

Case Study: Wilfrid Laurier University

Background:

Wilfrid Laurier University has over 19,500 students and 700 faculty, with its main campus located in Waterloo. The university has prioritized sustainability on campus, and partnered with the Region of Waterloo’s WET Program as part of a major project to save water and energy.



Water Savings Solution:

The university audited the energy and water use for all its properties. Next, the Waterloo institution replaced all water fixtures in 22 buildings, switching to more efficient aerators, showerheads and toilets. The largest water savings occurred in Wilfrid Laurier’s Bricker Street residence.

Economic Benefits:

The university is saving nearly \$86,000 per year thanks to the new efficiencies. Wilfrid Laurier also received \$36,243 from the Region of Waterloo’s WET Program. The money helped fund water audits, and provided a rebate based on final water savings. Although the payback period is longer than usual,

Laurier pursued the project because of its commitment to sustainability.

Water Savings:

Wilfrid Laurier is saving 21,572 m³ of water each year — 59 m³ each day — thanks to these sweeping changes. That’s as much in a year as the average consumption of 144 households.

Water Reducing Measures	Cost of Implementation	Cost Savings (Rebate)	Water Savings (m ³ /year)	Annual Savings
Toilet, aerator, showerhead changes	\$1.45 million	\$36,243	21,572	\$85,861