

WATER

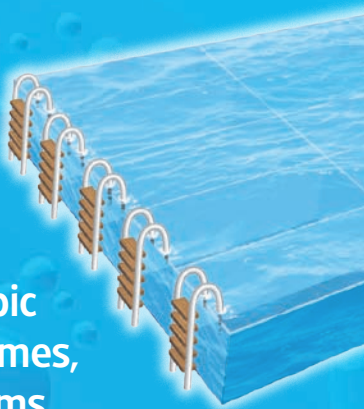
CONSERVATION FOR BUSINESSES



Galway County Council
Comhairle Chontae na Gaillimhe



Galway County Council collects, cleans and delivers 75 million litres of water a day (or 16 million gallons, which is equivalent to over 30 Olympic size swimming pools) to homes, schools, businesses and farms.



This booklet shows you how to conserve water and therefore save money in your business. It is surprising, but with just a little more thought it is easy to reduce the amount of water used.



Your business could benefit from introducing simple water saving measures which will not only help you to conserve water but reduce your water bill too.



Water conservation is a year round responsibility, and is just as important during times of heavy rainfall as it is in drought.





Some Water Usage Facts



We each use on average 150 litres (33 gallons) of clean treated water every day.



A running tap can use up to 10 litres (2.2 gallons) of water a minute.



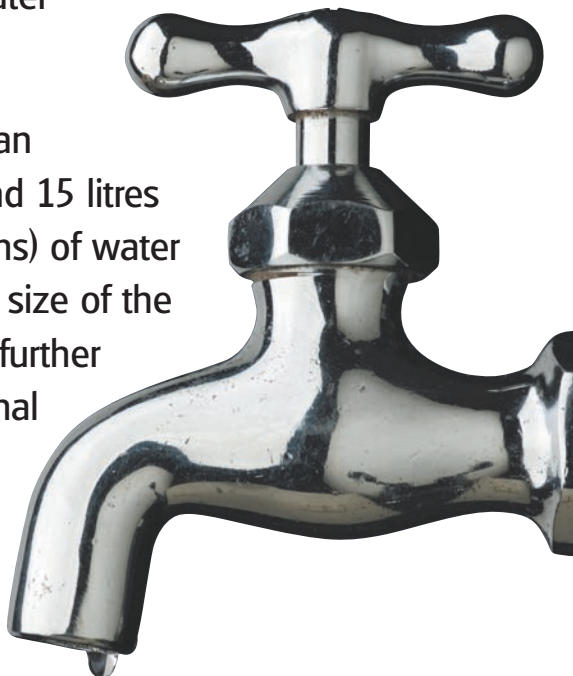
A dripping tap can waste up to 40 litres (8.8 gallons) of water a day.



Each toilet flush can use between 5 and 15 litres (1.1 and 3.3 gallons) of water depending on the size of the toilet cistern. This further increases with urinal flushing.



A dishwasher uses between 10 and 40 litres (2.2 and 8.8 gallons) per cycle whether it's full or not.



Things that can waste water in your business



Are any of the taps in your premises dripping or overflows running?

If yes, can the washers be replaced or overflow fixed?



Are taps and hosepipes left running when unattended?

If yes, consider fitting automatic shut-off valves.



Are the water pipes properly covered to prevent them freezing in cold weather?

What could happen if they are not?



Are the urinals in your toilets flushing automatically?

If yes, ask if this is necessary?



Are your customers and staff aware of their water usage?

If not, could this be introduced?



Does your business have a water leak?



Find out where your water meter is. Normally your meter is located close to the property boundary in a chamber with the stopcock. If you have difficulty locating your meter, Galway County Council will be able to assist.

Note: It is the consumers responsibility for maintenance and prevention of wastage from the meter.

Read your meter as work finishes at night – enter the reading.

A

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Read it before work starts in the morning – enter the reading.

B

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

How much was used overnight? (B minus A)

B-A

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

If there is a large difference, there may be water leaking on your premises, either through leaking pipes, urinals, toilet cisterns, taps or any other water connections.

Checking for leaks



There are two simple ways to **check for leaks...**

1. Visual checks

Check the ground above your pipes to look for visible signs of a leak, such as unusually damp ground.

2. Use your water meter

If you have a water meter you can use it to check for leaks.

Turn off all taps and appliances which use water, then check the meter. If the counter is turning, you may have a leak.

But make sure everything is turned off.

It's a good idea to take a meter reading every week or so.

If this value increases...

 **Has consumption increased?**

 **Has a tap started dripping?**

 **Is it a leak?**

1 cubic metre [m³]

=

1000 litres

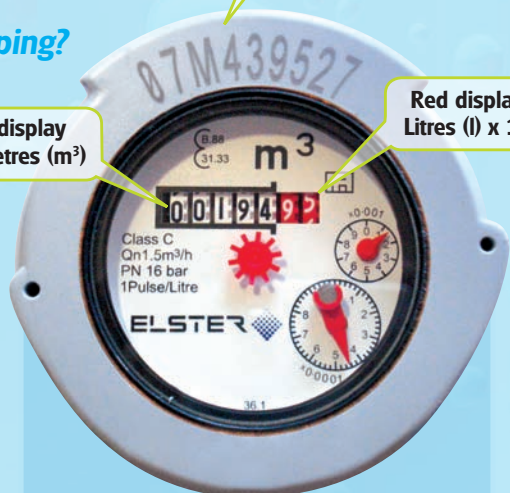
or

220 gallons

Black display
cubic metres (m³)

Meter Serial Number which
corresponds with your bill

Red display
Litres (l) x 10



Reading Shown = 194.95 m³ = 194,950 litres
= 42,889 gallons

Other tips

Water saving Tips

- If you have a business, empower your employees and customers to participate in water-saving practices.
- Replace worn out or broken equipment with modern appliances that use water more efficiently than older models.
- By installing water saving devices in your toilet cisterns you can save up to 20% of the water you flush away.

Alternative sources of water... Rainwater

- Make use of rainwater harvesting. Rainwater can be used for watering gardens, washing vehicles and for general cleaning projects. Rainwater collection barrels should always be covered for safety.





Water Conservation & Network Management Project

Water Services Section
Galway County Council

Tel: 091 476401

E-mail: waterconservation@galwaycoco.ie

www.galway.ie/en/services/waterservices/waterconservation



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