

W.E.T. case study



Suds Express

Suds Express is a commercial car wash facility in Cambridge. With the average car wash using 268 litres of water, Suds Express was looking for ways to reduce water use.



Figure 1 Suds Express

Water savings solution

Suds Express installed a water recycling system with a 750,000-litre tank buried behind the facility. This system treats wash water with oxygen and uses bacteria in the holding areas to digest the soap. This treated water is then ready to reuse for washing vehicles.

Water requirements with this new system decreases to 118 litres of municipal water per car wash.

Suds Express is the 2012 recipient of the Region of Waterloo Water Efficiency Excellence Award for this work.



Economic benefits

The Region of Waterloo provided \$22,031 funding through the W.E.T. Program. This included \$14,469 on \$0.40 per litre of water saved and \$7,562 for consulting fees. The project cost was \$247,089 with about \$90 per day in water savings. The project will pay for itself over a 5-year period.

Water savings

Suds Express now saves 36.2 m³ of water per day or 13,203 m³ per year providing a reduction in their water bill of over 56 per cent.

Summary

Water recycling system

- W.E.T. Program funding: \$22,031
- Water savings: 13,203 m³ per year
- Cost to implement: \$247,089
- Annual savings: \$33,272

Region of Waterloo water programs for business

The Region of Waterloo has funding and programs to help industrial, commercial and institutional organizations reduce water costs.

Learn more at www.regionofwaterloo.ca/WaterSmartBusiness.

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