



ELKAY[®]

Case Study
Water Consumption
in Recreational Areas



**Proper
water
management
is always
important**

DRINKING WATER IN RECREATIONAL AREAS AND ENTERTAINMENT SPACES

Proper water management is important for recreation and entertainment centers ranging from shopping centers to theaters and public parks to theme parks. The aim is to help visitors to these spaces stay healthy.

Reducing bottled water consumption is one way to help fight the pollution associated with single-use plastic. A million plastic bottles are purchased worldwide every minute, and only around 6% are recycled. Because of this, many of the estimated 500 billion single-use plastic bottles produced every year end up in waterways.

China ranks first among countries with highest demand for bottled water with 10.42 billion gallons, The United States in second place with 10.13 billion gallons, and Mexico in third place with 8.23 billion gallons.

In order to help reduce plastic bottle usage, entertainment and recreation spaces should consider bottle filling stations, which increase sustainability.



THEME PARKS

Globally, **the ten biggest theme parks around the world received more than half a billion visitors in 2019, 4% increase over the previous year.** This influx represents 7% of population worldwide, which is distributed among twenty theme parks, and five of those have the highest attendee's percentage.

Most visited theme parks	Number of visitors (2019)
Florida, USA	 20,963,000 visitors
California, USA	 18,666,000 visitors
Tokyo, Japan	 17,910,000 visitors
Tokyo, Japan	 14,650,000 visitors
Osaka, Japan	 14,500,000 visitors

Source: aecom.com



In Europe, **France stands out with a theme park with 9,745,000 visitors and Germany with 5,750,000.** In Latin America, **parks with the highest attendance are mainly in Mexico.**

Most visited theme parks	Number of visitors (2019)
Mexico City, Mexico	 2,803,000 visitors
Brazil	 2,241,000 visitors
Cancun, Mexico	 1,960,000 visitors
Guatemala	 1,330,000 visitors
Monterrey, Mexico	 1,173,000 visitors

Source: aecom.com



Some theme parks in the US have **has installed drinking fountains and bottle filling stations, which are designed with a sensor that helps visitors to fill a reusable bottle without touching anything on the unit.**

In Mexico, an Exploration Park in the Mexican Caribbean launched an initiative to install drinking water fountains in its different locations in order **to eliminate the use of 1.9 million PET bottles.**

However, **not all parks have added these units. There are specific cases in Mexico and Brazil that do not have drinking fountains or bottle filling stations** to provide water to visitors.



PUBLIC PARKS

In the case of public parks, drinking fountain installation has also been promoted for community benefit. The installation of 230 drinking fountains in parks, gardens, and shopping centers within Mexico City was announced in 2015.

In the United States, New York City has more than 3,500 drinking fountains installed in various parks, and Grand Canyon National Park has bottle filling stations for visitors in order to reduce the consumption of bottled water, since approximately 20% of their waste is disposable plastic bottles.

In Europe, 111 drinking fountains have been installed in London and there are 94 sources of this kind in Berlin with plans to install 100 more.

In Hong Kong, the government provides drinking water dispensers for public places and recreational facilities through the Department of Cultural and Leisure Services.

Thanks to drinking fountains and bottle filling stations, visitors to these recreational spaces get the water they need to stay hydrated.

These units also offer the following benefits:

- Filtration
- Hands-free options
- Durable stainless steel construction
- Free access to fresh, clean water
- Reducing bottled water and sugary drink consumption

CINEMAS AND STADIUMS

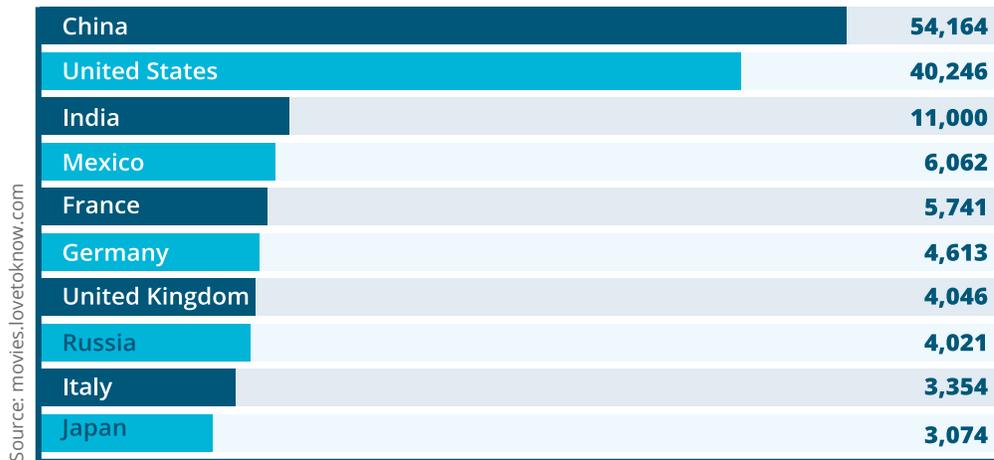
Cinemas are also an ideal place for drinking water, to give moviegoers a healthy, economical option to stay hydrated.



