



NEWS RELEASE



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Arizona Rinse Smart: ADWR, SRP partner to save water, power

The Arizona Department of Water Resources and Salt River Project are undertaking a joint program to install water- and energy-saving Fisher spray valves in the kitchens of participating businesses.

ADWR created the Arizona Rinse Smart program to encourage businesses and institutions across the state to take this simple, easy step to save a significant amount of water.

"This is a proven water-saving technology that we are promoting," said ADWR Director Herb Guenther. "Businesses that convert their rinse valves will see a dramatic drop in water consumption for the rinse cycle. We are extremely happy to partner with SRP in spreading the word that we all need to conserve water."

Arizona Rinse Smart is a new water-efficiency program for the restaurant industry. This program will focus on the replacement of high water use, low pressure pre-rinse spray valves with lower water use, higher pressure valves. Pre-rinse spray valves are used to remove food particles from dishes and trays before they are placed within industrial dishwashers.

Sandy Bourque, SRP's manager of Water Business Management & Support Services, said SRP performed real-world testing on the spray valves and reported impressive findings. When a spray valve was installed in an SRP cafeteria, Bourque said researchers reported a 43 percent drop in water consumption.

"We didn't want to offer this program to our customers without first testing the valves' performance and water- and energy-savings claim," said Bourque. "We were very pleased that not only did the valve reduce water and energy use, but our cafeteria manager was so impressed that he requested additional low-water valves be installed in another rinse station."

The spray-valve replacement program is a facet of ADWR's Statewide Conservation Strategy developed out of the Governor's Drought Task Force. The task force called for the use of best available technologies to attain water efficiency.

"The Arizona Rinse Smart Program is a simple and very effective opportunity for our SRP customers with commercial kitchens to reduce water and energy usage and save some money with no impact on service," said Bourque. "As residents in a desert community, all of us have a commitment to use water efficiently."

ARIZONA RINSE SMART – FACT SHEET

WHAT IS THE ARIZONA RINSE SMART PROGRAM?

SRP and the Arizona Department of Water Resources (ADWR) are partnering to offer Arizona Rinse Smart, a proven water-efficiency program that saves water and energy in commercial kitchens. This program replaces inefficient pre-rinse spray valves with new, water-saving valves, saving on water and the energy to heat that water.

HOW MUCH DOES IT COST TO PARTICIPATE?

There is no cost to you to participate! SRP and the Arizona Department of Water Resources are sponsoring the cost and installation of the new valves.

WHAT KIND OF SAVINGS CAN BE REALIZED?

A similar program in California proved to be an effective water- and energy-efficiency measure for the restaurant industry, showing an annual average savings of 50,000 gallons, per nozzle. Arizona Rinse Smart expects similar results. For example, applying the California results to the Phoenix area, a participant here would save \$120 per year in water and \$776 per year in electricity.

HOW DOES IT WORK?

The new pre-rinse spray valves use less water -- as much as 50 percent less. This is because they use a higher water pressure, rated at 1.6 gallons per minute at 60 psi pressure. About two-thirds of the water used in commercial kitchens is used for dishwashing, so the savings can really add up with the new, more efficient valves.

DOES LESS WATER AFFECT CLEANLINESS?

Even though the newer, more efficient pre-rinse spray valves use about half as much water, they clean more efficiently than standard spray valves because the valve delivers the spray at high pressure.

HOW DID THIS PROGRAM COME ABOUT?

The Arizona Department of Water Resources and SRP teamed up to offer this program to provide business and industry with new ways to conserve water.

HOW CAN I SIGN UP?

Call your SRP Account Manager for more information on how the program might benefit your business and how to sign up. If you opt to participate, SRP will provide installation of the valves and will help your staff achieve the best results possible for your commercial kitchen.

ARE THERE ACTUAL RESULTS FROM THESE DEVICES?

In a test case, SRP installed a flow meter and data-logging device to monitor the flow rate and total volume of water consumed from two different spray valves.

The original valve consumed an average of 168 total gallons in one day at a flow rate of 2.1 gallons per minute (gpm). The newer, more efficient valve dropped consumption to 95 gallons a day and a flow rate of 1.0 gpm. Total water savings with the new valve was more than 43 percent from the original spray valve.

