FACT SHEET

DC BLOX
WATER USAGE

Water Usage & Our Data Centers

A DC BLOX Community Resource for Indianapolis

DC BLOX is planning a data center development in Indianapolis. There is a common misconception that all data centers consume massive amounts of water, contaminate it with chemicals, then discharge it into the environment. DC BLOX's data centers are engineered to use water safely and efficiently while protecting our ecosystems.

How is water used in a data center?

Like all computers, data center servers produce heat. Some data centers continuously use water for cooling them, called open-loop cooling (but even then, the water is not destroyed and safely goes back to the source). However, the DC BLOX Indianapolis project is designed with closed-loop cooling, where the system is filled once and then water cycles and recycles within the loop's pipes. Additional water is rarely added. After that, water is only used for people and plants (sinks, toilets, irrigation) at approximately 2,200 gallons per day, much less than many other industrial facility types.

What about water contamination?

Our closed-loop cooling systems use a water–glycol mixture to improve performance and prevent freezing. DC BLOX uses propylene glycol, an additive that is commonly found in everyday products like food, medicine, and cosmetics.

The water-glycol mix is enclosed in sealed piping, doesn't contaminate soil or groundwater, and is never discharged into the environment or the public water system. In the rare case that draining the loop is needed, the fluid is captured and disposed of in accordance with environmental regulations through approved treatment or off-site disposal processes.

How will water be used in the Indianapolis data center?

Building 1 of the DC BLOX Indianapolis project will use a waterless cooling system that relies on refrigerant rather than water, like many commercial HVAC systems. In the future, Buildings 2 and 3 will use closed-loop systems.

Have questions about water use, cooling systems, or environmental safeguards?

Visit dcbloxindy.com to review project commitments, see updated project information, and submit questions to the DC BLOX team.

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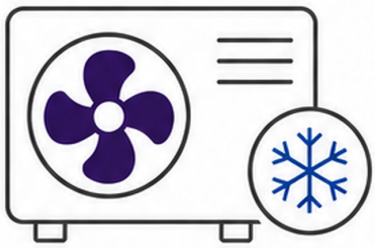
DC BLOX

How DC BLOX Indianapolis is designed to conserve and protect water

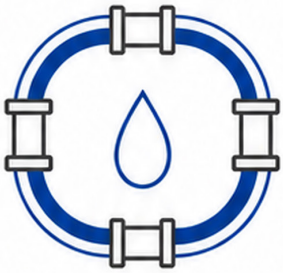
System does not consume water continuously

1 Building 1: Waterless Cooling



Uses refrigerant-based cooling, similar to many commercial HVAC systems.

2 Future Buildings: Closed-Loop Cooling



Filled initially, then the same fluid recirculates in sealed piping.

Ongoing Water Use Supports

- Restrooms
- Sinks
- Landscaping / Irrigation
- Limited Maintenance

Not Routine Cooling-Water Use

- No continuous cooling-water consumption
- No routine cooling-water discharge
- No evaporative cooling towers planned for this approach