Overview

Denver Water
- Who we are
- Why Conservation

Water Efficiency in for Commercial Customers
- EPA WaterSense at Work
- Getting Started with water management
- Water use monitoring

Denver Water Commercial Incentives
- Indoor Fixtures
- Commercial appliances and equipment
- Mechanical Systems
- Outdoor – Landscape Conversion
- New Development

Other Funding Sources

Questions
Denver Water

Who we are and who we serve

- Denver metro region water utility
- We serve 1.5 million people
- Partner Across 18 local governments
- Not directly tied to the City and County of Denver
- We supply source water (potable water, reclaimed water, and raw water)
- We are not responsible for stormwater or wastewater
Why Conservation and Efficiency

![Graph showing the volume of available water, Lake Mead elevation, and water consumption over time. The graph indicates a decrease in available water and Lake Mead elevation, while water consumption remains relatively constant.](image-url)
Why Conservation and Efficiency

![Graph showing supply reservoir contents with a strategic water reserve and full capacity indicated. The graph includes data from 2013 and 2002, showing a reduction in reservoir content over time.](image)
Why Conservation

“Does more snowpack mean less drought? “It buys us months, maybe a year,” Berggren said, of the anticipated heavy flows. “It helps stave of ...more

— John Berggren, Senior Regional Water Policy Analyst

Colorado WaterWise - Following
200 followers
3h

“To get out of those problems, we’re going to really need not just one year, but back-to-back, probably three or four years of really good winters”, declared Dr. Benjamin Hatchett for the Colorado Sun.

Ask Eartha: Does a wet year mean we can relax on conservation efforts?
summitdaily.com
Recommitment to Conservation

In 2022 Denver Water signed a MOU by and among Colorado River Basin Municipal and Public Water Provider

- Continue and expand programs to increase indoor and outdoor water use efficiency
- Introduce programs to reduce the quantity of non-functional turf grass by 30%
- Increase water reuse and recycled water programs where feasible
Denver Water

Points of Contact

- Customer Contact Center **(303) 893-2444**
  - Key Account Representatives
  - Rebates - [Rebates@denverwater.org](mailto:Rebates@denverwater.org)
- New Development – Water Sales
  - [WaterSales@denverwater.org](mailto:WaterSales@denverwater.org)
  - **(303) 628-6100**
- Specific Water Efficiency / Conservation Questions
  - Rebate Pre-Approval >$2,500
  - [Austin.Krcmarik@denverwater.org](mailto:Austin.Krcmarik@denverwater.org)
  - **(303) 628-6838**
EPA Water Sense at Work

Making the Business Case

• Achieve cost savings
• Increase competitive advantage
• Demonstrate leadership and meet ESG goals
• Access additional funding opportunities in the green building marketplace (PACE, ESCOs, State of Colorado Grants)

Figure 1-1. End Uses of Water in Various Types of Commercial and Institutional Facilities
EPA Water Sense at Work

Water Management Planning

• Make a commitment
• Assess facility or campus water use
• Set and communicate goals
• Create an action plan
• Implement the action plan
• Evaluate progress at regular interval (account for seasonality)
• Recognize achievement
EPA Water Sense at Work

Assess Water Use

• Gather readily available information
  • Monthly Bills from Denver Water
  • Sub-meter or specific industrial process data
• Establish a water use baseline
  • Average winter consumption
• Inventory major water uses
  • Fixtures / equipment
  • Processes
  • Irrigation
Side Bar: Leak Adjustment

What to do if you suspect a leak

- Call Denver Water Contact Center (303) 893-2444
- They will schedule a check for constant flow / leak investigation
- If a leak is found, take action to get it corrected
- After leak is fixed fill out the “Leak Adjustment Request Form” on the Denver Water website.
Tools to assess specific fixtures or processes

**Water Monitoring technology**

- **External pipe data loggers**
  - Another way to set baselines for specific processes or equipment
- **Advance Metering Infrastructure (AMI)**
  - Provides close to real time water use
  - More granular than monthly billing
- **Submetering**
  - 3rd party companies will meter and read specific equipment and processes
  - Great for building owners and tenants to pay their true cost of water
Tools to conduct a self assessment

Water Assessment

• Download the Brendle Group’s excel based Water Assessment tool and Guide

• The Brendle Group - Water Assessment Tool

• Go through the step by step instructions

• New materials are being developed through a Colorado Water Conservation Board Grant
  • Updated self assessment tools
  • Many opportunities to be involved in 2024-2026

• Hire a 3rd party contractor to conduct an assessment
EPA Water Sense at Work

Assessment take aways

• Site specific actions give best ROI
• Indoor water usage is a good target for all commercial subgroups
  • Toilets retrofits have the best ROI
  • For Restaurants – Pre rinse spray valves are a good solution
  • Sub-meter specific industrial processes
• Outdoor water usage is a good target for office building, schools,
• Cooling tower management works for large buildings / institutions
Denver Water Commercial Incentives

