City West Water LIMITED

Harvesting Rain Water at Cadbury Schweppes

Resource Efficiency Co-Funding Case Study

Cleaner Production

Project Overview

PARTNER
Cadbury Schweppes

OBJECTIVE
To reduce reliance on potable water used in cooling towers and amenities

HOW THE SAVINGS WERE ACHIEVED
Installation of a rain water harvesting system to supply cooling towers, toilets and gardens with rain water

TECHNOLOGY UTILISED
Rain water harvesting system

WATER VOLUME SAVING
Estimated 7.5 million litres of potable water per year

OTHER SAVINGS OR IMPROVEMENTS
- Upgraded and improved the stormwater management of the site
- Widely supported by staff and team and contributing to cultural change
- Catalyst for the integration of new cooling tower monitoring system, reducing additional waste

TOTAL PROJECT COST
$413,000

PROJECT FUNDING
$100,000 from City West Water

PROJECT PAYBACK
- 13 years with City West Water funding
- 24.6 years without City West Water funding

Cadbury Schweppes

Cadbury Schweppes is an iconic company producing some of the world's most recognisable food and beverage products. With brand names like Cadbury Dairy Milk, Cherry Ripe, Twirl, Flake and the well-known Schweppes beverages, their products are ingrained in the minds of most Australians.

At Tullamarine, on the outskirts of Melbourne, Cadbury Schweppes produces a range of carbonated and still beverages, juices and alcoholic ready to drink beverages, including their classic mixers, mineral waters and iconic lemonade in a process that uses most of the drinking water entering the site.

As part of their sustainable management approach, Cadbury Schweppes had been proactively seeking opportunities to reduce reliance on drinking water for non-product purposes. When a plan emerged to replace a stormwater drain, it became an opportunity to investigate capturing rain water from the roof for reuse.

After consultation with a representative of City West Water's Cleaner Production team, the decision was made to integrate rainwater harvesting systems to collect water runoff from a section of warehouse roofspace totalling 16,350 square metres rather than simply replacing the stormwater drain. Installation commenced in September 2007 and concluded in early 2008.

City West Water provided consultative and co-funding support to Cadbury Schweppes throughout the project by monitoring key milestones and providing a $100,000 grant. The total cost of the project is $413,000 with a payback period of 13 years.

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The new harvesting system has successfully reduced Cadbury Schweppes' reliance on drinking water by an estimated 7.5 million litres per year. Rainwater is now collected and used primarily for the site's cooling towers. It can also be used in toilets and for irrigating garden beds when available. These areas do not need potable quality water, so the water being collected is an ideal fit for these purposes.

City West Water and Cadbury Schweppes are continuing to work in partnership to further identify water saving opportunities and Cadbury Schweppes have engaged a PhD student to investigate and identify potential opportunities to recycle and reuse water.

Cadbury Schweppes also monitor the water consumption of their cooling towers through check meters provided by City West Water.

They are also in the process of upgrading their Clean-in-Place (CIP) system to achieve improvements in both water and energy use and the discharge of total dissolved solid loads into the sewer.

Contact

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