

Follow-up to Q&A Portion of RPN's Webinar, "Purchasing for Water Efficiency"

San Antonio Case Study

Q: Do you have information on how much it cost to do the retrofit in San Antonio?

A: It cost approximately \$100k to retrofit the toilets, faucets, and showerheads of 397 guest rooms. The approximate savings was \$68k (\$35k on water and sewer, \$33k on energy) per year. The payback period would be about 1 year and 7 months. We will be publishing this as a case study in the near future. I'll let you know when the final version is complete.

Energy and Water Calculator

Q: What Energy and Water Calculators are available for purchasers?

A: There are a few end use calculators available to help consumers. WaterSense has a simple calculator for estimating water and energy use on our website. It is located on the right side of the home page.

<http://www.epa.gov/watersense/> I have also attached our methodology for calculating and reporting metrics for the program. This explains all of our data sources and efficiency factors. See www.responsiblepurchasing.org/watersense_methodology.pdf

WEcalc <http://www.wecalc.org/> has a Home Water-Energy-Climate Calculator that is more detailed. This was developed by the Pacific Institute one of the leaders in water efficiency research and metrics. Finally, energy and water use can both be tracked for buildings in ENERGY STAR's Portfolio Manager. The American Water Works Association also has a water audit tool at

<http://www.awwa.org/Resources/Waterwiser.cfm?navItemNumber=1561&showLogin=N>

Water Audit

Q: Can you share more resources regarding Water Audits?

A: There are several resources on water audits and water conservation calculators out there. The ROI can be calculated by comparing the cost of replacing the fixtures in comparison to how much water and energy will be saved. This depends on the cost of water and plumbing products in your area. Al Dietemann and the folks at the Saving Water Partnership in the Seattle area have many great resources and an excel calculator.

http://savingwater.org/business_hotels.htm

Water Efficiency Improvement Self-Assessment Guide for Commercial and Institutional Building Facility Managers - South Florida Water Management District

http://www.sfwmd.gov/portal/page/portal/xrepository/sfwmd_repository_pdf/water_efficiency_improvement_self_assess_guide.pdf

South Florida also has a Water Conservation Calculator and a Water CHAMP program for hotels.

<http://www.sfwmd.gov/portal/page/portal/levelthree/water%20conservation>

WaterSense has a water savings calculator that could be used for hotels.

http://www.epa.gov/watersense/our_water/be_the_change.html#tabs-3

Water Efficiency Manual for Commercial, Institutional, and Industrial Facilities - North Carolina

<http://www.p2pays.org/ref/01/00692.pdf>