

URDANETA CITY UNIVERSITY: STRENGTHENING WATER POLLUTION PREVENTION SYSTEMS ON CAMPUS

Urdaneta City University (UCU) upholds its commitment to environmental stewardship and campus sustainability through systematic measures that prevent polluted water from entering the municipal and natural water systems. Recognizing that even small-scale pollution from educational facilities can have cumulative environmental impacts, UCU ensures that its campus operations adhere to practices that protect local waterways and promote clean, safe, and sustainable water management.

Comprehensive Water Management System

UCU maintains a comprehensive water management process designed to minimize the risk of pollution caused by daily campus activities and unexpected incidents. This includes ensuring that wastewater, chemical residues, and stormwater runoff are properly managed before being discharged into drainage systems.

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The university's Facilities and Environmental Management Office (FEMO) oversee the regular monitoring of water sources and drainage lines to ensure compliance with local environmental regulations. Wastewater generated from laboratories, canteens, and maintenance facilities is carefully directed toward proper treatment and disposal systems, preventing contaminants from entering the public water network.

Pollution Prevention Protocols and Emergency Response

To further strengthen its commitment to pollution control, UCU has established protocols for accident prevention and emergency response. These include:

- **Proper Chemical Handling:** Laboratories and maintenance departments are required to use designated storage areas for chemicals and to follow strict disposal procedures.
- **Spill Management Plans:** In case of accidental spills or leaks, staff and students are trained in containment and clean-up procedures to prevent pollutants from seeping into storm drains or soil.
- **Routine Inspections:** Regular inspections of water lines, laboratory sinks, and campus drainage systems are conducted to detect potential leaks or contamination early.
- **Waste Segregation and Disposal:** UCU enforces waste segregation practices, ensuring that hazardous materials are collected separately and processed through accredited waste handlers.

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Education and Awareness Initiatives

As part of its academic and extension programs, UCU integrates environmental awareness and sustainable practices into its curriculum and community outreach activities. Students in science, engineering, and environmental studies are engaged in water-quality monitoring and pollution prevention campaigns. These educational efforts not only enhance student learning but also build a culture of environmental responsibility across the university community.

Partnerships and Compliance

UCU works in coordination with the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) and the City Environment and Natural Resources Office (CENRO) to ensure full compliance with national and local environmental standards. Through these partnerships, the university conducts periodic water testing, facility audits, and sustainability reviews to guarantee that its wastewater treatment and stormwater management systems meet required environmental benchmarks.

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