FACT SHEET: WATER EFFICIENCY - PLANNING AND PROGRAMS





SUSTAINABILITY OPPORTUNITY

Stanford practices sustainable water use by managing available resources to meet university needs while preserving ecological systems and maintaining this vital resource for future generations. Key goals are to continuously improve our successful water efficiency and conservation program, develop new strategies to maximize use of surface runoff, preserve high quality treated domestic water for critical campus uses, and protect water-dependent habitat.

TOP INITIATIVES & RESULTS

Water Planning and Management

- In 2009, Stanford received the Silicon Valley Water Conservation Award.
- Stanford is one of 26 members of the Bay Area Water Supply and Conservation Agency. In 2007, Stanford became the first university to join the California Urban Water Conservation Council which offers an opportunity to work with experts in innovative technologies and processes.
- Stanford is developing a Sustainable Water Management Plan to guide our long-term water supply development, water conservation, wastewater and storm-water management, and habitat conservation programs.
- The university is collaborating with regional water agencies to identify opportunities and potential for implementation of efficiency and conservation measures to stretch existing supplies and to ensure a reliable water supply for the future.
- The university completed dozens of water efficiency retrofit projects from 2001 through 2015, pushing down average domestic use from 2.7 mgd in 2000–01 to 1.89 mgd in 2014-15, despite campus growth.

Water Efficiency Program

Stanford's Water Efficiency Program is one of the most aggressive in the Bay Area. It encompasses 25 measures that, along with new projects, have decreased domestic water use 30% from 2.7 million gallons daily (mgd) in 2000-01 to 1.89 mgd in 2014-15. Measures include:

- Water-saving devices on 66 campus sterilizers
- All once-through cooling for equipment replaced with re-circulating systems
- Over 13,000 academic and student housing bathroom fixtures replaced with water-efficient ones
- All campus pre-rinse nozzles replaced with low-flow models
- 85 percent of campus irrigated with nonpotable lake water
- A demonstration program to test new water-efficient technologies
- Weather based (smart) irrigation controllers tested

