

Water Efficiency Services

Ways you can reduce your water bill and be a more sustainable business

How does water efficiency help your business?

Water is a critical business resource, yet here in the UK we face issues with supply as demand for water continues to rise and the availability of water in rivers, reservoirs and from underground sources continues to fall. It's therefore important for all businesses to do their bit and only use the water they need and that's what water efficiency is all about.

Many businesses are unaware of just how much money they are wasting on water which is not needed. This includes water from undetected leaks but also from water inefficient toilets, sinks, processes, behaviours and other uses. Sustainability is key to ensuring that your business is operating efficiently - by reducing, reusing and recycling your water you can cut waste, save money and minimise your impact on the environment whilst meeting your own sustainability objectives.



Other benefits include a reduction in your carbon footprint, improved compliance with environmental legislation and the ability to talk positively about what you are doing to customers, employees, stakeholders and investors.

At Affinity for Business we care about people and planet and believe that working sustainably makes good business sense. This guide to our water efficiency services will help you understand, plan and implement the best way for your business to become water efficient and save money.

Keep track of how much water you are using

The first step to understanding your water use is to monitor your consumption. Whilst you can do this by comparing your water bills, or manually recording your water meter readings, this will only help you identify large spikes in water use. Therefore, we recommend that customers use Automatic Meter Reading (AMR) devices which automatically reads and saves your consumption data to the cloud in near real-time. Sub-meters can also be set up to show consumption in different buildings, areas or for specific uses. With AMR data you can easily identify water-intensive activities, out-of-hours, excess, continuous flows and other unexpected usage which could be indicative of a potential leak or inefficient water use.

Most AMR systems will automatically alert users of leaks and potential issues allowing them to be fixed, rather than go unnoticed, preventing disruption, damage to property, and financial loss.

AMR is also helpful for companies who monitor environmental performance as the data can be used to create detailed water use reports and can be used to track the effectiveness of water efficiency initiatives.

For example, Affinity for Business delivered one of the UK's largest private installations of AMR at Heathrow Airport. Through a proactive and well-planned leak detection and repair strategy we have assisted Heathrow Airport in saving over £100,000/year and reducing their water consumption by thousands of cubic meters.

How much does AMR cost and how do I get it?

AMR typically costs around £500-£700 per installed device alongside an annual cost of around £80. Costs vary depending on the size of your water meter and its location and there are often discounts for multiple devices. Speak to us if you would like a free, no obligation, quote. Once installed we can help you get the most from your AMR data and help you identify any leaks.

Understand how you can use less water

Look closely at your water use onsite to help you identify leaks, water inefficient behaviour and other ways you can save water. This is commonly called a water audit. Whilst you can do this yourself, a water audit by a company like Affinity for Business will highlight ways you can save water and include an honest, and uncomplicated, assessment of estimated costs, savings, payback times and practical steps to get you started.

For larger companies, and those with sustainability programmes, this might also include recommendations for longer-term projects such as rainwater harvesting, greywater use, wastewater heat recovery and replacement of inefficient bathroom facilities.

Our water efficiency review is carried out by researching your previous water bills and consumption information (including AMR data if available) and a comprehensive site visit to measure how water is being used.

Our water efficiency review will provide you with an easy-to-understand report with tailored recommendations on how you can save water including estimated costs, savings and payback times. We can also provide follow-up support for putting measures in place to reduce, and measure, your ongoing water use.



How much is a water audit and how do I get one?

A water audit typically costs around £600. Costs vary depending on your location, property size and the nature of your business. Speak to us if you would like a free, no obligation, quote. Our trusted suppliers can also provide free quotes for any work required to adjusting, or replacing, your fixtures, fittings and outlets to achieve water and financial savings.

How does water efficiency help your business?

When looking at your water outlets like sinks, toilets, urinals, showers and hoses it is important to consider the flow rate (the amount of water they provide) as well as how they are controlled (such as the type of tap or flush used) as both have an impact on efficiency. As a starting point, businesses should aim for taps, toilets, showers and urinals to use the following amounts of water in order to be efficient or highly efficient:

Fitting	Efficient	Highly efficient
Basin tap	≤6 litres per minute	≤4 litres per minute
Kitchen tap	≤8 litres per minute	≤6 litres per minute
Shower	≤10 litres per minute	≤6 litres per minute
Toilet	≤4.5 litres per flush	≤3.5 litres per flush
Urinal	3 litres per bowl per hour during occupation with user-presence activated flush and 0 litres per hour outside of occupation	0 litres (waterless)

What do I do next?

If you need any help working out how much water you use or what you should focus on doing to get the biggest benefit, we'd be more than happy to help! Contact us at **hello@affinityforbusiness.co.uk**.

To switch to Affinity for Business, simply fill out the form on this page: **www.affinityforbusiness.co.uk/switch** and we'll be in touch.



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