By law in Great Britain, **cinemas must offer drinking water to their customers if they request it.**

London's government **announced in 2018 the installation of 100 drinking fountains in museums and cinemas,** making free public drinking water a priority.

Movie theaters have always had broad appeal, and are a primary entertainment venue around the world, with millions of visitors per week who often seek food and beverages as part of the experience.



Number of movie theaters by country



The United Kingdom has a sports venue **equipped with 23 bottle filling stations and another with 16 such units.** In Australia, a stadium was built **with 10 water stations on its 3 levels.**

Likewise, a baseball park based in Philadelphia, United States and a stadium in Saskatchewan, Canada, also have drinking fountains for spectators to stay hydrated during games.

It is worth mentioning that in the United States, **state building codes require a certain number of drinking fountains based on facility capacity.**

For example, in North Carolina, the building code, **requires one drinking fountain for every 75 people (for the first 1,500) and 1 for every 120 when they exceed 1,500 spectators in stadiums.**

QUALITY WATER FOR HEALTH

To help keep visitors to various entertainment spaces hydrated, **Elkay developed bottle filling stations and drinking fountains with vandal-proof technology**, which are made of easy-to-clean stainless steel and are resistant to low temperatures.



An example of this is **Elkay's ezH2O®: a clean and easy-to-use next-generation hydration source with a unique and universal design, low-cost maintenance, and available vandal-proof design.**

In addition to the popular indoor unit, it has models made with a stone finish and tubular shape; the latter are coated with electrostatic paint on a special corrosion-resistant base.

Elkay offers **hands-free drinking fountains and bottle-filling stations to help reduce single-use plastic bottles.**

Our "hands-free" bottle filling stations provide fast, clean, contactless filling. Just place the reusable water bottle close to the sensor and it will immediately start refilling it automatically without having to touch anything.

Some outdoor bottle filling stations offer hands-free filling through a foot pedal.

The activation pedal is ordered separately and is installed directly to the unit. It is made of stainless steel, available in twelve colors, and allows you to fill your reusable water bottle without having to physically press the activation button.

Also, some bottle filling stations have a counter called Green Ticker, which notifies the user of the number of 600 ml PET plastic bottles that were neither used nor discarded.



Elkay units are CE certified products for 220V / 50Hz, certified under NSF / ANSI Standards 61 (Annex G, AB1953), designed to comply with the A.R.I. (regulation 1010) and are lead free.

Elkay's efforts to improve the water situation and reduce the use of PET plastic bottles have left a positive footprint with thousands of bottle filling stations installed around the world.

Therefore, our units are an appropriate option to offer drinking water in spaces where people need to rehydrate in order to have a fun and healthy experience.

An example of this is the installation of Elkay units in Exploration Park in the Mexican Caribbean, which is one of the most important entertainment venues in Latin America.



Access to free drinking water in public spaces

Enabling healthy hydration

Did you know ...



Water in public spaces is not only a decorative element,

it performs other important functions and has benefits that go beyond the social aspects



To promote and encourage people to drink more water, free water should be accessible, appealing and available in key settings where people live, learn, work and play



Increasing drinking water access can reduce the use of single-use containers

Adopting a resolution: a coherent and promising measure



AMUSEMENT PARKS SHOULD BE AGGRESSIVE in offering water to every guest when the temperature exceeds a certain mark. Even if a park decides against offering free soft drinks, it should put free cups of ice water out on all its food service counters and set up freely accessible drinking water stations throughout the park, for people to refill their water bottles.



MAKING WATER MORE ACCESSIBLE to the population can be highly beneficial not only for the health and quality of life of citizens, but also in terms of waste reduction.



WITH MANY USEFUL FEATURES THAT INCREASE WATER QUALITY AND CONVENIENCE, drinking fountains need no longer be the forgotten relics of the past. Cities, park districts, schools, hospitals, and other entities managing public spaces can offer fountains with many available options, including vandal resistance, freeze resistance, refrigeration, bottle filling, and filtration.

Elkay has products that provide fresh drinking water and they can be installed in any open space such as amusement and public parks.

Sources:

Provision of drinking water fountains in public areas | <https://www.vichealth.vic.gov.au/media-and-resources/publications/provision-of-drinking-water-fountains-in-public-areas>

Make Public Drinking Water Fountains Great Again | <https://pacinst.org/make-public-drinking-water-fountains-great/>

Access to free drinking water in public spaces | https://www.cqpp.qc.ca/documents/file/resolution-eau_en.pdf

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