

Drops & Watts: You Can't Have One Without the Other

Many Americans know about the importance of saving energy, and many know about the importance of saving water. But few know about the direct connection between saving both. We turn on the bathroom lights and the shower without realizing how closely related water and electricity are to each other.

The truth is vast amounts of energy are used to pump, treat, deliver, and heat our nation's water.



Approximately 4 percent of the nation's electricity consumption is used moving or treating water and wastewater. Considerable amounts of energy also go to heat water for bathing, shaving, cooking, and cleaning our homes, dishes, and clothes. In homes with electric water heaters, one-quarter of the households' electricity is used to heat water.

Given how closely related saving water is to saving energy, one of the best ways to save energy across the country and in our own homes is to use water more efficiently.

How Can We Start Saving?

One of the simplest ways to save both water and energy is to install water-efficient plumbing fixtures. The WaterSense label makes it easy to identify toilets, faucets, and accessories that not only save water, but reduce your energy bills. Installing WaterSense labeled faucet aerators in your bathrooms, for example, costs just a few dollars but could save you enough electricity to dry your hair every day for a year!



There are hundreds of WaterSense labeled toilets and bathroom sink faucets and faucet accessories to choose from. What's more, you can be sure the products will not only save resources, but they will perform to your expectations. WaterSense labeled products

Did You Know?

It also takes water to create energy. Vast amounts of water are used to cool the power plants that generate electricity. In fact, it takes 3,000 to 6,000 gallons of water to power a 60-watt incandescent bulb for 12 hours per day over the course of a year!

must achieve independent, third-party testing and certification to prove they meet EPA's rigorous criteria for both efficiency and performance before they can earn the label.

Look for WaterSense labeled products and start saving both water and energy! For more information, visit www.epa.gov/watersense.



Did You Know?

Saving water saves energy. If 1 percent of American homes replaced older toilets with WaterSense labeled ones, the United States would save enough electricity to power more than 40,000 homes for a month.