



Home Water Audit

Glossary

Water | Energy | CO_{2e}

Water Conservation – Encompasses the policies, strategies and activities made to manage fresh water as a sustainable resource, to protect the water environment, and to meet current and future human demand. Population, household size, and growth and affluence all affect how much water is used. Factors such as climate change will increase pressures on natural water resources especially in manufacturing and agricultural irrigation.

The goals of water conservation efforts include:

- Ensuring availability of water for future generations. This requires that the withdrawal of fresh water from an ecosystem does not exceed its natural replacement rate.
- Energy conservation. Water pumping, delivery and waste water treatment facilities consume a significant amount of energy. In some regions of the world over 15% of total electricity consumption is devoted to water management.
- Habitat conservation. Reduces the need to build new dams and other water diversion infrastructures.

Indoor Water Use

Clothes Washer – A machine used to wash laundry.



Bathroom or Kitchen Sink Faucet Aerator – A faucet aerator is often found at the tip of indoor water faucets. Aerators can be simply screwed onto the faucet head, creating a non-splashing stream and often delivering a mixture of water and air.



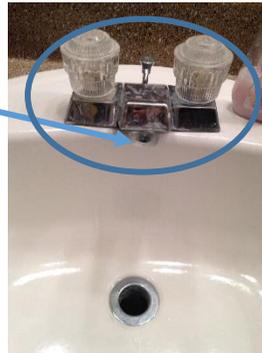
GPM – Gallons per Minute. Used to measure the amount of gallons of water flowing out of a faucet in one minute.

Aerator Flow Bag – A plastic bag used to measure the flow out of a kitchen or bathroom faucet in gallons per minute (gpm).



Bathroom Faucet Aerator – An aerator attached to a bathroom faucet.

Bathroom Faucet – The fittings that control the water supply to bathtubs and sinks.



Bathroom Faucet

Kitchen Faucet - The fittings that control water supply to kitchen sinks.

Showerhead – Refers to fixed showerhead and/or handheld showerhead.



Handheld Showerhead – A showerhead that can become unattached from the fixed showerhead to spray water on the user.



Fixed Showerhead – A showerhead that is fixed to the wall.



WaterSense – A U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) program designed to encourage water efficiency in the United States through the use of a special label on consumer products. It was launched in June 2006. Located near the gallons per flush data. See the illustration on the next page.



Gallons per Flush – The amount of water in gallons used per flush each time the toilet is flushed. WaterSense certified toilets use 1.28 gallons per flush or less. This detail is typically noted on the toilet tank or just behind the toilet lid.



Look in either of these locations for the 1.28 gpm marking and WaterSense Logo.

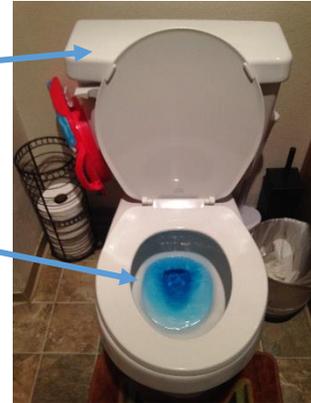
Blue Dye Strips – Dye strips used to test whether

or not your toilet is leaking water from the **toilet tank**

to the toilet bowl.

Once dye strips have been placed in the toilet tank, if there is a leak, the water in the **toilet bowl**

will turn blue. If your toilet is leaking, water is being wasted.



Toilet Bowl



Toilet Tank



Dishwasher (Automatic) – A dishwasher that you load dishes into and it automatically washes the dishes once activated.



Energy Star – An international standard for energy efficient consumer products originated in the United States. It was created in 1992 by the Environmental Protection Agency and the Department of Energy. Since then, Australia, Canada, Japan, New Zealand, Taiwan, and the European Union have adopted the program. Devices carrying the Energy Star service mark, such as computer products and peripherals, kitchen appliances, buildings and other products, generally use 20–30% less energy than required by federal standards. In the United States, the Energy Star label is also shown on EnergyGuide appliance label of qualifying products.

