Housekeeping

- Attendees will be automatically muted upon entering the call.

- At specific times during the meeting, participants will be able to ask questions and provide feedback:
  - To create a “virtual line,” please type your name in the chat window of GoToMeeting.
  - Once your name is called, you can mute/unmute your line by pressing *6.
  - You may also type your question in the chat box in the lower right corner of the screen and it will be answered in the order it was received.

- Please do not place the call on hold:
  - If you need to take a call, please disconnect from the conference line and call back when you are finished.
Meeting Objectives

- Explain the specification development process
- Review the draft specification
- Gather input on a path forward
BACKGROUND
What is WaterSense

- Voluntary partnership and labeling program launched by EPA in 2006

- Simple way for consumers to identify products and homes that use 20% less water and perform well
  - Specification for single family homes added in December, 2009

- Backed by EPA’s efficiency and performance criteria

- Independently certified
Specification Development Process

- **October 21, 2011**: Notification of Intent
- **March 22, 2012**: Draft Specification
- **Final Specification & Clarifications**
- **Certification & Labeling**
EPA relies on industry and other interested parties with experience in:

- Design
- Manufacture
- Building
- Installation

EPA and its stakeholders

- Define performance attributes
- Establish performance and efficiency levels
- Develop procedures to evaluate the attributes
1. Technical analysis and market research

• How water-efficient products & homes are differentiated from their standard counterparts
• Existence of widely accepted performance and efficiency standards/specifications
• Water and cost savings from national adoption of the water-efficient product
• Environmental impacts
• Level of stakeholder support
2. NOI to develop a specification

- Identify data gaps and research needs to stakeholders
- Solicit input and request further data on outstanding technical issues
- Begin working with stakeholders to define
  - Important performance attributes and evaluation methods (if none exist)
  - Correlation between performance and user satisfaction
  - Water efficiency and performance levels
- Work may be done through consensus-based standards development groups or through less formal stakeholder groups
3. Draft specification

- Issued when technical questions and information gaps are adequately addressed
- To the extent possible, based on existing standards and specifications
- Opportunity for formal public comment on specific product evaluation criteria and performance levels
- Released with a supporting statement
  - Provides rationale and justification for water efficiency and performance criteria
  - Indicates water savings potential
  - Describes cost-effectiveness for consumers
4. Final specification

- Consider and resolve comments received on draft specification
  - Publish compilation of public comments
  - Publish public meeting presentation and summary
  - Publish response to public comments
  - Revise supporting statement to reflect changes

- Establish third-party infrastructure for certifying products/homes to meet specification criteria for water-efficiency and performance
DRAFT SPECIFICATION FOR WATERSENSE LABELED NEW HOMES (VERSION 1.1)
Why Are Modifications Necessary?

- Home building market is significantly different today than when the specification development process originally began
- New product technologies are available in the market place
- Lessons learned from the first two years of labeling new homes can be used to fine tune the criteria based on feedback
- Opportunity to expand the program to new builders and stakeholders
Proposed Modifications

- **Scope**
  - Allow homes in multi-family buildings to earn the WaterSense label
  - Associated changes to various technical criterion, inspection, and certification elements

- Update product requirements
- Adjust landscape design criteria
The draft specification applies the label to individual homes/units.

- Maintains a consistent approach for the inspection/sampling protocol and certification system

- Applies certain requirements to specific common-use areas that tend to be large contributors to total water use
  - Landscape design
  - Common use laundry rooms
  - Education & maintenance
  - Irrigation
# WaterSense® Labeled New Home Inspection Checklist

## Site Information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lot Number/Street Address/Unit Number</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City, State, Zip</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Inspection Information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Information</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Builder Name</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inspector Name</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Time Started</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Time Completed</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Video Information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Video Information</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Video taping of separate site audits is optional and may be multiple locations for a single community, subdivision, or all homes/units.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Audit Information

- **Builders Inspector Name:**
- **Home Address:**
- **Inspection Information:**
- **Date:**
- **Time Started:**
- **Time Completed:**

