

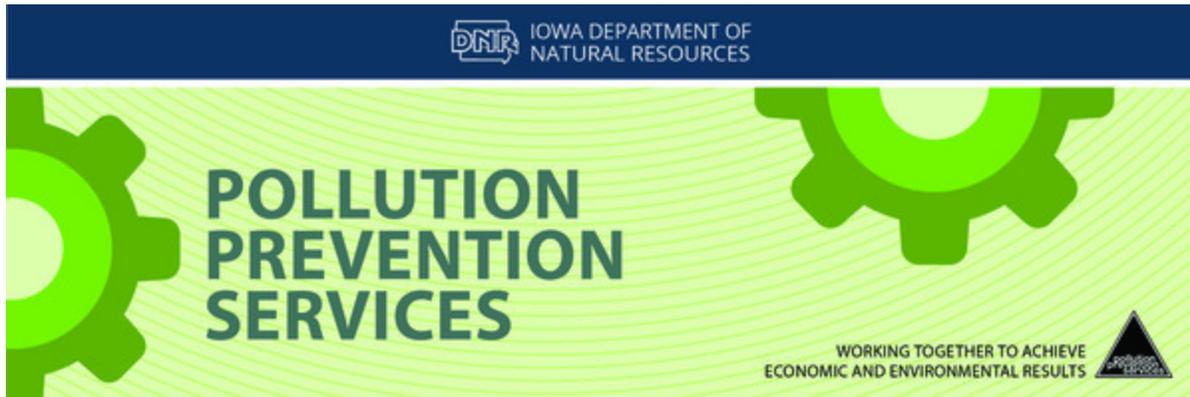
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## P2 News

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## Water Conservation - Best Management Practices

Water is used in nearly every process for nearly every product. It is a crucial resource for many facilities to manufacture their products, and it is not something you can 'get by' without. Water is perceived as a cheap utility, but when you add up all the costs associated with water, it turns out it can be quite expensive. From pre-treatment and reverse osmosis (RO) systems, to wastewater treatment, the costs start to add up. That is why the first step to sustainability in water systems should be to look at water conservation. There are a few quick wins that are easy to find and easy to implement; basically low hanging fruit for water.



- Similar to compressed air or steam systems, look for leaks or dripping water and repair those as soon as possible. It might not seem like a lot of water, but it can quickly add up.
- Install more efficient appliances such as toilets, drinking fountains, and sinks in bathrooms and break rooms.
- Use dry cleaning techniques. For example use a broom to sweep up contents on the floor as opposed to using a hose.
- Turn water off when it is not needed. Look for opportunities when production is not running such as during employee breaks, facility shutdowns, or overnight.

Once the low hanging fruit is out of the way, and there is an ongoing maintenance program to upkeep with the leaks, start to focus on behavioral changes with staff or equipment modifications that would allow staff and processes to use less water. Some examples include:

- Utilizing knee activated faucets for employees who work on lines where water is consistently running. This allows the employee to control when they need water to perform their work task. Other equipment modifications could include installing a timer or motion sensor to prevent water from continuously running.
- Pinpointing areas of single pass cooling water and determining if there is a way to reuse water from this area (more on water reuse next month).
- Informing contractors who work on site of your water conservation efforts and ensuring compliance of procedures your facility has laid out.

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## Upcoming Events

**January 6 - February 29** [EPA Region 7 P2 Awards Application Submission Window](#)

**February 23-26** [Global Waste Management Symposium](#) Indian Wells, CA

**March 4-6** [IAWEA Collection Systems Conference](#) Marshalltown, IA

**March 18** [IAWEA Biosolids Conference](#) Ankeny, IA

**April 8-9** [Iowa Water Conference](#) Ames, IA

**June 2-4** [2020 IAWEA Annual Conference](#) Davenport, IA

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## Apply Now for the 2020 Pollution Prevention Awards

The submission window for the 2020 Pollution Prevention Awards is here!

Have you achieved impressive energy reduction goals in the previous year? Pursued water reduction initiatives that are really driving your sustainability goals? Made strides towards eliminating use of hazardous materials onsite, or reduced your overall hazardous waste generation through P2 strategies? Consider submitting those or any other successful P2 efforts for an EPA award and be recognized! Projects implemented from 2017 to the present will be considered.



A new change for the 2020 cycle of awards is that there is no application form to complete and submit. Companies are encouraged to notify Region 7 of their interest and also submit a write-up supporting their P2 project in 1,500 words or less.

EPA is accepting submissions until February 29, 2020. All projects and write-ups should be submitted to Andrew Wynne by email at [wynne.andrew@epa.gov](mailto:wynne.andrew@epa.gov).

For questions regarding how to apply, eligibility of a project, and previous winners; please visit the [Region 7 EPA Awards website](#).

Learn more about our program at [www.iowap2services.com](http://www.iowap2services.com).

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Please send questions, comments, or suggestions regarding newsletter content to Sarah Mihm at [sarah.mihm@dnr.iowa.gov](mailto:sarah.mihm@dnr.iowa.gov).

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