

Dear all,

In this letter I discuss WATER. Water is an often-overlooked part of lab sustainability. It pours forth from the tap and then disappears down the drain. It's nearly invisible. But it isn't free – it comes from somewhere and it has to be cleaned, transported, stored, and cleaned again before being returned to the environment. All of that has an enormous energy and carbon footprint. Besides, our Planet is literally running out of water! Watch this documentary in 3 parts in Vetenskapens värld. [H2O - Nyckeln till civilisationen | SVT Play](#)



We use a lot of water in our daily life, and the labs use even more: it takes: 3 L for 1 L of deionized, DI, water; 270 L per one autoclave run and 60 000 L for single-pass cooling systems (that use water to cool without re-circulating, such as autoclaves, ice machines, water vacuum aspirators, X-ray equipment) per lab and year (especially chemistry labs). Check out for more info and for solutions here [Water \(mygreenlab.org\)](#).

What can we do?

- Learn more and become aware of the problem [Saving water and the future \(green.earth\)](#)
- Find solutions to reduce water usage in the lab
 - o Use MQ instead of DI water
 - o Use vacuum pumps instead of water vacuum aspirators
 - o Don't let water sources run when unnecessary and report all leaking immediately
- Reduce your personal water usage by
 - o Taking short showers instead of taking a bath and close the tap when shampooing
 - o Closing the tap when brushing teeth
 - o Placing a full bottle with water in the fridge each day for cooling instead of running water every time you want to drink it cold
 - o Watering your garden plants in the morning or evening and using watering cans
 - o Running full washing and dish-washing machines

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Stockholm Trio for Sustainable Actions include Karolinska Institutet (KI), KTH, and Stockholm University (SU) and is the common platform for collaboration and innovation for sustainable solutions. Stockholm Trio for Sustainable Actions has announced a call 2024 with a dead-line on the **29th of September 2023**. Check out the rules [Call for applications for interdisciplinary collaboration in education and research 2024 | Staff Portal \(ki.se\)](#), find collaborations and apply for money!

We can make a difference!



I'll be back!

Katja