

# PRINCE

Shri Venkateshwara  
Padmavathy Engineering  
College

2018

## Water Conservation Policy



**MAMBAKAM-MEDAVAKAM ROAD,  
PONMAR, CHENNAI - 600127**



### Our Mission

Adopt water conservation measures in all activities and services, for a sustainable future.

### Our Values

Excellence, Passion, Team Work, Integrity, Innovation,  
Sustainability, Valuing Others and Supportiveness



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### INTRODUCTION

Water is essential for human life and ecosystems, and it is a finite resource on our planet. According to the studies less than 0.001% of the world's water is available as freshwater to human communities and ecosystems. Water use is also critically linked to energy use, with about 15% of the world's water withdrawal being used for energy, second only to agriculture. Maintaining a freshwater supply to support our human communities is expected to increasingly rely on energy in coming decades.

As a campus, PSVPEC is taking steps to reduce our consumption of potable water. Through solutions like water conservation practices in the campus, innovations and research for water conservation, educating students and the community on water conservation, extension activities to the nearby communities, etc., we are using this precious resource more efficiently to protect water for future generations. Our prime motive for arriving at this policy is to conserve water now and provide a sustainable environment to the present as well as future students.

Using water efficiently makes good sense of institution's social responsibility. With rising costs of operations for many institutions, conserving water is one way to cut costs without compromising products or services. The country's soaring population and dwindling water supplies have prompted communities to begin conservation programs, many of which provide financial incentives that establish water-saving practices. By establishing conservation measures we have reaped both financial and environmental benefits, demonstrating that water conservation can improve the bottom line.

### REASONS TO CONSERVE WATER

Some of the financial benefits to consider when evaluating water conservation are:

1. Reduced costs—water costs account for 1–2 percent of an institution's overhead. Saving water can help reduce overhead costs.
2. Increase in future water prices—water prices are set to rise above inflation. Saving water now will reduce costs in the future.
3. Production efficiency—using water efficiently will make additional water available for future production.
4. Tax benefits—many government agencies and water utilities provide rebates, grants, and tax relief to encourage water conservation.

### PRINCIPLES

The college is committed to modelling sustainability and practicing effective stewardship of institutional resources while providing an excellent learning, teaching and research environment. The university is committed to increasing environmental sustainability through implementation of the water conservation policy and guidelines.

### SCOPE OF THIS POLICY

This policy applies to faculty, staff, students, researchers and other members of the campus community. All water and energy sources (including, but not limited to, electricity, steam, chilled water, gasoline, diesel and natural gas) are included.

**The Water conservation policy states:** Every member of the campus community will act sustainably and will make informed choices in all areas of campus life: education, research, operations, governance and community engagement.

### RESPONSIBILITIES

Members of the campus community, faculty, staff, students, researchers and visitors, are responsible for identifying areas of inefficient water use and measures to remedy inefficiencies, and actively working towards eliminating inefficiencies in water use.

The various clubs and committees are responsible for developing water conservation awareness campaigns and assisting members of the campus community in identifying areas of inefficient use of energy and water and finding potential solutions to address those inefficiencies.

The IQAC along with ECO Club is responsible for leading the institutionalization of sustainability in all areas of campus life, including reducing the college's ecological footprint associated with energy, water and GHG emissions.

### GOALS AND PLANS

- ❖ Maximise water use efficiency and minimise wastage of water.
- ❖ All existing buildings to be used for water conservation and rain water harvesting.
- ❖ Promote investment in and maintenance of efficient water infrastructure and green infrastructure in all future development plans.
- ❖ Promote appropriate water and waste water management technologies and services.
- ❖ Educate and provide training on water conservation measures adopted by the college to all the students, staffs and members.
- ❖ Ensure awareness about the policy among all the stakeholders.

- ❖ Establish waste treatment plants and recycling centres.
- ❖ Improve water quality by reducing ground water pollution.
- ❖ Recycle non-sewage and grey water and use it for toilet flushing, irrigation for landscape, etc.
- ❖ Use modern irrigation systems like drip and sprinkler for irrigating the landscape in the campus.
- ❖ Build relationships between environmental and societal leaders and policy makers to identify research areas in water conservation.
- ❖ Organise outreach programmes through NSS, YRC, Rotaract and other committees.
- ❖ Encourage research and innovative ideas development and implementation of water conservation techniques.
- ❖ Protect the lakes, rivers and water bodies in the nearby villages through community participation.
- ❖ Monitor the ground water level in the areas nearby and take measures to maintain the ground water table.
- ❖ Maintenance of the equipment used for water conservation.
- ❖ Regular inspection and maintenance of the installed rainwater harvesting systems.
- ❖ Perform audits every year to assess the performance of the conservation systems.