New Development of Commercial Properties

• Water Efficiency System Development Credit
• Receive a credit of 20%
  • Toilets 1.0 gallon/flush
  • Flushometer toilets 1.28 gallon/flush
  • Urinals 0.125 gallon/flush
  • Showerheads 1.75 gallon/minute
  • Residential lavatory faucets 1.2 gallon/minute
  • Washing Machines – IWF < 3.2 gallon/cuft
  • Smart Irrigation controllers
  • Master valve and flow sensor and rain pause are required
  • Outdoor landscapes designed to < 10 gallons per sqft of irrigable area
Denver Water Commercial Incentives

**Plumbing / Sanitary Fixtures**
- $100 – UHET Toilets – 1.1 gallons/flush or less*
  - Just get the 0.8 gallon/flush!
- $100 – High Efficiency Urinal – .125 gallons/flush
- $125 – flushometer and bowl – 1.28 gallons/flush

**Other Commercial Equipment**
- $150 per Coin/card-operated laundry equipment
- $300 commercial ware washing equipment
- $40 sub meter
Denver Water Outdoor Efficiency

Small Commercial/Residential Programs
• Outdoor Water Use Report
• WaterSense labeled smart irrigation controller rebate
• Efficient sprinkler nozzle rebate
• Partnership with Resource Central

Commercial Programs
• Informational Water Budget Report (In re-development)
• WaterSense labeled smart irrigation controller rebate
• Efficient sprinkler nozzle rebate
• Submeter and flow sensor rebate

Landscape incentives (In development)
• Likely $0.50 / square foot of converted landscape
Resource Central

Garden in a Box

Colorado Oasis

$123.00

- 60 sq. ft.
- Adaptable

Includes:
- 15 starter plants
- 1 plant by number map
- Comprehensive Plant & Care Guide


Sold Out

Description

15/15 plants native to Colorado

hardy to 7,000 ft.

mature height range 6 in. - 5 ft.

blooms spring to fall

attracts pollinators

8/15 plants resistant to deer

6/15 plants resistant to rabbits

Commercial Programs

- Informational Water Budget Report
- WaterSense labeled smart irrigation controller rebate
- Efficient sprinkler nozzle rebate
- Submeter and flow sensor rebate

CA$H for Grass Program (In development)
Resource Central

Slow the Flow

RESIDENTIAL SPRINKLER EVALUATIONS

Our Slow the Flow sprinkler efficiency evaluations for residential properties aim to help Colorado residents reduce water use by optimizing their sprinkler system’s efficiency. Gain knowledge about your system, get a customized watering schedule and reduce water waste with our on-site, no-cost sprinkler evaluations available to residents in partnering water provider districts. Colorado yard care just got easier.

99% OF RESIDENTIAL SPRINKLER SYSTEMS WE EVALUATE HAVE INEFFICIENCIES

What You Get

Over the course of your free 15-minute evaluation, our trained associates will be on-site to do a complete visual inspection of your system identifying problem areas as well as performing several tests on your system to create an efficient watering schedule for your yard.

Custom Watering Schedule  General System Knowledge  Detailed Report
Resource Central

Lawn Removal

LESS LAWN, MORE SAVINGS

The Lawn Replacement Program offers a mix-and-match solution for upgrading to a waterwise yard. We'll help you save water and money, reduce lawn maintenance, and create a colorful habitat.

It's easy. Just agree to remove at least 200 square feet of lawn through our program and replace it with water-wise gardens, permeable green landscaping or other water-efficient plant material. Submit an application online and we'll be in touch about your project shortly after. Check the Find Your Discount section to determine if you are eligible for water provider-sponsored discounts.

With this program you could get access to any of the following:

- Discounted Garden In A Box Kits
- Lawn Removal Service Discounts
- Waterwise Landscape Advice

Learn More

How it Works

1. Measure your space and determine sun exposure (200 sqft or more).
2. Take photos of the area.
3. Submit an online application.
5. Remove lawn through us or do it yourself.
6. Pick up and plant your low water gardens.
Denver Water Outdoor Efficiency

Fact: ~50% of total water use goes to landscapes

The Xeriscape Principles
- Planning and Design
- Soil Improvements
- Efficient Irrigation
- Plant Zones
- Mulches
- Turf Alternatives
- Maintenance

Transition to new terms like Waterwise, climate resilient, ColoradoScape
Additional water efficiency project funding

Energy Service Companies (ESCO’s)
- Design, Build and arrange financing for projects that save energy and water.
- Decrease operating and maintenance costs for building operators and tenants

Colorado Commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy Programs (C-PACE)
- Finance up to 100% of energy efficiency, renewable energy, and water conservation improvements.
- Repayment terms up to 25 years.

Colorado Water Conservation Board (State Revolving Fund Grants)
Questions?

Austin.Krcmarik@denverwater.org
Water Efficiency Lead.
Denver Water

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