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**Tips:**

* Auto shut off or timers on the faucets will reduce the amount of time that the faucet is running
* Low flow or dual flush toilets will save water on every flush
* Low flow faucets or faucet aerators can be implemented to reduce water output when running the faucet
* Planting native and low maintenance landscaping will reduce the amount of irrigation needed
* Creating a schedule to water in the morning allows for maximum water retention and will decrease the amount of water needed
* Mowing grass at a higher height promotes root growth in the grass

**Examples in Smart Businesses:**

* 3M utilizes low flow appliances and fixtures
* Hach recently completed renovations to water using equipment
* Green Hills uses water only when necessary
* Wheatsfield captures rain through two rain barrels
* Wheatsfield also utilizes stormwater retention for parking lots
* Chevron REG only waters where it is needed

**Ames Resources**

**City of Ames SmartWater and Smart Watershed Program**

The [City of Ames SmartWater](https://www.cityofames.org/My-Government/Departments/Public-Works/Stormwater-Program/Smart-Watersheds-and-Rebates) program includes incentives for rain barrels, rain gardens, native landscaping, soil quality, and [Smart Watersheds](https://www.cityofames.org/My-Government/Departments/Public-Works/Stormwater-Program/Smart-Watersheds-and-Rebates/Rebates) guide to other programs. This can be a very beneficial resource for your organization when maintaining the landscape around your building.

**Best Management for Oils and Grease**

The [City of Ames FOG (Fats, Oils, and Greases) webpage](https://www.cityofames.org/My-Government/Departments/Water-Pollution-Control/Fats-Oils-and-Grease-FOG) offers information on how to properly dispose of oils and grease to help maintain the infrastructure underneath your feet. Your organization can save large amounts of money by avoiding damage to your plumbing system when oils and grease are disposed of in a proper manner.

**Other Resources**

**Low Flow Faucets & Faucet Aerators**

The following [Low Flow Faucets & Faucet Aerators](https://www.cleanenergyresourceteams.org/faucet-aerators-are-great-water-and-energy-savings-when-should-you-use-them) article discusses how low flow faucets and faucet aerators work and the benefits that come along with installing such applications to reduce indoor water usage.

**WaterSense Products**

The following EPA website discusses [WaterSense products](https://www.epa.gov/watersense/watersense-products) and their water efficiency. There is also vast information on the various types of products that are WaterSense certified to fit any need for your organization.

**How to do a water audit?**

Water audits can be done by organization owners to observe their water usage and maintain equipment to allow efficient water usage. The [How to do a water audit?](https://www.facilitiesnet.com/green/article/Steps-in-a-Water-Audit--9364) is a step-by-step guide to help you navigate your organization architecture to do a water audit and plan on what changes can positively impact your water bill.

**How to find water leaks?**

Water leaks can be quiet and expensive problems for any organization that will negatively impact your water bill. It's important to resolve these issues sooner rather than later, this [How to find water leaks?](https://www.bobvila.com/articles/how-to-find-a-water-leak/) article will guide you through the process of how to properly maintain your equipment by finding leaks before they become costly situations.

**Lawn Maintenance**

Organizations looking to upgrade or install sprinklers to manage their lawn care can read these [Lawn Care Guides](https://www.orbitonline.com/blogs/learn-and-growt-for-you/) that discuss information such as specific types of timers on sprinkler systems. These timers will assist in conserving water usage and fill the requirements needed for your specific lawn care needs.

**Lawn Care Products and Practices**

The [Planet Natural Research Center](https://www.planetnatural.com/organic-lawn-care-101/) provide various information on eco-friendly lawn care products and practices. Their website provides links to other articles on specific topics and product overviews.