### **WATER SAVER CHECKLIST**

Choose water-efficient appliances to help reduce water use. Other suggestions on where water can be conserved are listed below:

#### **Building Operations**

- ❖ Check for and repair leaks
- ❖ Meter all major uses separately
- ❖ Read water meters regularly to track potential leaks
- ❖ Shut off water to unused areas
- ❖ Keep employees informed
- ❖ Use automatic shut-off valves for equipment that is not in operation
- ❖ Examine ways to modify processes
- ❖ Install self-closing, air-cooled water fountains
- ❖ Use grey water for irrigating landscape

#### **Food Service**

- ❖ Use water efficiently for cooking

- ❖ Scrape dishes instead of rinsing
- ❖ Install high-pressure, low-volume spray washers
- ❖ Replace worn washers
- ❖ Reuse final rinse water for prewash or garbage disposal
- ❖ Install dishwashers with automatic shut-off valves
- ❖ Don't use running water to melt ice

### Restrooms

- ❖ Check for and repair leaks
- ❖ Remind users to conserve
- ❖ Retrofit older fixtures
- ❖ Install low-flow showerheads and faucets
- ❖ Install metered or sensor faucets
- ❖ Install high-efficiency toilets and waterless urinals
- ❖ Consider foam flush or waterless toilets

### Vehicle Washing

- ❖ Wash vehicles only when needed
- ❖ Adjust solenoids, valves, nozzles, and equipment to minimize water use
- ❖ Use high-pressure washes
- ❖ Inspect and replace worn jets and parts
- ❖ Install water recycling equipment
- ❖ Consider waterless washing techniques

### Cooling and Heating

- ❖ Meter and record water use
- ❖ Check for and repair leaks

### Landscape

- ❖ Check for and repair irrigation system leaks
- ❖ Use drought-tolerant native plants and turf
- ❖ Adjust sprinklers to irrigate landscape only
- ❖ Water deeply but infrequently
- ❖ Water during early morning or evening hours
- ❖ Install timers and moisture sensors
- ❖ Use drip irrigation
- ❖ Use fertilizer sparingly
- ❖ Install shut-off nozzles on hose



### CONCLUSION

Water is a precious resource and we should be very cautious using it as it is getting scarce day by day. The need of the hour is to create awareness among the people so that we contribute to the saving of water. When it comes to creating awareness, it includes the entire community starting from educational institutions to the public and private sector enterprises.

We at PSVPEC, strongly believe that the students are the ones who have to be educated about the conservation of water as it is important for their future. In recent developments, the NSS unit of PSVPEC has taken huge number of mass efforts towards water conservation and its awareness among the student community and Ponmar village community. The following are the activities carried out by college towards water conservation:

- ❖ Successful implementation of Rainwater harvesting in College Campus
- ❖ Awareness created among our students about water conservation through various activities like rally, poster competitions, human chain for interlinking of rivers, etc.,
- ❖ Tree plantations in college campus
- ❖ Tree plantations in and around Ponmar village
- ❖ Awareness created among Ponmar village community about the importance of water conservation and the methods of water conservation
- ❖ Educated Ponmar people about simple rainwater harvesting techniques
- ❖ Irrigation Tank cleaning and rehabilitation works done in and around Ponmar village
- ❖ Educating farmers about conservative irrigation methods like drip irrigation
- ❖ Educated the importance of water conservation to School students through lectures, painting competitions, etc.,

Understanding relationships between environmental and societal factors and academia's support for water conservation measures can help planners and policy makers to identify obstacles and opportunities to increase the role of conservation and efficiency in making water supply system sustainable. The water conservation policy plays a very important role in creating a sustainable environment for the future.



  
PRINCIPAL  
Prince Shri Venkateshwara Padmavathy  
Engineering College  
Ponmar, Chennai-600 127.