



# WaterSense® is Common Sense



## WaterSense Plumbing Products – An Easy Way to Save Water

If you live in a home built before 1994, there's a good chance you have plumbing fixtures that use more water than necessary. You may be able to save thousands of gallons of water a year by replacing older toilets, showerheads, and faucets with WaterSense plumbing products.



Plumbing Manufacturers International (PMI) encourages the use of WaterSense products as a simple way to save water. PMI members produce 90% of the plumbing products sold in the U.S.

Saving water is important because droughts, aging infrastructure and rising populations have caused water shortages in many regions. You may save money by saving water, too.

## Look for the WaterSense Label



WaterSense means high-performing, water-efficient plumbing products that gain customer satisfaction. Thousands of WaterSense products can be found in a variety of price points and styles at home improvement stores, showrooms and online.

## Facts of the Matter

**Consumers have saved more than 2.7 trillion gallons of water and \$63.8 billion in water and energy bills** since 2006 due to WaterSense products, according to the EPA.

**WaterSense fixtures use 20% less water than federal requirements.** Products receive the WaterSense certification after undergoing rigorous independent testing for efficiency and performance.

**The average family can save 13,000 gallons of water a day** by installing WaterSense toilets, showers, faucets and urinals in place of fixtures manufactured before the 1994 implementation of the 1992 Energy Policy Act (EPACT). That's more than a trillion gallons of water a year. But WaterSense products can't save water if they aren't being used, and most homes and businesses do not have these products yet, according to a study commissioned by PMI: [safeplumbing.org/watersense-study](http://safeplumbing.org/watersense-study).

# 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 the previous showerhead standard of 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.



# More Ways to Save Water

- Check for leaks and drips. Even a slow drip can waste up to 10,000 gallons a year.
- Support upgrades of water delivery infrastructure. Aging infrastructure alone accounts for the loss of 1.7 trillion gallons of water each year, according to the U.S. Geological Survey.
- Share the information in this fact sheet – **WaterSense is Common Sense**.
- Visit [safeplumbing.org](http://safeplumbing.org) to learn more about the importance of saving water.

## About PMI



Plumbing Manufacturers International (PMI) is the nation's leading industry 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.

To learn more, go to [safeplumbing.org](http://safeplumbing.org).