

WATER CONSERVATION

WATER CONSERVATION: PRACTICE AND IMPACT

More efficient water use begins with individuals, in the home and workplace. Heating and pumping water requires chemicals and energy. Water-related energy consumption in California represents approximately 15-20 percent of all energy consumed by the state.

The less water we waste, the more fuel we conserve, reducing the amount of pollution generated by burning fuel and treating water with chemicals. Taking these simple steps and encouraging others to do so makes good economic and environmental sense. Increased water conservation effectively reduces impacts on the South San Francisco Bay salt marsh habitat, local groundwater supplies, local surface water supplies, and the associated watersheds.



RECYCLED WATER

All 39 toilets in the building are flushed with recycled water, the first of their kind on our campus. Using recycled water is an effective way to reduce impacts on freshwater ecosystems. The purple pipes, which are visible along the basement ceiling, transport recycled water throughout the library. Eleven Falcon waterfree urinals each save 40,000 gallons of water and \$200 in maintenance fees per year. The building's landscaping is also irrigated with recycled water.



REDUCED RUNOFF

Use of mortar-free bricks for walkways and pavers around the building reduce water runoff. Unlike traditional cement sidewalks which are completely water tight and drive water toward storm drains to flow straight into the bay, brick pavers are permeable and allow water to pass through them. This helps replenish groundwater and reduces the amount of freshwater that is lost to the Bay.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT:

Harrington Learning Commons, Sobrato Technology Center, and Orradre Library
Sustainability at SCU
University Operations

www.scu.edu/newlibrary
www.scu.edu/sustainability
<http://university-operations.scu.edu>