

Water Conservation Strategies for Restaurants

WHETHER YOUR RESTAURANT IS BIG OR SMALL, YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

BE WATER SMART!

- Get these table signs, free from DSRSD, urging water conservation.
- Install signs (free from DSRSD) encouraging water efficiency in all restrooms.*
- Increase employee awareness of water use efficiency.
- Serve water only when customers request it.
- Seek employee suggestions on water conservation.
- Read water meters weekly to monitor success of water use efficiency efforts and to help find leaks.

KITCHEN

- Turn off the continuous water flow that cleans beverage island drain trays; clean the trays only as needed.
- Turn dishwasher off after use. Wash full loads only. Replace spray heads in dishwasher to reduce water flow.
- Do not use running water to melt ice or frozen foods.
- Use water-efficient icemakers.
- Reuse water where feasible, consistent with state and county requirements.
- Presoak utensils and dishes in ponded water instead of rinsing them in running water.
- Wash vegetables in ponded water; do not let water run.
- Use connectionless food steamers.

BUILDING MAINTENANCE

- Repair dripping faucets and other plumbing, along with running or leaking toilets.
- Check water supply system for leaks.
- Install flow reducers and faucet aerators in all plumbing fixtures.
- Install high efficiency toilets and waterless urinals.
- As appliances or fixtures wear out, replace them with water-saving models.
- Shut off water supply to equipment rooms not in use.
- Minimize the water used in cooling equipment, such as air compressors, according to manufacturer recommendations.



- Reduce the load on air conditioning units by shutting them off when (or where) they are not needed.
- Insulate hot water pipes.
- Avoid excessive boiler and air conditioner blow down. (Monitor levels of total dissolved solids, and blow down only when needed.)
- Change window cleaning schedule from periodic to an on-call/as-required basis.
- Wash company cars and trucks less often and, when necessary, go to a commercial car wash that recirculates its wash water.
- Use a broom instead of a hose to clean pavement.

PLANT AND IRRIGATE WISELY

- Mulch around plants and keep grass taller to reduce evaporation.
- Convert from water-guzzling lawns, trees, and shrubs to water efficient landscapes.*
- Plant in the fall when cooler conditions and more rainfall help establish new landscaping.
- Adjust landscape irrigation based on soil type. For clay soil, water in short intervals. For other soil types, water less frequently but more deeply.
- Enlist your landscape maintenance company or property manager in your conservation campaign.



**Dublin San Ramon
Services District**

Water, wastewater, recycled water

(925) 828-0515
www.drsrd.com

* DSRSD offers rebates and free-water-saving devices. For details, visit www.drsrd.com. To request free restroom mirror stickers and table signs, contact DSRSD Public Information at (925) 875-2282 or contact@drsrd.com.