



7 Favorites: The Best Water-Conserving Toilets

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Trying to reduce your household water consumption? Look no further than your toilet, the No. 1 water guzzler. One of the all-time thirstiest fixtures, toilets are estimated to be responsible for upwards of 30 percent of household water consumption. And those predating the 1992 federal restrictions of 1.6 gallons per flush (gpf) are especially inefficient. Thanks to technological advances, a new breed of toilets offers increased efficiency and performance (early adopters may still wince at the less-than-stellar flushing capabilities of the first low-flow models). Replacing an older model with a high-efficiency [WaterSense](#)-certified toilet will reduce water consumption and lower your costs.

We've singled out five notable toilets that meet EPA flushing guidelines of 1.28 gpf or less, and use at least 20 percent less water than the celebrated 1.6 gpf models. This is especially important if you live in California, which now limits toilets sold in the state to the 1.28 gallons per flush standard. See Sarah's [21 Tips: How to Save Water, One Drop at a Time](#) for more ways to dry up your household.



Above: The [Niagara Conservation Stealth Toilet](#) has a 0.8 gallons per flush operation, saving 37 percent more water than regular high-efficiency toilets. Made of vitreous china, this ultra-high-efficiency toilet uses a vacuum-assist mechanism for flush performance with very low noise; \$173 (for the round seat model) at [Plumber Surplus](#).

Ready to fully embrace modern toilet technology? Having recently visited Japan, home of high-tech toilets, I am seriously considering investing in [The Best Seat in the House](#).

N.B.: This post is an update; the original story ran on February 26, 2013, as part of our [Bath & Spa](#) issue.

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