## The University of Burdwan

## Water Conservation Facilities Available in the Institution

Sincere efforts have been made to conserve water resources. This is evident in the repair, restoration, and reclamation of water bodies within the Burdwan University Campus. The moat and water bodies have been reclaimed to cope with the growing challenges of water scarcity and the lowering of the water table. So the supply of drinking water on the campus is safe.

At this age, groundwater depletion is a matter of great concern across the globe. In India, the groundwater level is decreasing rapidly. The matter becomes worse in some parts. The University of Burdwan is very much conscious of this. Besides the appropriate conservation of many water bodies on the campus, the University has also taken measures to use rainwater harvesting appropriately. In this connection, the University has implemented a plan by which the huge amount of rainwater on the roof of Mehtab Manjil (The administrative building of the University) is channelized to an underground tank, and the excess of it is recharged to groundwater through Rain Water Harvesting scheme. The Golden Jubilee building (Newly constructed administrative building) is fully equipped with a rainwater harvesting system. Apart from this, most of the surface water of the academic campus of Golaphag is channelized to the existing number of water bodies on campus to maintain the groundwater table. On this way of surface water towards the existing water bodies, there are seven bore well recharge pits in Golapbag, and six bore well recharge pits in Tarabag. Bore well recharge involves enhancing the groundwater table by directing rainwater into bore wells. At The University of Burdwan, this process is vital given the region's variable monsoon and the growing demand for groundwater. The university has strategically implemented recharge pit wells to facilitate rainwater infiltration into the subsurface. These recharge pits capture runoff from roofs and paved areas, channeling it through pipes, strainers, and gravel into the subsoil. This process helps replenish the groundwater levels and ensures a sustainable water supply for the university's needs. Additionally, this approach mitigates the risk of water shortages and reduces dependence on external water sources.

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Bunds, or dams, are built to manage and direct surface runoff, preventing soil erosion and promoting water retention. At The University of Burdwan, embankments alongside the "MOOT" and other key water bodies are constructed to control the flow of rainwater, reducing the risk of flooding and facilitating groundwater recharge. The bunds are designed to hold water temporarily, allowing it to infiltrate the soil gradually. This process not only aids in replenishing groundwater but also improves soil moisture, which is beneficial for campus green spaces and landscaping. Properly constructed bunds help manage stormwater runoff, reducing erosion risk and ensuring that rainwater is used effectively.

In addition, Krishnasayar Eco-Garden constitutes one main watershed region of the University complex. The University has developed an eco-garden, which it properly maintains due to its great concern for environmental consciousness.

The University of Burdwan's initiatives in rainwater harvesting through bore well recharge, tank construction, and bunds reflect a forward-thinking approach to water management. These practices contribute significantly to sustainable water use, ensuring the university can meet its water needs while minimizing environmental impact.

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