Process

- Know where your water goes. Conserve and protect water by minimizing waste in wastewater. Do not dispose of hazardous waste down a city sewer system or storm drain.

- Reuse water. Use reclaimed water from one application in a different process. Uses for reused water include other industrial uses, landscape irrigation, agricultural irrigation, heating or cooling, aesthetic uses such as fountains or fire protection.

- Recycle water. Reuse water for the same application. The water may require treatment before it can be reused. Many processes can be modified to closed loop recycling systems.

- Recirculate cooling water. Many industries use water to cool heat-generating equipment or to condense gases. Recycling water with a recirculating cooling system can greatly reduce water use. Many industries report significant savings through water conservation.

- Choose cleaning methods carefully. When possible avoid using water to clean spills or hose down facility floors, sidewalks or parking lots. Clean oil/grease with clay absorbents; clean spills with a mop or other absorbent material.

- Monitor your water system for leaks. A leaky hose, faucet, or pipe can divert water from your system and cost your business money.

Landscaping

- Plant native, less water intensive grasses and plants outside in any lawn areas to reduce the need for irrigation water. Visit your local garden store to find out how.

- Water your lawn area at night, when it’s cool and evaporation is minimized.

- Make sure your sprinkler system waters the lawn areas only—not the sidewalk or parking lot.

- Avoid over fertilizing lawn areas. Only a limited amount of fertilizer can be used by plants. Unused fertilizer runs into our surface and ground waters, elevating nutrients to harmful levels.

Plumbing

- Install low-flow toilets, low-flow showerheads, and faucets with aerators.