How to become more water efficient

Becoming more water efficient can reduce your organisation's environmental impact and carbon footprint, whilst also saving money on supply and wastewater disposal costs. Where you are heating water before use, savings will also reduce energy bills.



These simple actions can help you to achieve water savings - even small changes can have a big impact.

- Take regular meter readings and compare your consumption to help you identify any leaks.
- Take a walk round your site to check for dripping taps or WC cistern overflows. Make a note of areas of significant water use and prioritise action in these areas.
- Raising awareness of your water efficiency initiatives can help to break bad habits amongst employees. Use signs or posters to promote a water efficient culture. Introduce a suggestion scheme so your employees can share their water saving ideas with you.
- Install water saving equipment, such as push and spray taps (these can lead to 50% savings in water use through taps), low flush toilets and waterless urinals or PIR sensors.
- Consider opportunities for a water butt – if you have a garden or indoor plants rainwater could be used for watering.
- Hot water can cost between 2 – 4 times as much as cold water once energy costs are taken into account. Kill two birds with one stone by only using hot water where completely necessary.
- Also consider the opportunity for sustainable urban drainage on site – storing or re-using surface water at source, decreasing flow rates to watercourses using natural infiltration and improving water quality - and consider developing flood resilience plans.



For further support and details of any opportunities for grant funding please contact a Carbon Charter advisor.