



# WaterSense® Labeled Homes



Choosing a home is a big investment for you and your family's future. When you choose a water-efficient home, you're putting a down payment on lower utility costs for your family, while also investing in a home with high-performing products and efficient systems. The WaterSense program is making it easy to identify homes that save both water and energy. WaterSense labeled homes are third-party certified to meet EPA's water efficiency and performance criteria.

Residential water use accounts for more than half of the publicly supplied water in the United States. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) established WaterSense to protect the future of the nation's water supply and to promote water-efficient products and services with a simple, easy-to-identify label.

Homes built to meet EPA's specification can earn the WaterSense label. EPA criteria include WaterSense labeled plumbing fixtures, efficient hot water delivery systems, water-smart landscape design, and other features. WaterSense labeled homes are third-party certified to meet these criteria, giving residents confidence that the home will really save water.

## HOW CAN HOMES SAVE WATER?

Compared to a traditional home, a WaterSense labeled home can help a family of four reduce its water use by as much as 50,000 gallons per year—that's equivalent to the amount of water needed to wash more than 2,000 loads of laundry. In addition to WaterSense labeled plumbing fixtures, these new homes include ENERGY STAR® certified dishwashers and clothes washers, if those appliances are installed when the home is built.



San Diego, California  
(Courtesy H.G. Fenton Company)



Colorado Springs, Colorado  
(Courtesy EV Studio Planning, LLC)

WaterSense labeled homes also incorporate a hot water distribution system that decreases the amount of time it takes for hot water to reach the faucet or shower—so residents don't waste time, energy, and thousands of gallons waiting for hot water to reach the tap or tub.

Outdoors, builders will use EPA's Water Budget Tool to plan and develop a water-smart landscape. WaterSense labeled homes also feature WaterSense labeled irrigation controllers if an irrigation system is installed.

## MOVE INTO AN EFFICIENT HOME

Builders interested in constructing WaterSense labeled single-family or multi-family homes can join the WaterSense program as partners and receive tools to support their efforts. Builders then work with an EPA-approved Licensed Certification Provider (LCP) or Home Certification Organization (HCO) and one of its trained WaterSense home verifiers to confirm that the homes meet the WaterSense specification.

To learn more about the WaterSense® new homes program or to find a WaterSense® builder partner near you, visit [www.epa.gov/watersense](http://www.epa.gov/watersense).