



## Water Efficiency Research Committee

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**Project Name:** Green Building Support

**Description:**

A large number of voluntary green building initiatives have been initiated by various organizations in the past 10 years, some of which are now becoming or about to become mandatory in certain jurisdictions through legislation and/or regulation. These initiatives relate to both existing and new buildings in all sectors of the built environment (residential, commercial, institutional and industrial). They take the form of guidelines (which are not written in code-adapted language), ANSI standards (code adoptable language), or code changes. Examples are the USGBC's LEED guidelines, the Green Globes-Green Building Initiative (GBI) ANSI standard, the ASHRAE 189.1 ANSI standard for high-performance buildings, ASHRAE 191 ANSI standard for water efficiency, NAHB's ANSI standard for homes, the IAPMO Green Plumbing and Mechanical Code Supplement, and countless other regional and local guidelines for new homes.

All of the above contain some degree of water use efficiency provisions and minimum thresholds or requirements. The Alliance is currently involved in most of the national standards and guidelines committees and continues to provide technical advice to the sponsoring organizations developing these products. As water supply and wastewater treatment issues escalate due to potential effects upon climate change, population growth, and aging infrastructure, it is imperative that the Alliance continue its involvement. This project is intended to increase the current level of participation as more attention is given to water efficiency by the sponsoring organizations.

**Type of Support:** Participation in the committees and organizations creating, amending, and maintaining the guidelines and standards.

**Expected Term to Complete the Research:** Ongoing

**Estimated Annual Cost Threshold:** Low

**Current Status:** Funded, in part, by AWE. Ongoing funding required.