

## EPA WaterSense®

*WaterSense is a voluntary partnership program of the U.S. EPA with the goal of protecting the future of the U.S. water supply. By promoting and enhancing the market for water-efficient products and services, WaterSense makes every drop count by leveraging relationships with key utility, manufacturer and retail partners across the U.S.*

In March 2017, the White House proposed substantial cuts to the EPA's budget that would reduce the agency's budget by 31%, shrink the agency's workforce by one-fifth, and eliminate more than 50 programs, including WaterSense. This Fact Sheet highlights the achievements of the WaterSense program, produced with an annual budget of less than \$2 million.

### WaterSense Is Good for American Businesses and American Jobs

- WaterSense fuels **innovation in American manufacturing** and is strongly supported by the plumbing and irrigation industry. WaterSense performance standards and independent certifying process helps start-ups get to market more quickly and helps companies differentiate their products in the marketplace.
- **More than 1,700** manufacturers, retailers and distributors, water and energy utilities, state and local government, non-profit and trade organizations, irrigation training organizations, and home builders strengthen their businesses through partnerships with WaterSense.
- Businesses can **reduce their operating costs and increase resiliency** by updating their facilities with WaterSense-labeled fixtures and appliances.
- Homeowners and businesses can hire any of the **2,200 WaterSense-certified irrigation professionals** to help design, install, and maintain an irrigation system that delivers a healthy landscape while minimizing waste.

### WaterSense Helps Americans Save Money and Provides Choices

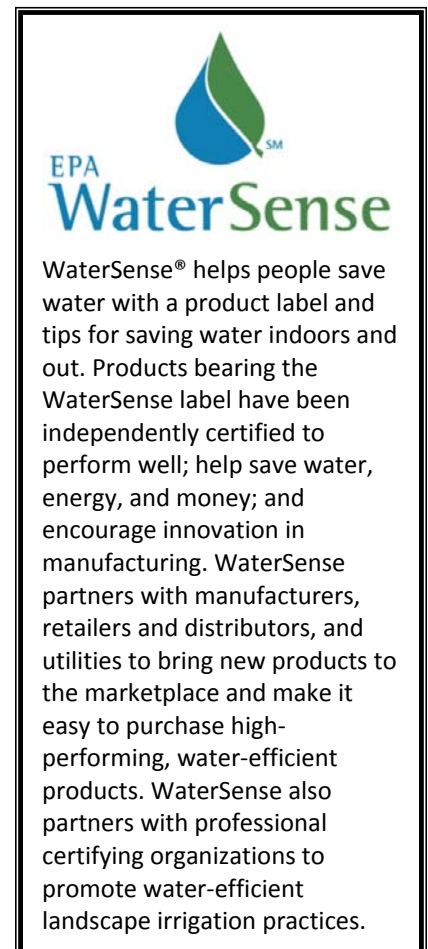
- WaterSense-labelled products have **saved more than \$32.6 billion** on American families' water, sewer, and energy bills.
- Water rates are rising nationwide, putting more pressure on family budgets. The average family spends \$1,100 per year in water costs, but **can save \$350 from retrofitting with WaterSense labeled fixtures** and ENERGY STAR® qualified appliances.
- Thanks to WaterSense and its partners, American families and businesses can buy WaterSense-labeled products that **use at least 20 percent less water** and work as well as or better than standard models.
- Americans can choose from more than **16,000 available models** of WaterSense-labeled products for bathrooms, commercial kitchens and irrigation systems.

### WaterSense Helps Create Thriving and Resilient Communities

- **WaterSense has already saved more than 1.5 trillion gallons of water.** That's more than the amount of water used by all of the households in California for a year!
- **Saving water helps protect our water future.** It means we can serve more people today and secure supplies for future generations. It saves water for emergencies. And, it leaves more water in lakes, rivers and underground aquifers to support water-based recreation and wildlife habitat.

### WaterSense Is a Cost-Effective Investment and Eliminating WaterSense Endangers our Economy, Our Communities and Our Families

- With an **annual budget of \$2 million**, WaterSense produces benefits that far outweigh its costs – strengthening our economy, protecting water for our communities, and helping families maximize their budgets.
- Without WaterSense, **212 billion kilowatt hours of electricity** would not have been saved. That's a year's worth of power to more than 19.4 million American homes.



Data sourced from the 2015 EPA WaterSense Accomplishments Report, [https://www3.epa.gov/watersense/docs/ws\\_accomplishments\\_2015.pdf](https://www3.epa.gov/watersense/docs/ws_accomplishments_2015.pdf)