufacturer’s recommendations.
- Reduce the load on air conditioning units by shutting air conditioning off when and where it is not needed.
- Maintain insulation on hot water pipes.
- Check water supply system for leaks, and turn off any unnecessary flows. Repair dripping faucets, showers, and continuously running toilets.
- Reduce the water used in toilet flushing by either adjusting the vacuum flush mechanism or installing toilet tank displacement devices (dams, bottles or bags).
- Switch from wet or “steam” carpet cleaning methods to dry powder methods.
- Change window cleaning schedule from periodic to an on-call, as required basis.
- Lower pool water level to reduce amount of water splashed out.
- Reduce amount of water used to backflush pool filters.
- Use a pool cover to reduce evaporation when the pool is not being used.

Kitchen Area

- Turn off the continuous flow used to clean the drain trays of the coffee/milk/soda beverage island; clean the trays only as needed.
- Turn dishwashers off when dishes are not being processed. Wash full loads only. Replace spray heads with water-saving spray nozzles.
- Recycle rinse water from the dishwasher or recirculate it to the garbage disposal.
- Wash autos, buses and trucks less often.
- Avoid plant fertilizing and pruning which would stimulate excessive growth.
- Weeds compete for water and should be controlled by use of an appropriate registered herbicide or by hand removal.
- In many cases, older, established plants require only infrequent irrigation. Look for indications of water needed such as wilt, change of color, or dry soils.
- Limit landscaping additions and alterations. In the future, design landscapes which require less water. Incorporate xeriscape (water management) techniques into the design.
- Install soil moisture overrides or timers on sprinkler systems. Time waterings, when possible, to occur in the morning when wind and evaporation are lowest. Irrigation equipment should apply water uniformly.
- Investigate the advantages of installing drip irrigation systems.
- Mulch around plants to reduce evaporation and discourage weeds.
- Remove thatch and aerate turf to encourage the movement of water to the root zone.
- Begin a flexible watering schedule, watering only when needed and not on windy or rainy days.
- Avoid runoff, and make sure sprinklers cover just the lawn or garden, not sidewalks, driveways or gutters.

For more information, visit our website at www.boardofwatersupply.com, or contact the Board of Water Supply at 748-5041.