look for WaterSense Meets EPA Criteria

Water-Efficient

Spray Sprinkler Bodies

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.

LANDSCAPE WATER EFFICIENCY

Outdoor irrigation systems can waste water when the pressure of the water flowing into the system is higher than recommended values. To help decrease this outdoor water waste from irrigation systems that receive water under higher pressure, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA's) WaterSense® program released a draft specification for spray sprinkler bodies intended for models with integral pressure regulation. The sprinkler body is the exterior shell that connects to the irrigation system piping and houses the spray nozzle. Some types of sprinkler bodies can control water pressure at the inlet to the nozzle, also known as integral pressure regulation.

Landscape irrigation sprinklers are often installed at sites where the system pressure is higher than what is recommended for the sprinkler body, thus resulting in system inefficiencies. These can include excessive flow rates, misting, fogging, and uneven coverage (e.g., dry spots or water pooling). However, sprinkler bodies with integral pressure regulation can provide a constant flow at the sprinkler nozzle to help reduce water waste. Additionally, when the sprinkler body maintains its recommended operating pressure, the connected nozzle is better able to generate the right amount of water spray and coverage for more uniform distribution of water across the landscape.

SAVING WATER OUTDOORS

EPA is adding sprinkler bodies to its suite of WaterSense labeled landscape irrigation products to help residential and light commercial irrigation systems across the United States save water. Installing these products in an irrigation system operating at or above

The system on the left is operating under too-high pressure (photo courtesy of Irrigation Association); the right photo shows correct pressure (photo courtesy of Rain Bird).

60 pounds per square inch (psi) for the average household using 50,500 gallons of water outdoors can save nearly 5,600 gallons of water annually. Replacing all sprinkler bodies that operate above recommended pressure with these water-efficient sprinkler bodies could eventually save more than 31 billion gallons of water nationally each year.

As with all WaterSense labeled products, once the specification is final, all WaterSense labeled sprinkler bodies must be tested and independently certified to ensure that they meet the EPA criteria for efficiency and performance.

LOOK FOR THE WATERSENSE LABEL IN THE FUTURE!

Once EPA finalizes its specification for spray sprinkler bodies, homeowners and landscapers can look for WaterSense labeled sprinkler bodies to help save water outdoors! For more information, visit www.epa.gov/watersense.