

## News from the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services



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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

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### **DES Partners with EPA's WaterSense Program**

Concord, NH – The New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services recently signed a partnership agreement with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's WaterSense program. By forming a partnership with the WaterSense program, DES agrees to promote water efficiency and water efficient products in New Hampshire. DES is one of the first state agencies in the country to form a partnership with the program.

WaterSense is a voluntary public-private partnership program sponsored by EPA to promote water efficiency products and services in the marketplace. The WaterSense label is the symbol for products and services that meet EPA criteria for water efficiency and performance. The label will help consumers recognize products and programs that save water without sacrificing performance or quality.

High efficiency toilets were the first product to undergo specification and testing through the WaterSense program. Toilets using less than 1.3 gallons per flush and meet performance standards during independent laboratory testing will receive the WaterSense label. Consumers should look for WaterSense-labeled high efficiency toilets at their local home improvement store this summer. Faucets and faucet accessories are scheduled to be tested next. The anticipated maximum flow rate for these products is 1.5 gallons per minute.

In addition to identifying water efficient products, irrigation professionals can become certified through the WaterSense program. Irrigation professionals can show their commitment to water efficiency through certification and distinguish themselves from the competition.

More information about the WaterSense program may be found at [www.epa.gov/watersense/](http://www.epa.gov/watersense/). Please visit the DES website at [www.des.state.nh.us/h2o\\_conservation.htm](http://www.des.state.nh.us/h2o_conservation.htm) for other water conservation tips and advice.

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