



Best Management Practices Guide

January 2012



GENERAL INDOOR

Sinks

At the opening of the sink's faucet is the aerator. Without an aerator, water usually flows out of a faucet as one big stream. An aerator spreads this stream into many little droplets. This helps save water and reduce splashing. It also allows water to flow at different rates, measured in gallons per minute (GPM). Aerators often have the flow rate engraved on them. For example, one may read, 1.5 GPM, 1 GPM, or 0.5 GPM. A faucet aerator of 0.5 GPM on hand sinks (wash basins and lavatory sinks) is considered a Best Management Practice (BMP). Faucet aerators of 1.5 GPM are BMPs for kitchen sinks and other utility sinks.

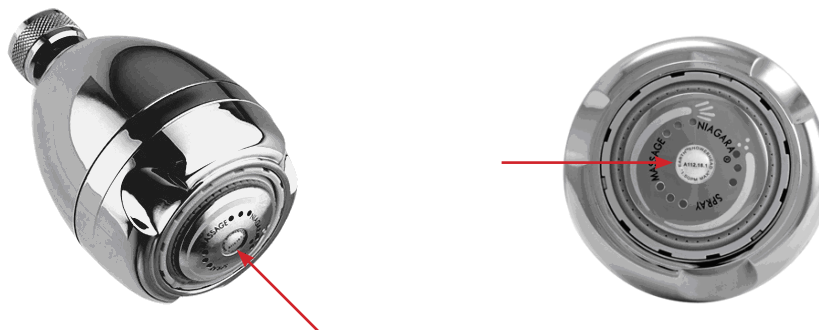
Low flow aerators are available at no charge from California American Water and the Monterey Peninsula Water Management District.



Showerheads

Showerheads usually have the flow rate printed or engraved in the middle of the face of the showerhead. The flow rate is measured in gallons per minute (GPM). A showerhead with a flow rate of 1.5 GPM meets Best Management Practices (BMP).

Water efficient 1.5 GPM showerheads are available at no charge from California American Water and the Monterey Peninsula Water Management District.



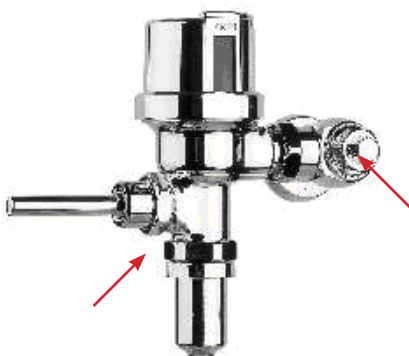
GENERAL INDOOR

Toilets

Toilets come in a variety of different types and use different amounts of water. There are tank-type toilets that use gravity to flush and pressure-type toilets that have a pressure device inside the tank. There are also flush-valve-type toilets that do not have a tank. All of these types have different flush volumes, but are usually 3.5 gallons per flush (GPF), 1.6 GPF, or 1.28 GPF. The 1.28 GPF toilets are also called High Efficiency Toilets (HET). Some toilets have dual-flush handles that allow for a smaller flush volume for liquid waste when the handle is pushed up and a larger flush volume for solid waste when the handle is pushed down. If you have a dual-flush toilet, please count it as a 1.28 GPF toilet.

A HET will be stamped with either 1.28 GPF or HET on the inside of the tank.

For pressure-type toilets, look inside the tank and look at the pressure system for the GPF.



Flush-Valve Toilets

Flush-valve toilets are not easily identified as being water efficient High Efficiency Toilets. Please check your receipt or have a plumber verify the flush volume using the model numbers of the flush valve and the toilet bowl.

GENERAL INDOOR

Urinals

Urinals usually come in 1.5 gallon per flush (GPF), 1.0 GPF, 0.5 GPF, and waterless types. Finding the GPF for urinals is similar to finding it for flush valve toilets. You will need to look up the information from the model number of the flush mechanism.



COMMERCIAL FOOD SERVICE

For current information about water efficient food service appliances and practices, visit the Food Service Technology Center at http://www.fishnick.com/savewater/bestpractices/Water_Conservation_in_CFS.pdf.

Pre-Rinse Spray Valve

A pre-rinse spray valve is a handheld device that uses a spray of water to remove food and grease from dishware, utensils and pans before placing them in the dishwasher. Low-flow pre-rinse valves are inexpensive and easily interchangeable with different manufacturers' assemblies. Local law enacted in 2010 requires that all pre-rinse spray valves operate at 1.6 gallons per minute (GPM) or less. Best Management Practice (BMP) for a pre-rinse spray valve is 1.26 GPM.

BMP qualifying pre-rinse spray valves are currently available from the Monterey Peninsula Water Management District.



Dishwashers – Under The Counter

Under-counter dishwashers are the same style as those found in homes and have a big door. A High Efficiency Dishwasher is one designed to use a maximum of 5.8 gallons per cycle and has Energy Star certification.

Please contact the manufacturer or maintenance personnel to determine the gallons per cycle.



COMMERCIAL FOOD SERVICE

Door-Type Dishwashers Are Lowered Over A Rack Of Dishes

High Efficiency Commercial Dishwasher meets or exceeds the High Efficiency Specifications for Commercial Dishwashers as determined by the Consortium for Energy Efficiency (CEE) and as listed on the CEE website. <http://www.cee1.org/com/com-kit/files/DishwasherSpecification.pdf>

Please contact the manufacturer or maintenance personnel to determine the gallons per cycle.



Conveyor dishwashers have a conveyor belt that carries the dishes through the machine. Please contact the manufacturer or maintenance personnel of your dishwasher and ask for the gallons per rack (GPR) of the highest cycle.

CLOTHES WASHERS

A High Efficiency Clothes Washer has a Water Factor of 5.0 or less.
http://www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=products.pr_find_es_products

Please contact the manufacturer or maintenance personnel of your clothes washer and ask for the water factor (WF) of the highest cycle.



Front-Loading Washers

Front-loading clothes washers have a door in the front.

Top-Loading Washers

Top-loading washing machines have a door on the top. Please contact the manufacturer or maintenance personnel of your clothes washer and ask for the water factor (WF) of the highest cycle.



Washer-Extractors

Washer-extractors and dedicated washers are very large and have a door in the front. Please contact the manufacturer or maintenance personnel of your clothes washer and ask for the water factor (WF) of the highest cycle.

GENERAL OUTDOOR

Low-Volume Irrigation (Drip)

Drip irrigation uses small emitters to deliver small amounts of water directly to plants.



Low-Volume Irrigation (Microspray)

Microsprays are small nozzles that spray water over a small area.



Low-Volume Irrigation (Bubbler)

Bubblers are emitters that deliver a moderate amount of water over a small area.



GENERAL OUTDOOR

Rain Sensors

A rain sensor is a device that is connected to an irrigation system to shut off watering when it is raining. It is usually attached to an eave or rain gutter.



Soil Moisture Sensors

A soil moisture sensor is a device that is connected to an irrigation system to shut off watering when the soil is wet. It is placed in the soil with the landscaping.



Irrigation Controller

Irrigation controllers are devices that control irrigation system run times automatically. Some are simple timers and some use weather-based data.

