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BHA Energy Task Force Chair

Kevan Dean is Director of Emergency Preparedness at Kerzner International where he is responsible for fire and life safety as well as various energy and environmental initiatives. Since 2007 Kevan has Chaired BHA's energy-related initiatives, advising the organization and assisting with several BHA projects. He represents BHA on the National Energy Policy Task Force.

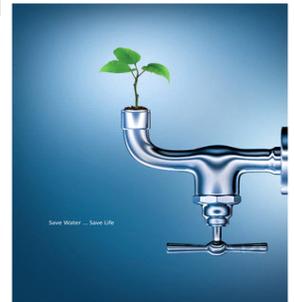
MESSAGE FROM KEVAN...

Water Consumption: The Silent Energy Killer

Although The Bahamas is surrounded by millions of gallons of water, fresh water remains an expensive and scarce commodity. The beauty of our seas is one of the vital components for attracting millions of visitors to our shores each year. These visitors, along with residents, consume a tremendous amount of fresh water – all which needs energy to produce. Statistics suggest that a guest at an international hotel consumes an average of 80 gallons of water per day.

Our basic concerns are to (1) ensure the availability of sufficient fresh water to meet our needs; and (2) minimizing the expense of providing that water.

This issue raises questions you should consider and offers practical solutions to help you and your staff to be more efficient, environmentally conscious and essentially save money.



Questions You Should Ask:...

- What is the total cost of your business's water consumption?
- What is the source of the water used by your company (public, well, etc)?
- What is your overall water consumption?
- Are you measuring consumption during high and low usage times?
- Do you know the water consumption in each area of your business (if applicable)?
- Have you implemented water saving measures?

If you cannot answer the above questions, it is important that you put measurers in place to monitor consumption.



TODAY'S QUOTE:

"Not only will atomic power be released, but someday we will harness the rise and fall of the tides and imprison the rays of the sun."...
Thomas A. Edison, August 22, 1921

Did You Know: It takes 26 bottles of water to produce the plastic container for a one liter bottle of water, and that doing so pollutes 25 liters of groundwater.

Actions You Can Take Now:

MONITORING WATER CONSUMPTION

- ✓ Identify activities and areas that cause high consumption
- ✓ Determine the monthly water consumption and its cost
- ✓ Install water meter for different areas of operation if large enough

MINIMIZE WASTE

- ✓ Install water-saving devices in the appropriate places (flow regulators, water flow sensors, self-closing taps, low-flush toilets, etc.)
- ✓ Avoid leaving taps open unnecessarily
- ✓ Avoid cleaning with high pressure hoses

ELIMINATE LEAKS

- ✓ Regularly maintain plumbing fixtures, and piping in order to avoid losses
- ✓ Replace defective seals and repair damage to water pipes

GARDENS AND LANDSCAPING

- ✓ Water lawns and plants early in the morning and late at night to limit evaporation
- ✓ Choose plants that are suited to The Bahamas climate and rain fall
- ✓ Avoid flower beds that quickly dry up
- ✓ Install automatic sprinkler systems and localized devices
- ✓ Lay out slopes so that water infiltrates the ground without causing erosion
- ✓ Reuse the water that was used in the kitchen to wash fruits and vegetables for watering the garden
- ✓ Collect rainwater for watering the grounds

We would love to hear from you: Email your comments, suggestions or success stories to bhahotels.org