

Don't let your profits go up in \$team!

Conventional Food Steamers Are Costly To Operate

High-volume restaurants and institutional food service often use food steamers to cook and warm food. Old-style steamers require a steady supply of boiler steam and plenty of cold water to cool the water and steam leaving the steamer. Just one boiler-based steamer can use enough electricity to power three homes. It can also send hundreds of gallons of water each day down the drain. The cost of the water and energy to run a steamer can exceed \$4,000 a year.



New Boilerless Steamers Save Money

Food equipment manufacturers are now offering boilerless (or "connectionless") steamers. These models feature a built-in, self-contained reservoir, so most hot water gets reused. Rigorous, independent testing in real-world kitchens shows that boilerless steamers generally use less water and energy as an old, boiler-based model. With these savings and the incentives being offered, it makes a lot of sense to replace your inefficient steamers right away.

Boilerless steamers may not be appropriate for certain operations requiring particularly high steaming power and speed. Your equipment supplier can help you determine if a new efficient machine will work for your business.

Savings Case Study

A corporate cafeteria in Northern California replaced their 2-compartment, 6-pan capacity boiler-based steamer with a connectionless steamer of comparable size. An independent testing laboratory, the Food Service Technology Center, measured energy and water use with the old and new steamers, and found that the efficient steamer used over 90% less water and over 70% less electricity than the old unit. This reduced the expected annual cost to operate the steamer from \$4,300 to \$1,100, saving \$3,200 a year.

Options to Help you Save

Many utilities in Western Washington are offering **cash incentives of up to \$1,250** to a customer who replaces an inefficient food steamer with a new efficient steamer. These incentives can lower your up-front costs and reduce the payback period below two years in most cases.

Who is Eligible for Utility Incentives?

The following utilities are participating in food steamer rebates:

*Cedar River Water & Sewer District
City of Bothell
City of Duvall
City of Mercer Island
Coal Creek Utility District
Highline Water District
Northshore Utility District
Olympic View Water & Sewer District
Seattle Public Utilities
Shoreline Water District
Soos Creek Water & Sewer District
Water District No. 20
Water District No. 45
Water District No. 49
Water District No. 90
Water District No. 119
Water District No. 125
Woodinville Water District*



For more information contact a **Saving Water Partnership advisor at (206) 343-8505** or a **PSE Energy Advisor at 1-800-562-1482**.