

Medford Water Commission – TOILETS



If your house has a toilet manufactured before 1980, it probably uses around 5 gallons of water every time it is flushed. The standard since 1994 is 1.6 gallons per flush (gpf). Now there are new [WaterSense[®]](#) certified toilets available that use only 1.28 gpf. WaterSense toilets not only meet high water efficiency standards, but they perform well too.

While replacing an old toilet will provide the most water savings, there are also things you can do to improve the water efficiency of an older model:

- Fill a plastic container with water and some pebbles and place it in the toilet tank. You'll use that much less water every time you flush.
- Replace the toilet's flapper or other internal components with water saving parts.
- Occasionally check for toilet leaks by adding about 10 drops of food coloring to the tank. If the toilet is leaking, color will appear in the bowl within 15-20 minutes.
- Avoid flushing trash that could easily be thrown away in a wastebasket.