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WaterSense® Labeled

Toilets



Toilets are by far the main source of water use in the home, accounting for nearly 30 percent of an average home's indoor water consumption. Older, inefficient toilets that use as much as 6 gallons per flush also happen to be a major source of wasted water in many homes.

FLUSH FACTS

Recent advancements have allowed toilets to use 1.28 gallons per flush or less while still providing equal or superior performance. This is 20 percent less water than the current federal standard of 1.6 gallons per flush. WaterSense labeled toilets are independently certified to meet rigorous criteria for both performance and efficiency. Only toilets that complete the third-party certification process can earn the WaterSense label.

WATERSENSE SAVINGS

By replacing old, inefficient toilets with WaterSense labeled models, the average family can reduce water used for toilets by 20 to 60 percent—that's nearly 13,000 gallons of water savings for your home every year! They could also save more than \$110 per year in water costs, and \$2,200 over the lifetime of the toilets.

Nationally, if all old, inefficient toilets in the United States were replaced with WaterSense labeled models, we could save 520 billion gallons of water per year, or the amount of water that flows over Niagara Falls in about 12 days.

LOOK FOR THE WATERSENSE LABEL!

Whether remodeling a bathroom, starting construction of a new home, or simply replacing an old, leaky toilet



WaterSense labeled toilets could save the average family 13,000 gallons of water per year.

that is wasting money and water, installing a WaterSense labeled toilet is a high-performance, water-efficient option worth considering.

WaterSense labeled toilets are available at a wide variety of price points and a broad range of styles. In many areas, utilities offer rebates and vouchers that can lower the price of a WaterSense labeled toilet. For more information or a list of WaterSense labeled products, visit www.epa.gov/watersense.



GET A HANDLE ON LEAKS

Does your toilet have a silent leak? Place a drop of food coloring in your toilet's tank and wait 10 minutes. If the dye shows up in the bowl, you have a leak that can probably be fixed by replacing a worn toilet flapper. For more information about fixing leaks, please visit www.epa.gov/watersense/our_water/howto.html

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Bathroom Sink Faucets & Accessories



Most of us know we can save water if we turn off the tap while brushing our teeth (as much as 3,000 gallons per year!), but did you know that there are products that will help save water when you turn on the tap too? WaterSense labeled faucets and faucet accessories (e.g., aerators) are high-performing, water-efficient fixtures that will help you reduce water use in your home and save money on water bills.

FAUCET FLOWS

WaterSense labeled bathroom sink faucets and accessories that use a maximum of 1.5 gallons per minute can reduce a sink's water flow by 30 percent or more from the standard flow of 2.2 gallons per minute without sacrificing performance. We could save billions of gallons nationwide each year by retrofitting bathroom sink faucets with WaterSense labeled models.

All products bearing the WaterSense label complete a third-party certification process to ensure they meet U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) criteria. Faucets and faucet accessories—products that can be attached easily to existing faucets to save water—that obtain the WaterSense label have demonstrated both water efficiency and the ability to provide ample flow.

WATERSENSE SAVINGS

Replacing old, inefficient faucets and aerators with WaterSense labeled models can save the average family 700 gallons of water per year, equal to the amount of water needed to take 45 showers. Since these water savings reduce demands on water heaters, households will also save enough energy to run a hairdryer 17 minutes a day for a year. Achieving these savings can be as easy as twisting on a WaterSense labeled aerator, which can cost as little as a few dollars. If every home in the United States replaced existing faucets and aerators with WaterSense labeled models, we could save nearly \$1.3 billion in water and



WaterSense labeled bathroom faucets and aerators can save the average family 700 gallons of water per year.

energy costs and 69 billion gallons of water across the country annually—equivalent to the annual household water needs of more than 810,000 American homes.

LOOK FOR THE WATERSENSE LABEL!

Whether replacing an older, inefficient faucet, or looking to reduce water in your bathroom, choose a WaterSense labeled sink faucet or faucet accessory. WaterSense labeled models are available at a wide variety of price points and styles. In many areas, utilities offer rebates and vouchers that can lower the price further. For more information or a list of WaterSense labeled products, visit www.epa.gov/watersense.





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Showerheads

Showering is one of the leading ways we use water in the home, accounting for 20 percent of residential indoor water use. For the average family, that adds up to nearly 40 gallons per day. That's nearly 1.3 trillion gallons of water used in the United States annually just for showering, or enough to supply the water needs of New York and New Jersey for more than 18 months! By retrofitting your showerheads with WaterSense labeled models, you can save a considerable amount of this water.

SHOWER WITH POWER

Did you know that standard showerheads use 2.5 gallons of water per minute (gpm)? Showerheads that earn the WaterSense label must demonstrate that they use no more than 2.0 gpm. The WaterSense label also ensures that these products provide a satisfactory shower that is equal to or better than conventional showerheads on the market. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) worked with a variety of stakeholders—including consumers who tested various showerheads—to develop criteria for water coverage and spray intensity. All products bearing the WaterSense label must be third-party certified to ensure they meet EPA water efficiency and performance criteria.

