

Replacing Your Old Toilet - How Can You Afford To Wait?

Nearly one third of the water used in your home is for flushing toilets – your biggest source of indoor water consumption! Toilets also happen to be a major source of wasted water due to leaks. For every cubic meter of water you buy, you pay again to treat that same cubic meter as sewage. There are many ways to save on water used by your toilet - including reducing the number of times you flush per day, (eg. by not putting garbage in the toilet), finding and repairing any leaks you have, and most importantly, retrofitting older, water wasting toilets in your home with *good* water efficient models.

Homeowners who were disappointed with the performance of early low-flow toilets in the 1980s and 1990s will be much happier with they find on the market today. They can flush twice as much waste — 500 grams or more — with half as much water. But while some low-flow models work well, others do not. New designs have improved the performance of many models, but some still do not flush thoroughly. How can you navigate all of the different models on the market to find the ones that work best with less? Look no further than *WaterSense*.

Water use in the home



Source: Environment Canada

What Are WaterSense Labeled Toilets?



The WaterSense label is used on toilets that are certified by independent laboratory testing to meet rigorous criteria for both performance and efficiency. Only high-efficiency toilets that complete the third-party certification process can earn the WaterSense label.

Water efficient toilets are now easily accessible and inexpensive. Due to falling prices of 6 L, 4.8 L and dual flush (6 & 3 L) toilets in recent years, water bill savings support the replacement of inefficient 13 and 20 L toilets without the need for expensive municipal rebate programs. Over the years, the price of water efficient toilets has been reduced as low as \$100 due to increased demand, thanks to water friendly legislation and higher standards, such as WaterSense.



**For more information on WaterSense labelled toilets Check out:
brantford.ca/waterconservation**

Low-Flow Toilet Payback Period

Assuming the toilet you want to replace is losing 20 litres per flush, replacement with a low-flow toilet for use by an average size family at a purchase price of \$200 will take less than a year to recoup the money. After that, it's all just money in the bank!

The table below demonstrates potential water savings of an average household in Brantford over the course of one year, if old 20 litre toilets are replaced with high-efficiency models:

Toilet Flush Volume	20+ Litre Toilet	13 Litre Toilet	6 Litre Toilet	4.8 Litre Toilet	3 Litre Toilet
*Water use per person per day	100 Litres	65 Litres	30 Litres	24 Litres	15 Litres
Water use per household per year	88 m ³	57 m ³	26 m ³	21m ³	13 m ³
Annual Water Volume Saved for Switching to Low-Flow Toilets from 20 Litre Toilets:			62 m ³ /year	67 m ³ /year	75 m ³ /year
Annual Savings from your 2014 Water bill including savings on sewer charges:			\$214/year	\$230/year	\$258/year
Payback period for average family at purchase price of \$200:			11.2 months	10.5 months	9.2 months

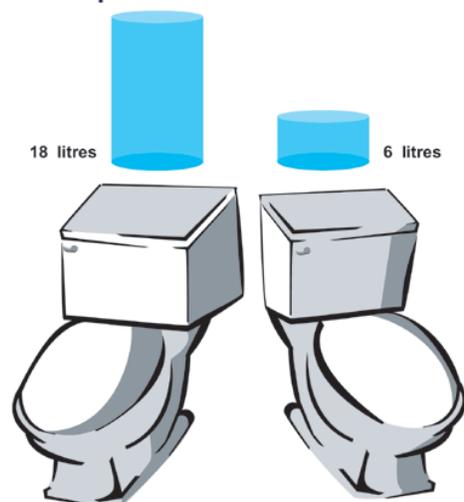
***NOTE:** The above figures are estimations based on assuming an average of 2.4 persons per household are each flushing 5 times per day on average. Actual savings may vary depending on the true volumes flushed.

Without proper maintenance, even a water efficient toilet may start to consume more water over time. If the flapper is not replaced regularly, it can deteriorate and the toilet may quietly run. To test your toilet for leaks, follow the steps below:

1. Remove the tank cover from your toilet.
2. Place a drop or two of food colouring into the tank during a period of idle use.
3. Observe if any coloured water has seeped into toilet bowl after 15 to 30 minutes.

If you observe the added food colouring in the toilet bowl, without having flushed the toilet, you have a leak! This is an excellent opportunity to replace your toilet with a water efficient model, or to replace the flapper or fill valve.

Water use per flush – conventional vs. ULV toilet



For more information, check our website:
Brantford.ca/waterconservation