



SCHOOL WATER & ENERGY SURVEY

Name: _____

Date: _____

1. Mark only one answer per question, indicating the answer that is most true.
2. Skip any question that you cannot or do not wish to answer (but try to answer them all).
3. When you have marked all of your answers, go online to surveys.bewaterwise.com to input your answers and receive recommendations.

PART 1: SAVING WATER

A. Indoors

1. Indoor Leaks. Do any indoor drinking fountains, faucets, pipes, or showerheads leak water? Check in the classrooms, hallways, restrooms, gyms, and cafeteria.

- a. yes
- b. no

2. Faucets. Are any faucets, drinking fountains, or showers left running when they are not being used?

- a. yes
- b. no

3. Toilets and Urinals. What types of toilets and urinals are installed in your school?

- a. ultra-low flush or high efficiency
- b. regular



Not Sure?

Look under the tank lid or just behind the seat on toilets to see how many gallons are used per flush. Or ask the school maintenance supervisor.

4. Showerheads. Do the showers in the locker rooms have low-flow showerheads?

- a. yes
- b. no
- c. don't have or use showers



Not Sure?

To find out if you have low-flow showerheads, first get permission to do this test. Then:

1. Get two buckets, a watch with a second hand, and a measuring cup.
2. Hold one bucket under the showerhead and have someone turn on the water at full pressure.
3. Let the water run into the bucket for 15 seconds.
4. Measure how many cups of water are in the bucket.
5. Multiply the number of cups in the bucket by 4 to determine how many cups per minute come through your showerhead.
6. Divide the number of cups per minute by 16 to get the number of gallons per minute.
7. Go water a plant so that you don't waste the water.

If the amount is 2.5 gallons per minute or less, the showerhead is a low-flow unit.

B. Outdoors

5. Outdoor Leaks. Are there any water leaks in hoses, pipes, sprinklers, faucets, or drinking fountains outdoors?

- a. yes
- b. no

6. Clean-ups. How often is water from a hose used to clean walkways, paved areas, or lunch areas?

- a. never
- b. sometimes
- c. usually or always

7. Pool Cover. Is a cover placed over the swimming pool at night and at other times when the pool is not being used?

- a. yes
- b. no
- c. don't have a pool

8. Watering Amount. In the spring (March – June), approximately how many minutes per week are most of the sprinklers run?

- a. less than 25 minutes
- b. between 26 and 50 minutes
- c. more than 50 minutes
- d. don't have any lawn



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9. Irrigation Control. Are the sprinklers run less during cooler months and not at all when it's raining?

- a. yes
- b. no
- c. don't use sprinklers

10. Sprinkler Type. If automatic sprinklers are used, what type are they?

- a. conventional fan spray
- b. rotating nozzle
- c. don't have automatic sprinklers

Not Sure?

The conventional pop-up automatic sprinklers spray a fan of water across the grass. The rotating sprinkler projects streams of water while the sprinkler head rotates to cover the area.



11. Sprinkler Condition. Are any of the sprinkler heads not working properly; for example, is water gushing out, trickling out, spraying poorly or unevenly, or spraying in the wrong direction?

- a. yes
- b. no
- c. don't have automatic sprinklers

12. Overspray. Are there any areas where the sprinklers—automatic or manual— spray more onto the pavement than onto the lawn?

- a. yes
- b. no
- c. don't use sprinklers



13. Runoff. How much water runs off the lawn either onto paved areas or down drains or gutters when the lawn is watered?

- a. not very much
- b. quite a lot
- c. don't have a lawn

14. Landscape. What makes up most of the school's outdoor area?

- a. mostly turf grass (lawn)
- b. mostly plants
- c. mostly rocks, concrete, or other elements that do not need water

15. Plants. Are the plants at your school mostly California Friendly®?

- a. yes
- b. no
- c. don't know
- d. don't have plants

Not Sure?

California Friendly® plants are native to California, don't require a lot of water, and thrive in our semi-arid climate. Go to www.bewaterwise.com for examples of these plants.



16. Mulch. Do the trees and/or plants have mulch around them?

- a. yes
- b. no
- c. don't have trees or plants

Not Sure?

Mulch covers the soil. It might be woodchips, shredded bark, sawdust, straw, grass clippings, rubber shavings, or other organic or inorganic material.



17. Hazardous Wastes. How are hazardous wastes such as empty ink cartridges from printers, dead batteries, cleaning fluids, paint, and paint cans disposed of?