WATERSENSE SAVINGS

The average family could save 2,700 gallons of water per year by installing WaterSense labeled showerheads. Since these water savings will reduce demands on water heaters, they will also save energy. The average family could save more than 330 kilowatt hours of electricity annually, or the amount it takes to power a house for 11 days. On a national scale, if every home in the United States installed WaterSense labeled showerheads, we could save more than \$2.9 billion in water utility bills and more than 260 billion gallons of water annually. In addition, we could avoid more than \$2.5 billion in energy costs for heating water.



WaterSense labeled showerheads could save the average family 2,700 gallons of water per year.

LOOK FOR THE WATERSENSE LABEL!

Whether you are replacing an older, inefficient showerhead or simply looking for ways to reduce water use and utility bills in your home, look for the WaterSense label when purchasing showerheads to help you identify models that save water and perform well.



In many areas, utilities offer rebates and vouchers that can lower the price of a WaterSense labeled showerhead. For more information or a list of WaterSense labeled products, visit www.epa.gov/watersense.

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Flushometer-Valve Toilets

Flushometer-valve toilets are usually found in commercial, institutional, or industrial facilities. Switching to a WaterSense labeled flushometer-valve toilet could save a typical business nearly \$1,000 over the lifetime of the toilet.

Flushometer-valve toilets, also known as flushometer-valve water closets in plumbing standards, are typically found in such places as airports, theaters, stadiums, schools, and office buildings. The water closet has two main components—the toilet bowl and the flushometer valve.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) estimates that about 26 percent, or 7 million, of the 27 million flushometer-valve toilets currently installed in commercial and institutional facilities nationwide flush at volumes higher than the 1.6 gallons per flush (gpf) federal standard—some as much as 3.0 to 7.0 gpf.

SMART FLUSHING

EPA's specification sets the maximum flush volume for WaterSense labeled flushometer-valve toilets at 1.28 gpf, or 20 percent less water than the federal standard. The maximum flush volume applies to both single- and dual-flush toilets.

WaterSense has also incorporated a minimum flush volume of 1.0 gpf to ensure plumbing systems have adequate flow to function effectively. Facility managers should consult a plumbing engineer if they have questions about using WaterSense labeled flushometer-valve toilets in their building.

Valves and bowls can be tested and labeled separately or as a complete system. To ensure that the individual components can be used in combination to meet WaterSense's requirements for efficiency and performance, consult the product information provided by the manufacturer and choose a flushometer valve and toilet fixture that have compatible flush volumes, as indicated on the WaterSense website.



WATERSENSE SAVINGS

By replacing old, inefficient flushometer-valve toilets with WaterSense labeled models, a 10-story office building with 1,000 occupants can save nearly 1.2 million gallons of water and more than \$10,000 in water costs per year. Of those savings, nearly 870,000 gallons of water and \$7,600 in water costs per year can be achieved by replacing the toilets in the women's restrooms alone.

If commercial facilities nationwide replaced all of their older, inefficient flushometer-valve toilets with WaterSense labeled models, we could save nearly 39 billion gallons of water per year. That's equivalent to nearly one full day's flow of water over Niagara Falls!

LOOK FOR THE WATERSENSE LABEL

Like all WaterSense labeled products, flushometer-valve toilets are independently certified for performance and efficiency. For more information, visit www.epa.gov/watersense.



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Urinals

Urinals can account for a significant portion of indoor water use in commercial and institutional settings. A typical office building could reduce its water use from old, inefficient urinals by 26,000 gallons per year or more. While the current federal standard for commercial urinals is 1.0 gallon per flush (gpf), some older urinals use as much as five times that amount!

FLUSH WITH EFFICIENCY

Replacing these inefficient fixtures with WaterSense labeled flushing urinals can save between 0.5 and 4.5 gallons per flush, without sacrificing performance. The WaterSense label helps purchasers easily identify high-performing, water-efficient products. Installing WaterSense labeled flushing urinals will not only reduce water use in facilities, but also save money on water bills.

WaterSense labeled flushing urinals use no more than 0.5 gpf and comply with existing standards for flushing urinals. To ensure adequate performance, urinals must also be independently certified to ensure that they flush effectively and have properly functioning drain traps before they can earn the WaterSense label.

WATERSENSE SAVINGS

Replacing just one older, inefficient urinal that uses 1.5 gpf with a WaterSense labeled model could save a facility more than 4,600 gallons of water per year. Nationwide, if all older, inefficient urinals were replaced, we could save nearly 36 billion gallons annually. That's equal to the amount of water that flows over Niagara Falls in 21 hours!



Each WaterSense labeled flushing urinal can save a facility more than 4,600 gallons of water per year.

LOOK FOR THE WATERSENSE LABEL!

