

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT



EPA
WaterSense

Every drop counts.



Why Water Efficiency?

- Between 1950 and 2000, U.S. population doubled while the demand on public supply systems more than tripled.
- GAO: At least 36 states are anticipating water shortages by 2013.
- To preserve our water supply for future generations, we need to use water more efficiently.





Climate Change & Water

- Potential regional impacts on water resources:
 - Changing precipitation patterns and distribution
 - Shrinking snowpacks, glaciers, reservoirs
 - Increasing stormwater runoff, water quality hazards
 - Rising sea levels, saltwater intrusion
- Potential consequences could include:
 - Decreasing freshwater supplies
 - Increasing demands (e.g., landscape irrigation)
 - Increasing stress on wastewater and stormwater infrastructure





Drops to Watts

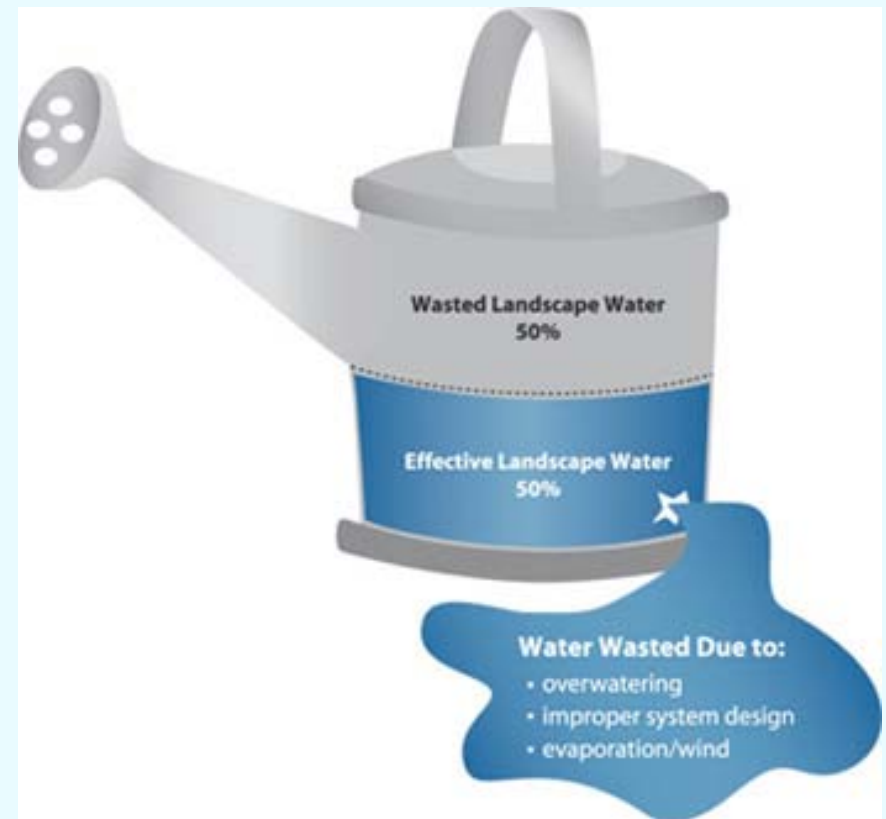


- Nationwide, drinking water and wastewater systems use 56 billion kilowatt-hours per year—enough electricity to power more than 5 million homes for an entire year
- Water efficiency saves energy used to pump, heat, and treat water
- If only one out of every 100 American homes were retrofitted with water-efficient fixtures, we could avoid 80,000 tons of greenhouse gas emissions—equivalent to removing nearly 15,000 automobiles from the road for a year!



The Potential to Save Is Here

- Homes with highly efficient technology can save about 30% or more in water use.
- New high-efficiency toilets use 20-60% less water with superior performance
- Up to 50 percent of water applied for household lawn and garden care is wasted





What Is WaterSense?



- Voluntary partnership program launched by EPA in 2006.
- Simple way for consumers to identify products that save water and perform well.
- Labels products that use 20 percent less water.
- Backed by EPA's efficiency and performance criteria.
- Independently certified.
- Nearly 500 organizations and utilities, nearly 100 manufacturers, more than 120 retailers and distributors, and 4 certifying organizations had joined as partners, as of September 2009.



WaterSense Benefits



- WaterSense labeled toilets can save:
 - About 16 percent of total indoor water use
- WaterSense labeled faucets can reduce a household's annual water use by:
 - Nearly 600 gallons and 70 kilowatt-hours of electricity used for heating the water
- If just one in every 10 American homes installed WaterSense labeled fixtures, we could save:
 - More than 120 billion gallons per year
 - More than \$800 million per year in household utility bills



Schedule for Evaluating WaterSense Products & Programs

	<i>Completed: 2006/2007/2008</i>	<i>Planned: 2009 and Beyond</i>
<i>Irrigation</i>	<i>Certification for Irrigation Professionals</i>	<i>Moisture Sensors Drip Micro Technology Smart Controllers</i>
<i>Residential Plumbing</i>	<i>Toilets Faucets</i>	<i>Showerheads Water Softening Systems</i>
<i>Commercial Plumbing</i>		<i>Flushometer Valve Toilets Pre-rinse Spray Valves Urinals</i>
<i>Other</i>		<i>New Homes Autoclaves Medical Vacuums Additional Professional Certifications</i>



WaterSense Irrigation Partners

WaterSense Labeled Programs

- IA Certified Irrigation Contractor (CIC)
- IA Certified Irrigation Designer (CID)
- IA Certified Landscape Irrigation Auditor (CLIA)
- IA Certified Golf Irrigation Auditor (CGIA)
- North Coast's Qualified Water-Efficient Landscaper



WaterSense Irrigation Partners

(have completed certifications listed above)

- More than 780 irrigation partners by September 2009
- Hiring a WaterSense irrigation partner can help reduce landscape water use



More Information

■ WaterSense Information

- Web site: www.epa.gov/watersense
 - List of products
 - Partnership information
 - Educational fact sheets and resources
- E-mail: watersense@epa.gov
- Toll-free Helpline: (866) WTR-SENS





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