



WaterSense® is Common Sense



WaterSense Plumbing Products – An Easy Way to Save Water

Homes and buildings often have plumbing fixtures that use more water than necessary. A household can save thousands of gallons of water and hundreds of dollars in water costs each year by replacing old, inefficient toilets with WaterSense models, according to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

Plumbing Manufacturers International (PMI) urges policymakers, water utilities, distributors, retailers and plumbers to promote WaterSense products as a simple way to save water in America. PMI is a longtime WaterSense partner whose members produce 90% of the plumbing products sold in the U.S.

Upgrading aging water delivery infrastructure and avoiding the adverse consequences of lower flow rates also will contribute to a broad, systemic solution. Many regions struggle with water shortages due to droughts, aging infrastructure and rising populations. The American Society of Civil Engineers gave the nation's drinking water infrastructure a C- grade in its most recent report card.

Look for the WaterSense Label



WaterSense is a voluntary, public-private partnership to bring high-performing, water-efficient plumbing products to Americans. More than 37,000 kinds of WaterSense products are available and can be found in a variety of price points and styles at home improvement stores, showrooms and online. These products meet high standards of performance, water efficiency and customer satisfaction.

Facts of the Matter

WaterSense fixtures use 20% less water than federal requirements.

Products receive the WaterSense certification after undergoing rigorous independent testing for efficiency and performance.

A household can save thousands of gallons of water a year by installing

WaterSense toilets, showers, faucets and urinals in place of old, water-guzzling fixtures. Most homes and businesses do not have WaterSense products yet, according to a study commissioned by PMI.

Consumers have saved more than 6.4 trillion gallons of water and \$135 billion in water and energy expenses since 2006 due to WaterSense products, according to the EPA.

Arbitrarily lowering flow rates can have an adverse impact on sanitation and plumbing product performance. Innovative, highly engineered products are the answer.

Common Sense Ways to Save Water

When shopping, look for WaterSense-labeled products

Replace your toilet

Toilets are one of the largest users of water inside the home – and offer the biggest opportunity for savings. The more gallons per flush (gpf), the more potential savings. For a family of four:

- Replacing a toilet using 7.0 gpf saves 42,000 gallons a year.
- Replacing a toilet using 5.0 gpf saves 30,000 gallons a year.
- Replacing a toilet using 3.5 gpf saves 16,000 gallons a year.
- Replacing a toilet using 1.6 gpf saves 2,000 gallons a year.

Replace your showerhead

Newer, energy-efficient, water-saving showerheads use about 2.0 gallons per minute (gpm). That's a huge improvement over older showerheads that can use up to 7.0 gpm. Hundreds of gallons of water a week can be saved.

Replace your faucet

Just like modern showerheads, WaterSense faucets use considerably less water, without compromising performance or consumer satisfaction. Older faucets use about 2.2 gpm, while WaterSense faucets use 1.5 gpm – a 30% savings.

About PMI

Plumbing Manufacturers International (PMI) is the trade association of plumbing product



manufacturers and a WaterSense partner. Our members produce 90% of the plumbing products sold in the U.S., operate facilities at more than 70 locations nationwide, and invest millions of dollars in water-efficiency research and development each year. PMI is a credible resource for policymakers, water utilities and consumers, with knowledge of plumbing product performance, codes and standards, health and safety, and customer satisfaction relating to plumbing products. PMI has a positive history of helping to create meaningful legislation and regulations at the federal and state level.

Become Involved in Maximizing Water Efficiency

- Create awareness of how to save water by replacing old fixtures and checking for leaks and drips. Even a slow drip can waste up to 10,000 gallons a year.
- Develop community outreach programs about the importance of water efficiency.
- Promote rebate, grant and tax-holiday programs for water-saving fixtures.
- Support efforts to upgrade aging water delivery infrastructure.
- Share the information in this fact sheet – **WaterSense is Common Sense**
- Visit **www.SafePlumbing.org** to learn more about the importance of saving water.