

Car Wash Project, Washington County

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Background

Car washes are one of the top water users in Washington County. They use about 35.2 million gallons of water annually.

Research Project

Identify opportunities to reduce water usage in all types of car washes through means of recycling and equipment upgrades.

Incentives to Change

Water costs can reach almost 50% of total utility costs and the prices continue to rise. Recycling water and using other best practices will save car washes valuable money in the future. This will allow them to stay competitive and reach environmental regulations.

Solutions

Reduce Water Usage:

- Water reclaim system
- Rainwater harvesting
- Replace/upgrade nozzles
- Correct nozzle alignment
- Vehicle profiling
- Repair leaks
- Reuse RO reject water
- Increase dwell time after final rinse
- Nozzle protection over hand-held wands
- Install automatic shut-off valves