- a. separate from other trash
- b. thrown in the regular trash or poured down drains or into gutters

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PART 2: CONSERVING ENERGY

C. Heating and Cooling

18. Heating and Cooling System. How old is your school's central heating and cooling system?

- a. less than 15 years old
- b. more than 15 years old
- c. don't have a heating/cooling system

19. Heating Temperature. At what temperature are the thermostats set to heat when school is in session?

- a. 68 degrees or lower
- b. 69 degrees or higher
- c. don't have thermostats

20. Cooling Temperature. At what temperature are thermostats set to cool when school is in session?

- a. 78 degrees or higher
- b. 77 degrees or lower
- c. don't have an air conditioner

21. Nighttime/Weekend Temperature. Is the heating/cooling system turned off at night and on weekends when the school is empty?

- a. yes
- b. no
- c. don't have a heating/cooling system

22. Empty Rooms. Is the heating/cooling system turned off in rooms that are not being used?

- a. yes
- b. no
- c. don't have a heating/cooling system



23. Closing Windows and Doors. Are windows and outside doors kept closed when the heat or cooling is on?

- a. yes, most of the time
- b. no, sometimes they are left open
- c. don't have a heating/cooling system

24. Air Leaks. Does air leak in or out of closed windows and doors?

- a. yes
- b. no



Not Sure?

To check windows and doors for leaks, make a "draftmeter" and conduct the following test:

1. Cut a piece of thin plastic food-wrap about 5 inches wide and 10 inches long.
2. Tape the short edge of the plastic along the edge of a pencil.
3. Hold this draftmeter near the edges of doors and windows. If the plastic moves, then air is leaking in or out.
4. Also test electrical boxes and outlets, pipes, ducts, ceiling fixtures, attic hatches, and other locations where there is a possible air path to the outside.

25. Blocked Vents. Are any heating or air conditioning vents blocked by furniture or other obstructions, such as stacks of books, equipment, drapes, etc.?

- a. yes
- b. no
- c. don't have vents

26. Shade Trees. Do trees shade all or parts of the school buildings on the south and west sides?

- a. yes
- b. no



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D. Lights and Appliances

27. Lighting Unused Rooms. Do rooms that are not being used have the lights off?

- a. yes, most of the time
- b. no, lights are usually left on



28. Fluorescent Lights. How old is your school's fluorescent lighting system?

- a. 1 to 5 years old
- b. 5 to 10 years old
- c. more than 10 years old

29. Outdoor Lighting. What types of light bulbs are used in outdoor lights?

- a. incandescent
- b. fluorescent
- c. high-pressure sodium



Not Sure?

Incandescent bulbs are the typical round bulbs, which get very hot. Fluorescent bulbs are either straight tubes or tubes bent into compact bulbs, which stay cool. High-pressure sodium bulbs emit a yellowish light.

30. Turning Things Off. Are lights and electrical equipment (e.g., TVs, radios) turned off consistently when they're not needed for more than an hour?

- a. yes
- b. no

31. Keeping Clean. Are light fixtures, skylights, and windows clean or dirty?

- a. most are clean
- b. most are dirty

E. Cafeteria and Waste

32. Exhaust Fans. Are exhaust fans (usually found above the stove or in the ceiling) run only when food is cooking?

- a. yes
- b. no
- c. don't have exhaust fans

33. Refrigerator Coils. Are the refrigerator coils clean or dirty? (Coils are usually located on the back of the refrigerator. They dissipate the heat removed from inside the refrigerator.)

- a. clean
- b. dirty or dusty
- c. don't have refrigerators

34. Cooking Equipment. How old is your school's cooking equipment?

- a. more than 10 years old
- b. less than 10 years old
- c. don't have or use cooking equipment

35. Recycling. Are the metal cans, plastic and glass bottles, writing paper, and newspapers at your school recycled instead of buried in a landfill?

- a. yes
- b. no, our trash is not recycled



Not Sure?

There are several ways to recycle:
(1) The trash company gives your school separate containers for recyclable and non-recyclable waste.
(2) All waste is put in the same container because your trash company then sorts and recycles your trash.
(3) Your school or school district saves recyclable products and takes them to a recycle center.

F. Transportation

36. Getting To and From School. How do most of the students arrive at and leave from your school?

- a. walk or bike or skateboard
- b. by car
- c. by bus



Not Sure?

Arrive early one morning at the school entrance and tally (count) how many students arrive by walking/biking/skateboarding, by car, and by bus.

37. Carpooling. Do most of the students who arrive and leave by car travel in carpools?

- a. yes, half or more of the cars deliver more than one student to school
- b. no, fewer than half of the cars deliver more than one student to school
- c. very few students come and go in cars



Not Sure?

Arrive early one morning at the school entrance and tally (count) how many students arrive by car and how many of those cars contain only one student versus how many contain two or more students.

