



Smart Water Commercial Water Audits

Great Western Institute has developed a commercial water audit program. This new program focuses on supporting local businesses – including restaurants and laundry facilities, as well as outdoor irrigators.

Program Goals and Objectives

- Reduce water use by promoting and supporting more efficient and wise water use and behavior.
- Reduce water use in each audited facility by an average of about 15%.
- Reduce operating costs by reducing water and energy expenses.

What is a *Smart Water* Audit?

A *Smart Water* Audit has been designed to help individual business owners understand their normal water use patterns and behaviors such that water use efficiencies can be developed to better manage indoor and outdoor water use. The *Smart Water* Audit will:

- Identify and when possible repair indoor fixture leaks.
- Identify inefficient showerheads, ice machines, faucet aerators and/or pre-rinse spray stations, and leaky and high water use toilets and urinals.



- Identify improvements for self-performed laundry, dishwashing and food preparation.
- Evaluate opportunities for outdoor irrigation water savings.

During the *Smart Water* audit, shower, toilet and faucet flow rates will be measured, and where appropriate, showerheads and/or faucet aerators will be replaced (with business owner consent) with low flow fittings. In addition, outdoor irrigation controller programming will be checked to determine the adequacy of current irrigation timing and intervals. Adjustments and corrections will be recommended, where appropriate.

What Will the Business Owner Get?

1. Access to professional water conservation specialists.
2. Educational information on water use efficiency.
3. Written report indicating water use improvements and cost benefits.
4. Certification of facility water efficiency.



OVERVIEW OF GREAT WESTERN INSTITUTE'S PROGRAMS

- **Water Conservation Workshops** – GWI has organized and conducted workshops and water policy discussions in conjunction with dozens of partners statewide engaging elected and appointed officials, water resources managers, consultants, environmental groups, realtors, and other interested citizens.
- **Water Conservation Training Seminars** – GWI has organized and lead technical training seminars to teach consultants and water resource managers how to pursue grant funding and develop meaningful water conservation plans.
- **Water Conservation Grant Writing** – GWI has prepared water conservation planning and implementation grant applications for needy water providers pro bono.
- **Water Conservation Planning Support** – GWI has prepared and/or supported the preparation of local water conservation plans for near ½ of those organizations with state approved water conservation plans that meet the newly promulgated state requirements.
- **Water Conservation Audits** – GWI has and will continue to support local water provider efforts to establish sustainable water conservation programs using commercial, industrial and institutional audits. GWI is developing a new program to support residential and commercial audits.
- **Water Education for Teachers** – GWI supports Project WET, which is an international water education program for teachers, with funding, planning and facilitation services.
- **K-12 Education** – GWI conducts in-classroom teaching efforts and assists teachers in developing curriculum, lecture material, and topical field trips.

GREAT WESTERN INSTITUTE

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