

# Apply for star rating certification for your business

Dear Cape Town businesses

We have updated our Water Star Rating certification so that it now recognises integrated water management. Businesses are encouraged to apply for the new certification now.

The rating has been introduced to promote best practices in water management, savings and pollution control in the business sector, government departments, education and health institutions and residential estates.

## How the certification works

Businesses that receive one star are certified as compliant with the minimum requirements of relevant water legislation and the City's [Water By-law \(2010\)](#) and [Amendment \(2018\)](#).

Those businesses that are awarded between two and five stars are certified for also implementing different degrees of additional measures to further reduce water consumption and limit water pollution.

Businesses which achieve five stars are certified as champion innovators that have found unique or extraordinary ways to conserve water and limit water pollution, thereby protecting the environment.

## How businesses are assessed

The certification process includes an assessment that focuses on how water is managed. The voluntary assessment covers different aspects of water management, including:

- how effluent is handled (e.g. is it discharged into the sewer system or taken away lawfully for re-use by another entity or for destruction)
- how the water is used on site (e.g. for drinking, cooking, bathing/showering, operations or production related activities)
- what measures are in place to reduce municipally-supplied drinking water demand
- where the water comes from.

## How points are scored

Businesses score points if they, for example;

- have put in place measures to reduce municipally-supplied drinking water
- know how much water is used per location (i.e. metering at point of use)

- promote less of a dependency on the municipal supply by using alternative water safely and legally e.g. rainwater, groundwater, treated effluent or greywater
- responsibly discharge effluent or have zero effluent discharge
- undertake and can account for regular leak detection and repair, meter auditing and awareness programmes.

### **How to apply**

You can apply by submitting your application [online](#) or emailing it to [waterpollution.control@capetown.gov.za](mailto:waterpollution.control@capetown.gov.za)

### **USEFUL RESOURCES AND INFORMATION**

- [Current restrictions](#) and [tariff information](#) – including [FAQs](#).
- [Water Outlook 2018 Report](#) and [Presentation](#) – updated regularly.
- [Water Dashboard](#) showing dam levels and water usage, updated every Monday
- [How to save water in your business](#).
- [Summary Guidelines for Alternative Water Installations](#), and [how to apply](#)
- [Water Saving Toolkits](#) –materials to download e.g. posters and guides

### **PARTNER SITES AND RESOURCES**

- [110% Green Western Cape](#) for additional resources e.g. suppliers of water saving technologies and services. Please note that this is not an endorsement of these suppliers and/or services.
- [GreenCape](#) has a [drought business support](#) service and runs regular workshops.

For your convenience, the City has set up a Business Enquiry Service that will provide information on the City's procedures and processes. If you need any assistance, please contact [business.support@capetown.gov.za](mailto:business.support@capetown.gov.za)

**Water and Sanitation Department**

**City of Cape Town**