

Water Section



Step 2 -- Green & Healthy Schools Assessment



Water is one of Wisconsin's most precious resources, and though we appear to have an abundance of water, we cannot be complacent about how we use and manage it. The growing demand for groundwater is depleting aquifers and affecting water quality in some areas, raising concerns about the potential impacts of public health and surface water resources. This section will help you identify current water use practices in your school, and start you thinking about how you can modify these practices to conserve water and maintain public health.

School Name: _____ **Date:** _____

Conducted By:

Please include administrators, teachers, school staff, students and parents involved in this assessment.

Name	Title and/or Grade Level
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

School Population:

Students: _____ Staff: _____

A. School Buildings

1. What is the source of your school's water supply?
 Municipal water supply
 School has own well
2. If your water comes from a municipal supply, what is its source?
 Groundwater (well, aquifer)
 Surface water (lake, river, reservoir)
3. If your water comes from a municipal supply, what did your school pay last year for water?
\$ _____
4. Using information from water bills or in-school meters, how much water did your school use last year? (1 cubic foot = 7.48 gallons)
_____ cubic feet
_____ gallons
5. If your drinking water comes from the school's private well, who does the water sampling?

Is that person a certified operator?

Yes No

6. If your drinking water comes from the school's private well, is it metered so that the amount used can be monitored?
 Yes No
7. Is your drinking water tested for chemical contaminants and bacteria?*

	<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>
Chemical contaminants	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bacteria	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Find out what contaminants are sampled and list them below:

_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

**Use the community's Consumer Confidence Report (CCR, available from your water utility or the DNR's web site: http://dnr.wi.gov/org/water/dwg/ccr/ccr_instructions.htm) if available. All municipal water sources and some private well sources should have a CCR. Schools with private wells that do not have a CCR will need to ask school staff who tests their water supply.*

8. Does your water contain fluoride? Yes No
 If no, does your school have a fluoride rinse or tablet program? Yes No
9. Is all ice used for consumption only made from drinking water as defined by Administrative Code NR 809? *Note: If ice has been in contact with food or used to keep food cool, it may not be used for human consumption.*
 Yes No
10. Where does water used in your school go?
 Municipal sewer system → Name: _____
 On-site septic system and drainage field
11. Does your school have a plan to deal with chemical spills that may travel down flood drains into the public sewerage system?
 Yes No
12. Does your school have a program to encourage frequent hand washing? **
 Yes No
 **Hand washing is the number one disease prevention practice.
13. Does your school have time built into the schedule for washing hands prior to food consumption?
 Yes No
14. Does your school maintain adequate supplies for hand washing?
 Yes No
15. How many water-using devices does your school have? Place the number of each device found at each location on the chart below. After that number, indicate the number that are leaking in parentheses. Example: Bathroom A has 10 faucets (10 handles – 5 for hot, 5 for cold) and 2 are leaking – write “10 (2)”. For drains, indicate the number of floor drains found in each area.

Location	Faucets			Toilets		Water Fountains	Showers		Floor Drains	Other
	A ¹	S ²	Manual ³	S ²	Manual ³		A ¹	Manual ³		
Classrooms										
Bathroom 1										
Bathroom 2										
Bathroom 3										
Bathroom 4										
Bathroom 5										
Bathroom 6										
Locker Room 1										
Locker Room 2										
Nurse's Office										
Science 1										
Science 2										

Location	Faucets			Toilets		Water Fountains	Showers		Floor Drains	Other
	A ¹	S ²	Manual ³	S ²	Manual ³		A ¹	Manual ³		
Science 3										
Science 4										
Art										
Ag/Tech Ed										
Consumer Ed										
Custodial 1										
Custodial 2										
Custodial 3										
Cafeteria										
Teacher Prep Room										
Other:										

¹ Automatic: Equipment that must be turned on manually, but turns off automatically or on a timer.

² Sensors: Equipment that turns on and off based on movement of person using the equipment.

³ Manual: Equipment that must be physically turned on and off by user.

16. On average, how much water do the school's toilets use per flush?

- <1 gallon 2-3 gallons
 1-2 gallons >3 gallons

17. How many hot water heaters does your school have? _____

18. What type(s) of energy is used to heat the school's hot water?

- Natural gas Electricity
 Propane Other: _____

19. Are there any booster heaters located near appliances that use a lot of hot water?

- Yes No

20. Does your school have any "on demand" (water that is heated as it is being used; no storage of hot water) hot water systems?

- Yes No

21. Are there any re-circulation pumps for rooms that are located a long distance from the water heater?

- Yes No

22. Are any of the water pipes in your school insulated?

- Yes No

23. Does your school have a swimming pool?

- Yes No

If yes, answer the following:

- a. Does your pool have a pool cover that is used?
 Yes No
- b. How does pool staff clean the pool's filter?
 Back wash Manually clean
- c. How often are pool chemical levels checked to insure that a proper balance is maintained?
 Daily Bi-weekly
 Weekly Monthly

B. School Grounds

- 1. How many water faucets are located outside of the school building? _____
How many of those are leaking? _____
How many have been secured so that only school staff may turn them on or off? _____
- 2. Does school staff use hoses to wash sidewalks and parking areas?
 Yes No
- 3. Does your school building have gutters and/or down spouts?
 Yes No
- 4. Where does water that runs off the school's roof, parking lots and grounds go?
 Storm drain Retention pond
 Recessed grassy areas Drainage ditch
 Rain garden Natural pond, stream or wetland
- 5. Does your school have a plan for managing and reducing runoff from school grounds?
 Yes No
- 6. Does your school have any outdoor fountains or artificial waterfalls?
 Yes No
If yes, answer the following:

	<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>
Are they turned off in the evening?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are they turned off in very hot weather?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Do they re-circulate water?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Who maintains them? _____		
- 7. **Watering lawns.** *To reduce duplication of effort, please use the answers from the Green & Healthy School Assessment, **School Facilities and Grounds: Section B.***

8. **Water athletic fields.** *To reduce duplication of effort, please use the answers from the Green & Healthy School Assessment, **School Facilities and Grounds: Section B.***

C. Curriculum and Community

1. Is water conservation part of your school's curriculum?

Yes No

If yes, in what grades is it taught?

2. Has your school staff recently participated in any staff development programs for water education?

Yes No

3. Is the importance of hand washing taught in your school?

Yes No

4. Does your school participate in any water projects that benefit the community?

Yes No

If so, what are they?

5. Some water management facilities can be used as educational resources. Which are found in your community?

	<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
Pumping station	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Drinking water treatment plant	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Water tower	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Wastewater treatment plant	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____

D. Action Plan

Based on the information you found out from this assessment, what recommendations do you have to improve the school's water use and safety behaviors? Use the chart on page 7 to brainstorm and organize your ideas for action.

Water Assessment: Ideas for Action

Based on the information you gathered from the Water Assessment, what action ideas do you have to reduce water use and increase water conservation and safety behaviors at your school? Use this sheet to jot down your ideas.

Section	General Ideas	Classroom Connections/ Lesson Plan Ideas	Community Involvement/ Activity Ideas	Outside Sources (organizations, community members, professionals)
A. School Buildings				
B. School Grounds				
C. Curriculum and Community				