

Water Stewardship Standard

Applies To

This document applies to all 3M operations.

Introduction and Background or Purpose

At 3M, we have a responsibility to conserve natural resources and support a sustainable environment. We are committed to using innovation, passion, and expertise towards improving every life. This commitment is a part of our vision and central to our values. We are committed to working with customers, suppliers and other business partners that share these core values.

Water is a valuable natural resource for life and thriving ecosystems. We recognize that reducing water consumption in our operations and improving water quality are important elements of environmental stewardship. Water availability must meet the needs of current and future consumer demands. In addition, water quality must comply with local regulations and be reliable long term. We respect our ecological and ethical responsibility and have a vested interest in preserving and improving water availability and quality relative to our operations and the communities we serve. Because of this, 3M continues to actively understand, manage and work toward reducing our corporate water footprint while providing innovative solutions to our customers.

Requirements or Expectations

Overall responsibility for ensuring compliance to these requirements is assigned to EHS with support of R&D and other Supply Chain operations.

3M is committed to water resources that secure social equity, economic growth and environmental protection. 3M operations must manage their water resources through compliance with regulatory requirements, conservation and reuse, and reporting of water usage internally. Water resources include water intake, effluent water discharge and rainwater.

All 3M locations must have an effective Environmental Management System (EMS) which includes the following elements:

1. Understanding of their facility-wide water characteristics (quantity and quality).

2. Evaluation of how internal and external factors (e.g. new processes, regulatory changes, community water issues) may impact the facility's current or future water management requirements. Document in an EMS or other strategic or operational business plan.
3. Mitigation for potential negative impacts from water discharges through best management practices, good engineering designs or other controls, as appropriate.
4. Consideration of water conservation projects and practices as part of 3M's continuous improvement and environmental footprint minimization efforts. Sites must comply with all internal reporting requirements to facilitate proper management of 3M's water footprint.