



# WATER TIPS

## ADD FLOW RESTRICTORS TO REDUCE FAUCET USAGE

### USAGE

In commercial buildings, bathroom faucets are used an average of 3 times/day/employee. A typical family may run bathroom and kitchen faucets for a total of 20 minutes per day. With standard faucet usage of 2.5 gallons per minute (gpm), or older faucets that use 3.5-5gpm, this can add up to a significant amount of water.

### PRODUCT SOLUTIONS

Adding faucet aerators or flow restrictors to existing or new faucets can dramatically reduce water usage.

Adding a 1.5 gpm restrictor to a 3.5gpm faucet reduces water usage by 57%. The chart below shows potential annual savings for this scenario. Adding a 1.5 gpm restrictor on a 2.5gpm faucet reduces usage by 40%. For less-intensive uses, restricting flow to .5gpm can reduce usage by 77%.

In addition to conserving water, this decreased volume can add up to significant savings on water and sewer bills.

### OTHER STEPS

When purchasing new faucets, select models that use less than the mandated 2.5gpm or have optional flow restrictors.

In commercial buildings, add sensors to frequently used faucets to reduce duration of use and minimize water waste.

**Water Savings – Adding 1.5gpm Flow Restrictor to Existing 3.5gpm Faucet**

	Commercial, 100 employees		Residential	
	At Existing Flow	Restricted to 1.5	At Existing Flow	Restricted to 1.5
Kitchen sink	3.5 gal/min	1.5 gal/min	3.5 gal/min	1.5 gal/min
Uses	1 use @ 15 sec	1 use @ 15 sec		
Bathroom	3.5 gal/min	1.5 gal/min	3.5 gal/min	1.5 gal/min
Uses	3 uses @ 15 sec	3 uses @ 15 sec	20 min/day comb.	20 min/day comb.
Daily Usage	350 gallons	150 gallons	140 gallons	60 gallons
Annual Usage	127,750 gallons	54,750 gallons	51,100 gallons	21,900 gallons
	<b>73,000 gal/yr saved</b>		<b>29,200 gal/yr saved</b>	

For information on local plumbers, contact NAIOP at [naiopnm@spinn.net](mailto:naiopnm@spinn.net) or HBA at [kmartinez@hbacnm.com](mailto:kmartinez@hbacnm.com).

