

# Saving water in our workplace

Become a water efficiency whizz today



**H<sub>2</sub>O**

In the UK each person  
uses, on average, 150  
litres of water per day.

# How have you used water today?

Jot down your list.

**Water is a precious  
and limited resource...**

**70%**  
of the earth is covered in water.

But only

**2%**

is suitable for drinking.

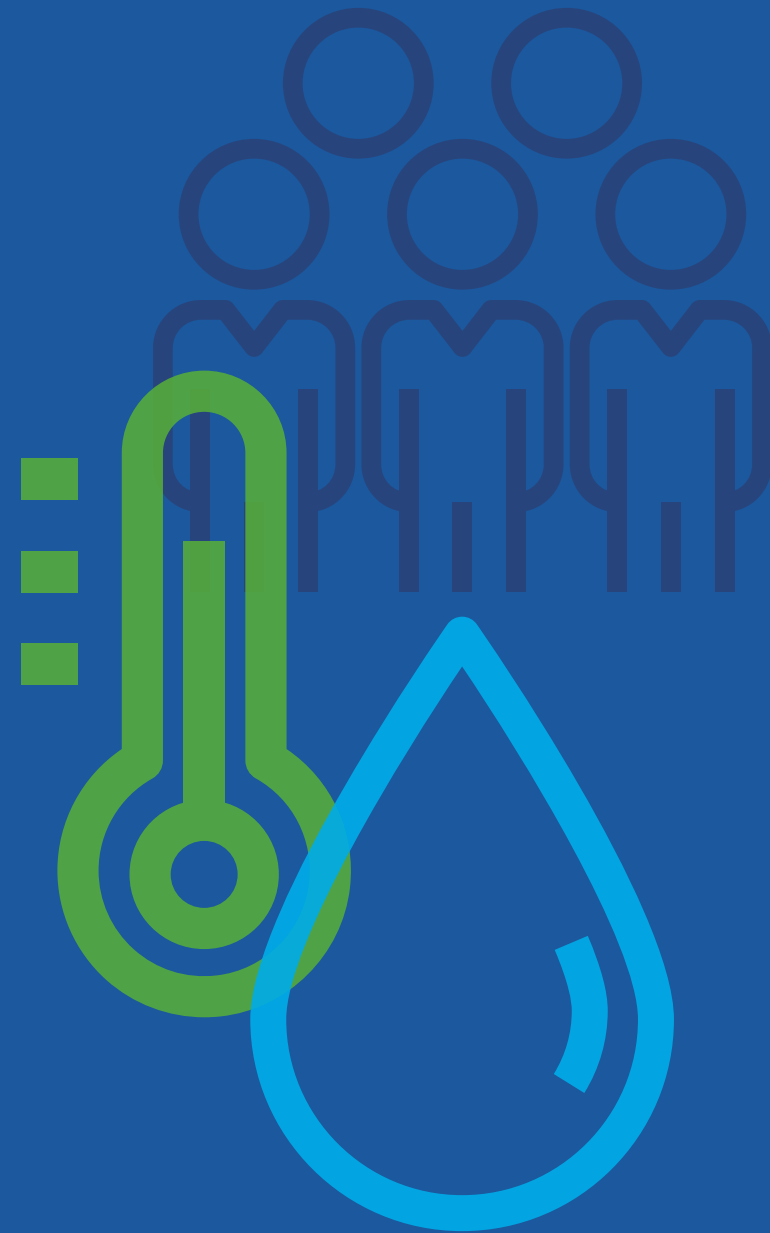


And  
less  
than

**1%**

of it is accessible.

As the world **population**  
**continues to grow**  
and **temperatures get**  
**warmer**, the **demand for**  
**water is higher** than ever.



## The state of water use today

It's vital that we're aware of the financial and environmental cost to **every single drop** of water we use, both as individuals and as a business.

Do you know how many million tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> are released each year due to the transport, treatment and heating of water in the UK?

Jump to the next slide  
for the answer.



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**19.3**  
million  
tonnes



By 2040, we expect more than half of our summers to exceed 2003 temperatures - when the UK and Europe had one of the hottest heatwaves on record. This will mean more water shortages. By 2050, what % do you think the UK's water availability could be reduced by?\*



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\*Source: Waterwise

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**10-15%**

with some rivers  
seeing 50-80% less  
water during the  
summer months.

\*Source: Waterwise



Of species that  
depend on UK  
rivers, lakes and  
wetlands, do you  
know what % are in  
decline?\*



Jump to the next slide  
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\*Source: Waterwise

**More than 50% and 13% of our freshwater and wetlands species are threatened with extinction.**

With the majority of UK rivers being too dirty to use for drinking water, there's an increasing appetite for the use of water from fast-flowing, naturally alkaline and clean chalk streams. This is putting these unique and precious ecosystems at risk of drying up, threatening the wildlife that lives there including otters and salmon.

# Why save water?

1

## Save money

- Over 90% of water bills are made up of the wholesale cost of the water we use, so using less will have a big impact on bottom lines.
- Using less water also results in a saving on energy costs, as it means heating less water.

2

## Reduce water waste

- By saving water, we reduce the amount of waste water that goes down the drain. This also benefits businesses' bottom lines.

3

## Help the environment

- Much of the water we use is taken from lakes and streams.
- Cutting back on the amount of water we use helps preserve natural resources, and protect delicate ecosystems and precious wildlife.

