SA Athletics Stadium is one of Adelaide's premier athletic and sporting venues. The Stadium is a large facility that plays host to over 120,000 users per year! Located on the western fringe of the Adelaide CBD, SA Athletics Stadium offers a comprehensive and modern athletics facility with a FIFA sized quality turf pitch that is used for soccer and other turf related sports. Opened in 1998, the venue has hosted state, national and international events. It is regularly used by organisations such as Athletics SA, the SA Athletics League, and the SA Little Athletics Associations as well as primary and secondary schools throughout the State.

SA Athletics Stadium is owned and operated by the Office for Recreation and Sport and is an example of a highly professional facility. The running of the facility is overseen by an Operations Officer who has implemented comprehensive utility management strategies, which include conducting daily checks of the site’s water usage. Due to the size and quality of the turf maintained, SA Athletics Stadium uses over 10,000 kilolitres of water per year! However, by conducting daily checks, the Operations Officer is able to monitor the amount of water is being used each day and ensure that any leaks in the system are detected quickly.

Not all clubs will have the ability to manually monitor their water usage every day. However, as the saying goes ‘if you can’t measure it, you can’t manage it’ – so monitoring is important for your club to effectively manage water and energy use.

‘If you can’t measure it, you can’t manage it’
In accommodating its many users, the stadium uses substantial amounts of electricity at a fairly significant cost. In 2014, an energy audit was conducted at the stadium, which identified areas for more effective and efficient energy use within the facility. One strategy identified was consideration of implementing solar panels at the SA Athletics Stadium.

While solar panels don’t generate electricity all the time, they do generate electricity when it’s often needed most – during the day and during hot sunny periods when demand for power may be at its peak.

**WHAT CAN YOUR CLUB DO?**

To assist in helping your club become more sustainable, you can…

**IF YOU CAN’T MEASURE IT, YOU CAN’T MANAGE IT**

Ensure you have someone in your club who is aware of (and monitoring) your water usage.

**THINK ABOUT WHETHER SOLAR IS RIGHT FOR YOUR CLUB**

Solar panels can be a huge help, but you need to make sure this option is right for your club.

**IS THERE SOMEONE AT YOUR CLUB WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR KEEPING AN EYE ON YOUR WATER USAGE?**

Consider the installation of sub-meters or smart meters that help track water usage patterns. Speak to your sport and recreation representative about your options.

**SUB-METERS AND SMART METERING**

These ‘smart’ devices can help to track your club’s water usage patterns, see the SA Water website for more information: www.sawater.com.au.

**FIND OUT WHAT FUNDING OPTIONS MAY BE AVAILABLE TO YOUR CLUB**

The Office for Recreation and Sport offers a number of funding programs for sporting clubs, visit www.ors.sa.gov.au/funding.