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# WATER USAGE POLICY

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CHITKARA UNIVERSITY, PUNJAB

CU/PB/INFRA/1/2024



Approved by 25<sup>th</sup> General Body Meeting dated 29 Feb 2024 vide Agenda 25.18

### **Introduction:**

Chitkara University, Punjab, is committed to sustainable water management practices to minimize freshwater consumption and promote environmental stewardship. This Water Usage Policy outlines the university's commitment to reusing treated water efficiently for non-potable applications, thereby reducing the burden on freshwater resources and contributing to broader sustainability goals.

### **Objectives:**

1. **Minimize Freshwater Consumption and Wastage:** Reduce reliance on freshwater sources by maximizing the use of treated wastewater and adopt measures to reduce water wastage.
2. **Sustainable Water Management:** Promote water conservation through the reuse of treated water for landscaping, dual plumbing, and other non-potable applications.
3. **Reduce Environmental Impact:** Contribute to environmental sustainability by minimizing the discharge of wastewater and promoting efficient water use.
4. **Reuse of Treated Water:** Maximize the use of treated wastewater for non-potable applications like landscaping, toilet flushing, and agricultural purposes.

### **Scope:**

This policy applies to all water-related activities on the Chitkara University campus, including water extraction, treatment, and reuse. It covers all campus departments, buildings, and facilities that generate and utilize water, including the management of the Sewage Treatment Plant (STP).

### **Policy Guidelines:**

#### **1. Water Treatment and Reuse:**

- o All wastewater generated on campus will be treated through the university's Sewage Treatment Plant (STP) to meet the standards required for reuse.
- o Treated water will be reused for:
  - **Horticulture and Landscaping:** Watering plants, lawns, and gardens.
  - **Dual Plumbing Systems:** Flushing toilets and urinals in campus buildings equipped with dual plumbing systems.
  - **Agriculture:** Utilization of treated water in agricultural applications, including research fields using methods like **Karnal Technology**.

## **2. Rainwater Harvesting:**

- o The university's existing rainwater harvesting systems will be maintained and expanded to capture rainwater for groundwater recharge and non-potable uses such as irrigation and cleaning.

## **3. Monitoring and Reporting:**

- o Regular monitoring of water consumption and reuse will be conducted to ensure efficient water management and compliance with environmental standards.
- o Monthly reports on water extraction, treatment, and reuse will be reviewed for continuous improvement.

## **4. Water Conservation Techniques:**

- o Low-flow fixtures (faucets, showers, and toilets) will be installed in all new constructions and renovations to minimize water wastage.
- o Automated water motors and sensor-based water taps and fixtures, to reduce wastage of water.
- o Immediate attention to water leakages to arrest wastage of water.
- o Accurate irrigation strategy leads to minimize water wastage and keep costs down
- o Water-efficient irrigation systems such as drip irrigation and sprinkler systems will be employed to reduce water use in landscaping.
- o Drought tolerant plantation and organic farming should be encouraged. Choose plants that are adapted to local conditions and won't need much supplemental watering. Organic farming requires less water for irrigation and improves soil health, which increases its water-storage capacity
- o Instructions to all users and spreading awareness for responsible usage and reducing waste of water like washing clothes only on full loads and switching off taps when not in use etc.

## **5. Awareness and Training**

- o The university will conduct periodic awareness programs for students, staff, and faculty on the importance of water conservation and reuse.
  - o Specialized training will be provided to the facility management team on maintaining and operating water treatment and reuse systems effectively.
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## **6. Responsibilities:**

- **Sustainability Manager:** Oversee the implementation of the Water Reuse Policy, monitor water usage and ensure compliance with policy guidelines.
- **Infrastructure Management Team:** Ensure the proper functioning of water treatment plants, plumbing systems, and rainwater harvesting systems.
- **Campus Community:** Actively participate in water conservation efforts and adhere to guidelines for water use on campus.

## **7. Review and Evaluation:**

The Policy will be reviewed every year or when amendment of the policy is inevitable, whichever is earlier, by the Sustainable Development Management Committee to assess its effectiveness and update any necessary measures in line with technological advancements and regulatory requirements.

Chitkara University's Water Reuse Policy is integral to its sustainability framework, ensuring responsible water use while protecting natural resources for future generations. Through these efforts, the university aims to set a benchmark for water stewardship in higher education institutions.

This policy reinforces Chitkara University's commitment to SDG 6 (Clean Water and Sanitation) and SDG 13 (Climate Action) by reducing water wastage and promoting efficient water reuse on campus.

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