4

## Reduce your carbon footprint

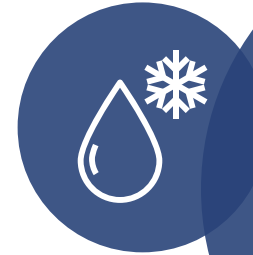
- Processing, heating and transporting water releases CO<sub>2</sub> into the atmosphere.
- By using less water, we help cut emissions that contribute to global warming.

The background of the entire slide is a dark blue color. It is covered with a repeating pattern of lighter blue water droplets. Each droplet is centered within a square frame. The squares and droplets are arranged in a grid-like fashion, though some are slightly offset, creating a textured, water-themed background.

# Be a champion of change

We've listed some useful steps you can  
take to become more water efficient in  
your workplace and outdoor spaces...

# Shake things up: Saving water in the kitchen area



## The cold, hard truth

Waiting for the tap to run cold can waste up to 10 litres of water every day. Pop a bottle in the fridge instead.



## Home in on hot water

- Investing in an eco-boiler, that heats the water as you need it and dispenses boiling water instantly, is a great way to save time, money, energy and water over the long-term when compared to a traditional kettle, which can be over-boiled and inefficient.



## Check your equipment

- If you have a dishwasher, glasswasher or use a washing machine, make sure you buy the most water-efficient equipment, not just the most energy-efficient.
- Look out for the water label when purchasing appliances.
- Remember to use eco settings on all of your equipment where possible, as they use less energy and water and still get things clean.

## Get oil disposal right

- Safe disposal of fat, oil and grease will help prevent potential leaks.
- Don't put these waste products down drains as they can solidify later and cause plumbing problems.
- Instead use grease separators, removers and dosing units.



# Your loo needs you:

## Saving water in the restroom

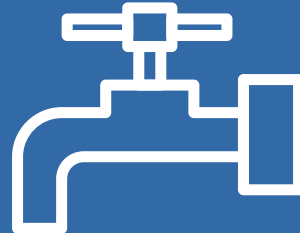
### Toilets

- Use efficient flush toilets and urinal controls; you could even consider waterless urinals.
- If you have them, make sure you know how to use a dual-flush to optimise every flush.



### Taps

- Flow restrictors, mixer taps and automatic sensors all improve water efficiency.



### Tap fact

A flowing tap produces between six to 15 litres of water every minute.



### Showers

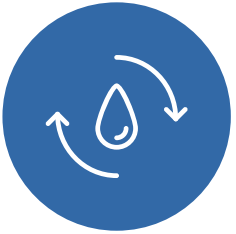
- Make sure shower heads are eco-friendly. Push-buttoned valves can help cut down shower times too.
- Consider adding shower timers to ensure colleagues are mindful of the time they spend showering.



# Herb your enthusiasm: Saving water outside

## Did you know?

Sprinklers use up to 1,000 litres of water per hour. That's more than a family of four use in one day!



### Go native and natural

Choose as many existing trees and shrubs as possible. Established plants native to the UK usually require less water and maintenance.



### Avoid lawns if you can

Maintaining lawns can be water-intensive and expensive. Consider alternatives to turf, such as wildflower meadows or drought-resistant ornamental grasses.



### Water lawns wisely

If watering is required, water lawns heavily once a week, rather than lightly every day. This encourages the grass to root further down, delivering increased flood and drought-resistance.



### Catch that rainwater

It doesn't make sense to use drinking water to flush loos and water plants when rainwater is perfectly good. Consider looking at rainwater harvesting systems to use grey water.

# Hidden H<sub>2</sub>O:

## Saving embedded water

### Define: embedded water

Hidden water that's used to produce things we often take for granted.

### Paper

10 litres of water  
=  
One sheet of paper

### Travel

13-27 litres of water  
=  
One litre of petrol

### Food

14,196 litres of water  
=  
One kg of chocolate



# Introducing Business Stream

Naturally *different.*

Since we began, we've helped our customers save nearly £305 million on their bills and conserve more than 52 billion litres of water - that's 21,000 Olympic-sized swimming pools worth - through expertise and advice.



Business Stream is passionate about the benefits of saving water for both customers and the environment. That's why we're committed to helping customers save up to 20% of the water they use.

**Find out more about how Business Stream can help protect your water, wallets and the world at [business-stream.co.uk/water-efficiency](https://business-stream.co.uk/water-efficiency).**

# Ready to test your water knowledge?

1

How many litres of water does each person in the UK use each day on average?

3

What setting should you try to use on all kitchen equipment to save water and energy?

4

One single sheet of paper requires how many litres of water to produce?

2

What % of the earth's suitable drinking water is accessible to us?

5

How long would it take for a sprinkler to use 1,000 litres of water?

# What next?

- **Kick-start real change** in your workplace by exploring our water efficiency pack, including our Savings Spotter Guide.
- **Spread the word** by talking to your friends, family and colleagues.
- **Share your knowledge** by telling us about your pledge to be #Naturallydifferent and save water on our social channels. Visit our Twitter, LinkedIn or Facebook page.
- **Start exploring** our Water Saving Shop for valves, taps and more that will unlock water efficiency across your business.
- **Learn more** by heading to [business-stream.co.uk/water-efficiency](https://business-stream.co.uk/water-efficiency).