Whether looking to reduce water use in a new facility or to replace old, inefficient fixtures in men's restrooms, builders, designers, managers, and other specifiers can look for the WaterSense label to identify high-performing, water-efficient urinals. For more information or a list of WaterSense labeled products, visit www.epa.gov/watersense.



TO FLUSH OR NOT TO FLUSH?

While there are also urinals that don't use water available on the market today, the WaterSense specification is only for flushing urinals. WaterSense has posted clarification guidance for its partners on non-water-using urinals; for more information, please visit www.epa.gov/watersense/partners/urinals_final.html.



High-Efficiency

Pre-Rinse Spray Valves

Pre-rinse spray valves—often used in commercial and institutional kitchens—are designed to remove food waste from dishes prior to dishwashing. By switching to a U.S. Department of Energy (DOE)-compliant pre-rinse spray valve, a commercial and institutional kitchen can save more than \$110 annually in energy and water costs.

A out one million food service establishments in the United States use nearly 53 billion gallons of water each year to rinse dishes with pre-rinse spray valves (PRSVs). In fact, PRSVs can account for nearly one-third of the water used in a typical commercial kitchen.

From 2013 to 2018, WaterSense labeled PRSVs that met its criteria for water efficiency and spray force. Starting in 2019, DOE adopted the WaterSense efficiency criteria for the national energy standard. In addition, DOE used the WaterSense-developed spray force test to establish three PRSV categories. All PRSVs sold in the United States are required to meet the DOE standard. With the revised DOE standard in place, WaterSense sunset its specification on January 1, 2019.

DOE MAKES HIGH-EFFICIENCY THE STANDARD

DOE's federal energy conservation standard now requires every PRSV sold in the United States to flow at 1.28 gallons per minute (gpm) or less, depending on the product's spray force-based product category. The following chart explains the new categories of PRSVs and their maximum flow rates.

Product Class by Spray Force	Maximum Flow Rate (gpm)
Product Class 1 (≤ 5.0 ozf)	1.00
Product Class 2 (> 5.0 ozf and ≤ 8.0 ozf)	1.20
Product Class 3 (> 8.0 ozf)	1.28

Source: DOE, 2016

Replacing an old PRSV (flowing at 1.6 gpm or more) with a DOE-compliant model can save a typical commercial kitchen more than 7,000 gallons of water



per year, equivalent to the amount of water needed to wash nearly 4,800 racks of dishes. Because kitchens use hot water to rinse dishes, installing a high-efficiency PRSV can reduce a commercial kitchen's annual natural gas use by more than 5,700 cubic feet per year. That's enough energy to run its convection oven 12 hours per day for three weeks.

A commercial kitchen that replaces one old PRSV with a DOE-compliant model could save as much as \$110 to \$200 on utility bills per year, by reducing water costs by \$65 per year and energy costs by more than \$40 per year (natural gas) or more than \$130 per year (electricity). The facility could see payback on the investment in a high-efficiency PRSV in as little as five to eight months.

In 2019, high-efficiency and high-performing DOE-compliant PRSVs will be available across the country. Visit the [WaterSense](#) and [DOE websites](#) for more information.

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Irrigation Controllers

Residential outdoor water use in the United States accounts for nearly 9 billion gallons of water each day, mainly for landscape irrigation. Experts estimate that as much as 50 percent of this water is wasted due to overwatering caused by inefficiencies in irrigation methods and systems. Irrigation control technologies can significantly reduce overwatering by applying water only when plants need it.

SMART WATERING

WaterSense labeled irrigation controllers, which act like a thermostat for your sprinkler system by telling it when to turn on and off, use local weather and landscape conditions to tailor watering schedules to actual conditions on the site. Instead of irrigating using a controller with a clock and a preset schedule, WaterSense labeled controllers allow watering schedules to better match plants' water needs. With proper installation, programming, and maintenance, homeowners and businesses can use WaterSense labeled controllers instead of standard clock-timer controllers on their existing systems, and no longer worry about wasted water.

WATERSENSE SAVINGS

Replacing a standard clock timer with a WaterSense labeled irrigation controller can save an average home nearly 7,600 gallons of water annually. If every home in the United States with an automatic irrigation system installed and properly operated a WaterSense labeled irrigation controller, we could save \$1 billion in water costs and 100 billion gallons of water across the country annually from not overwatering lawns and landscapes. That's equal to the annual household water needs of nearly 1.2 million average American homes.



WaterSense labeled irrigation controllers allow watering schedules to better match plants' needs.

LOOK FOR THE WATERSENSE LABEL!

To earn the WaterSense label, landscape irrigation controllers must be able to adequately meet the watering needs of a landscape without overwatering. As with all other WaterSense labeled products, WaterSense labeled controllers are third-party certified to ensure that they meet the WaterSense criteria for efficiency and performance. For more information or a list of WaterSense labeled products, visit www.epa.gov/watersense.



KNOW WHAT MAKES IT GROW

For more water-smart landscaping tips, please visit www.epa.gov/watersense/landscaping-tips.