



## MY DROP COUNTS BUSINESS PLEDGE

# Guide for Assessing Plumbing Fixtures in Your Building

The My Drop Counts Business Pledge contains an item that asks building owners to perform an audit of all water fixtures including toilets, urinals, bathroom and kitchen faucets, shower heads, and pre-rinse spray valves. The pledge item also includes identifying their flow rates (pledge item #5). The Metro Water District has compiled these guidelines as one potential tool for administering this audit. If you would like additional information, please contact our Technical Assistance Program at [technicalassistance@northgeorgiawater.com](mailto:technicalassistance@northgeorgiawater.com).

Start with a map of your building that shows all floors or areas in the building that have fixtures. Next, create a spreadsheet that accounts for buildings, rooms and floor numbers where fixtures are located. The spreadsheet should identify each fixture in the room (e.g. 2nd floor, ladies bathroom, 1st toilet right). Follow the steps below to determine the water use of each fixture and record the results in your spreadsheet:



### Toilets

For flushometer-valve toilets, look for a numeric flush volume (e.g. 3.5 gpf, 1.6 gpf, 1.28 gpf) on the flush-valve itself (indicated by the red circle in the image).

*\*A flush volume may be listed on the porcelain of the toilet. Ignore this number because the flush valve is what determines the flush volume.*



For tank-type toilets, look for a numeric flush volume where the toilet tank meets the bowl, on the underside of the tank lid, or on the inside tank walls (indicated by red circles in the image).



If you don't see a numeric flush volume but see the WaterSense label, then your toilet is efficient and it uses 1.28 gpf or less. You can mark this down as 1.28 gpf.

If you don't see a numeric flush volume or a WaterSense label, look for a date of manufacture in the same places you looked for the flush volume, or use your serial number or make and model to search the internet to estimate the age of your toilet. Based on its age, you can use the following flow rates:

- » If your toilet was manufactured before 1994, it likely uses 3.5 gpf or more
- » If your toilet was manufactured between 1994 and 2012, it likely uses 1.6 gpf
- » If your toilet was manufactured after 2012, it likely uses 1.28 gpf

## Urinals

Look for a numeric flush volume (e.g. 1.0 gpf, 0.5 gpf, 0.125 gpf) on top of the flush valve (indicated by the red circle in the images).



If you don't see a numeric flush volume but see the WaterSense label, then your urinal is efficient and it uses 0.5 gpf or less. You can mark this down as 0.5 gpf.



*\*A flush volume may be listed on the porcelain of the toilet. Ignore this number because the flush valve is what determines the flush volume.*

If you don't see a numeric flush volume or a WaterSense label, look for a date of manufacture in the same places you looked for the flush volume or, use your serial number or make and model to search the internet to estimate the age of your urinals. Based on its age, you can use the following flow rates:

- » If your urinal was manufactured before 1994, it likely uses 3.5 gpf or more
- » If your urinal was manufactured between 1994 and 2012, it likely uses 1.0 gpf
- » If your urinal was manufactured after 2012, it likely uses 0.5 gpf

## Bathroom Faucets, Kitchen Faucets, and Pre-Rinse Spray Valves

Look for a numeric flow rate etched in the metal near where the water comes out of the fixture and, for pre-rinse spray valves and showerheads, where the fixture is attached to the water source (indicated by the red circles in the images).



If you don't see a numeric flow rate, then you can test the flow rate with a stopwatch and a flow bag. Please contact us for a free flow bag and instructions.

