



# Water Conservation Policy

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Reviewed by: Sustainability Team Chair

Approved by: Managing Director

As part of our commitment to sustainability, AET Group committed to 11 of the United Nations Global Compact Sustainable Development Goals and implemented a target of reducing water usage by 30% by 2025. We recognize the importance of protecting freshwater resources for future generations and ecosystem health; we also understand the connection between water use and our carbon footprint because of the energy required to pump and treat water. In our efforts to conserve water, we must not only consider typical on-site water use, such as toilets and dishwashers, but also indirect water use that is embedded in the goods we consume (such as paper and food) and the energy we use (the oil and gas industry consumes significant amounts of water). This Water Conservation Policy should be considered in the broader context of our Corporate Sustainability Policy, as well as our Sustainable Purchasing Policy.

## 1.0 Water Conservation Guidelines:

The following is a list of actions we will implement to fulfill our commitment to water conservation principles. This is an evolving list, which will be adapted to fit with changing conditions. To reduce the quantity of water used we will:

- Periodically complete a water audit to determine where and how efficiencies can be improved
- Consider the water efficiency of products and appliances when making purchasing decisions (for more information, see the Sustainable Purchasing Policy); water-efficient options include:
  - Low flow/dual flush toilets
  - Tap faucet aerators
  - Motion-sensing/hands-free taps
  - High efficiency washing machines and dishwashers
  - Native plants or plants that need little water, and mulch on top of soil in the garden
- Consider the water used in the life cycle of products when making purchasing decisions (see [waterfootprint.org](http://waterfootprint.org) for data and AET's Sustainable Purchasing and Procurement Policy); water-efficient options include:
  - Using renewable energy or products made using renewable energy
  - Reducing consumption of oil and gas products of the company fleet (e.g. 3-7 L of water is consumed to produce 1 L of gasoline)
  - Choosing vegetarian/non-beef foods for company events (water footprint of beef = 15400 L/kg; pork = 5990 L/kg, chicken = 4330 L/kg, tofu = 1845 L/kg)
- Identify behavioral aspects of water use and educate staff about water reducing habits, including:
  - Only running the dishwasher when it is full of dishes
  - Using the low-water settings on appliances (e.g., turning off extra rinse cycle on dishwashing machines)
  - Using water from our rain barrels to water office plants and gardens
  - Minimizing the water use for washing company vehicles

To minimize our impact on water quality we will:

- If applicable, periodically complete an inventory of chemicals being used in our offices and work operations, and identify potential pathways for release of toxins/contaminants into our environment
- Following this chemical inventory and analysis, determine if there are less-toxic alternatives and make a plan for the safe handling and disposal of chemicals



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- Consider the toxicity and environmental impact of chemicals when making purchasing decisions (connection with the Sustainable Purchasing Policy); water-wise options include:
  - Non-toxic, biodegradable dishwashing and hand soap
  - Non-toxic, biodegradable cleaning products (requires communication with custodial staff)

## 2.0 Review

This policy shall be reviewed annually by the Sustainability Team, revised accordingly and approved by the Owner Representative.

## 3.0 Revision History

Rev. #	Description of Change	Revision Date
00	Initial Release	
01		2020-01-10
02	Updated to new format.	2021-07-07
03	Yearly Review	2023-03-29
04	Yearly Review, added reference to AET's Sustainable Purchasing and Procurement Policy	2024-03-19