

## Drought Considerations for Manufacturers

### Consider Reducing Water Use Now

Reducing your water use now can lessen your dependency on water, reducing risks in the case of continued drought and allowing you to be a better member of your community.

#### Follow the 4Rs: Refuse, Reduce, Reuse, Recycle

Perform a walk through your facility and identify everything that uses water. Ask how you can:

##### Refuse: Can you perform this task without water?

- Dry clean up: Sweep/shovel floors instead of spraying down
- Stop landscaping irrigation using fresh water

##### Reduce: Can you perform this task with less water?

- Check for leaks/drips and resolve them immediately
- Shut off process water when not in use or install automatic shut-off valves
- Use flow restrictors on hoses and nozzles

##### Reuse: Can water from this process be reused in this or another process?

- Recirculate water or use non-contaminated water for other applications
- Perform pre-wash with outputs from final rinse

##### Recycle: Can water be filtered and put back into the system?

- “Greywater” may be used for irrigation (depending on quality and local regulations)
- Water from parts-washing may be filtered and used in other operations

### Other Impacts of the Drought on Manufacturing Companies

Drought can have far-reaching impacts that affect a variety of issues for manufacturers. Use this checklist to make sure you have considered all possible impacts of water shortages on your business.

	Internal Operations	Suppliers	Customers	Transportation	Employees	Community
In-process water						
Support equipment water						
Crop quality & availability						
Food costs & availability						
Fuel Costs						