

If you are considering installing new appliances, why not purchase water and energy efficient products?

When purchasing any large appliance, you have to take two costs into consideration: the initial purchase cost and the annual operating cost. While efficient models can cost more, most will pay for themselves in yearly operational savings over a one to five year period.

Actual savings for each new appliance depend on the efficiency of your former model, the cost of the new replacement and the price of your water and energy.

For more information on products and brands, visit the websites listed on the back of this handout.

And remember, if you do purchase a new appliance, remember to recycle your old one.

## Helpful Websites

For more information on the Energy Star program, visit their US website at:  
[www.energystar.gov](http://www.energystar.gov)

For a list of Canadian Energy Star recommended products, visit:  
[www.oeenrcan.gc.ca/energystar/english/consumers/products.cfm?PrintView=N&Text=N](http://www.oeenrcan.gc.ca/energystar/english/consumers/products.cfm?PrintView=N&Text=N)

To find out where to recycle your old appliances and fixtures, visit the Regional District of Nanaimo recycling database at:  
[www.rdn.bc.ca/cms.asp?wpID=412](http://www.rdn.bc.ca/cms.asp?wpID=412)

For more information on low flow toilets visit the Region of Durham Ontario's website:  
[www.region.durham.on.ca/toilettest/](http://www.region.durham.on.ca/toilettest/)



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Toll Free 1-877-607-4111  
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Town of Qualicum Beach

## Efficient Appliances

toilets, dishwashers, and laundry



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Working Towards a Sustainable Future

# Energy Star

## The Basic Information



*If you are considering purchasing a new appliance, look for the energy star symbol; you will save on both energy and water.*

### What is Energy Star?

The Energy Star symbol was created by the USA Environmental Protection Agency in 1992 and adopted worldwide to designate efficient products. Over 50 different products are now Energy Star approved; beating minimum efficiency rates while providing maximum quality. In Canada, the symbol works with the EnerGuide system requiring all major appliances to outline yearly energy usage.

### Clothes Washer

Energy Star laundry machines use 50% less energy and 30 - 50% less water to wash your clothes than inefficient models. As the second largest water user in the home, clothes washers have been redesigned with conservation in mind. Some models even offer water reuse features and low water cycles. When purchasing an energy star model, which come in both front and top load washers, look for a water factor below 9.0.

### Dishwasher

Energy Star dishwashers use 25% less energy and smart sensors regulate water use based on load size. With many dishwashers, old and new, 80% of the energy used goes towards heating water, so remember to only wash full loads.



## In The Washroom

### Low-Flow Toilet

Toilets consume 30% of household water use. Pre-1985 toilets can use up to 26 litres of water per flush while low flow models only use 6 litres. When low flow toilets were first on the market, the technology was not ready and consumer satisfaction was low. However, recently companies have been redesigning the whole toilet, from tank to bowl, to improve performance while using less water.

### Dual Flush Toilet

Dual flush toilets are an easy way to conserve even more water. With two buttons, one for 3 litres and one for 6 litres, the dual flush models can save an additional 30% of water used.

### Efficient Showerhead

Installing a new, efficient showerhead is a great way to update your bathroom. Current models work effectively using 9 litres of water per minute, saving water and water heating costs. Consumer satisfaction with showerheads that use less than 9 litres a minute depends on personal preference.

## Retrofit

**Make the most of what you have**

*You can retrofit existing appliances to become more efficient.*

### Toilet

If you would like to reduce the amount of water your toilet uses per flush without replacing it, insert a weighted plastic container into the tank. Do not use bricks as they tend to disintegrate with prolonged water exposure and can damage your toilet. The weighted container (a 2 litre bottle full of water) will displace water and reduce flush volumes.

### Rain Sensor

If you have an automated irrigation system, consider retrofitting it with a rain sensor. These inexpensive products work by shutting off your system if there has been significant rainfall.

### Faucet Aerators

Faucet aerators can be inserted into most faucets and work by partially blocking water flow. If you do install one, remember to clean it every year.

