



Hints For Homeowners



Flush With Success: The Benefits Of High Efficiency Toilets

(NAPSA)—A growing number of homeowners are looking for ways to “go green,” and for many that includes finding ways to conserve water.

That’s one reason that a buzzword in toilets today is “efficiency.” Consumers want an efficient appliance that gets the intended job done and uses less water—two very important goals. It has also helped to create the demand for what are known as high efficiency toilets.

High Efficiency Toilets

There are three different technologies available today for high efficiency toilets (HET) that are designed to help homeowners save water. Which one you choose depends on your personal needs and the condition of the plumbing system in your house.

The choices include:

- The traditional gravity toilet now only flushes on 1.28 gallons per flush (gpf), saving 20 percent more water compared to the current requirement of 1.6 gpf. This technology uses a siphon to “pull” water through the trapway.

- The dual-flush toilet is designed with two options for flushing volume; one button is for a full flush (1.6 gpf), which is meant for solid waste, and another button for a partial flush, 1.0 gpf for liquid waste. The intent here is for the user to understand when a partial



Many homeowners are turning to high efficiency toilets as a way to conserve water without sacrificing comfort or effectiveness.

flush will get the job done.

Otherwise, if the user always uses the full flush, there is no water savings. This, too, uses siphon technology.

- An alternative system is a 1.0 gpf pressure-assist toilet. This system is used the same way as a conventional system; however, there is a vessel inside the tank designed to use water line pressure to “push” water through the trapway.

This source of energy (the water line pressure) is delivered to your home from your local water

municipality or well pump system. This pressure-flush system delivers the water to the bowl at three times the standard flow rate of the siphon-driven technology, enhancing the flush performance. Although it is a very quick flush, its performance may be perceived as louder.

Other Factors

All these systems, used correctly, are designed to save water, which saves money. Understanding how they work is only part of the information required for making the right choice for your home. You also need to assess your needs and the plumbing system in your home.

Here are some additional ideas that homeowners should consider when selecting a system:

- Are there children in the home?
- Are there household members with special needs?
- Is there a bathroom that is typically used by guests?
- Does the house have older drains or drains with long horizontal runs?

All these questions can cause potential problems for conventional siphon fixtures when your goal is to further reduce water consumption. In many of these cases, pressure-assist technology should be considered.

To learn more, visit www.flushmate.com or call (800) 533-3460.