## Building Information

- **Is the home being measured at a single-family building or a multi-family building?**
- **Is the home being measured at an existing multi-family building?**
- **Is the home being measured at a new multi-family building?**

## Evaluation of Multi-Family Buildings

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Evaluation</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Building Code</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Energy Star</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Water Efficiency</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Green Building</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Site Information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Site Information</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Site Address</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Additional Information for Units Covered by a Sampling Protocol in Multi-Family Buildings

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Unit Number</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Unit Number</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Home of pre-purchase loan for the building this unit is located in?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unit is to be occupied prior to final building inspection?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Equipment Information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Equipment Information</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Equipment Operating Manual</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Equipment Operating Manual</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Equipment Operating Manual</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

## Certification Information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Certification Information</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Certification Information</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Conclusion

- **Inspector Name:**
- **Company:**
- **Certification Information:**
- **Data:**

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*Document signed by the inspector and home owner.*

**EPA WaterSense**

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*Draft Version 1.1* | 1 | March 22, 2013

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*Document signed by the inspector and home owner.*

**EPA WaterSense**

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*Draft Version 1.1* | 1 | March 22, 2013
Questions or comments?
Proposed modifications

SCOPE & MULTI-FAMILY
Scope

Current scope applies to:
- Newly constructed single-family homes and townhomes, three stories or less in size

Draft scope:
Newly constructed homes that are
- Single family homes and townhomes
OR
- Residential units in multi-family buildings three stories or less in size
OR
- Residential units in multi-family buildings, including mixed-use buildings, that have independent heating, cooling, and hot water systems separate from other units
Why allow homes in multi-family buildings to pursue the label?

- Requests from partners
- The multi-family building industry has shown greater growth in recent years
- Supports other agency priorities
Service Pressure

Current:
Requires static service pressure to be at 60 psi or less through
- Use of a pressure-regulating valve
- Documentation from the public water supplier

Draft:
Clarifies that the pressure requirement applies to water delivered inside of the unit
Hot Water Delivery

Current:
Requires systems to be designed to store no more than .5 gallons between the source of hot water and the furthest fixture
- Requires that circulation pumps be demand initiated
- Prohibits the use of timer and temperature triggered systems

Draft:
Maintains this requirement
**Current:**
Requires clothes washers (if included) to be ENERGY STAR qualified with a water factor of less than 6.

**Draft:**
Clarifies that clothes washers in common use laundry rooms must also meet this requirement.
Draft:
Requires that each unit in a multi-family building be individually metered or equipped with an alternate technology capable of tracking water use and making the information available to the residents of the specific unit.
Landscape Criteria

Current:
Requires that the front yard be landscaped and applies criteria to any other area improved upon by the builder.

Draft:
In multi-family buildings, clarifies that the landscape criteria (section 4) applies to all improved upon common use areas.

Excludes from landscapable area:
- Areas reserved for the private use of a particular resident (deeded, limited-use common elements, etc.)
Swimming Pools

Current:
- Pools are factored into the landscape design

Draft:
Common use pools in multi-family buildings are not included in the landscape design plans but must be:
- Independently metered/submetered
- Have gutter or grate collection system
- Have sorptive media or cartridge filtration
Current:
Single family home irrigation systems (if installed) are not required to be submetered

Draft:
Irrigation systems in multi-family buildings servicing common use areas must be independently metered/submetered
Scope & Multi-Family

Questions or comments?
Proposed modifications

PRODUCT REQUIREMENTS
Showerheads

**Current:**
Allows for a maximum combined flow rate of 2.5 gpm
- Larger compartments can receive an additional 2.5 gpm if they meet certain size requirements

**Draft:**
Requires that all showerheads be WaterSense labeled
- Larger compartments can receive an additional 2.0 gpm if they meet certain size requirements
**Irrigation Controller**

**Current:**
Requires that irrigation systems (if installed) include a controller with multiple feature requirements

**Draft:**
Requires that if a weather based irrigation controller is used, it must be WaterSense labeled

- Feature requirements have been adjusted slightly to reflect changes in the weather based irrigation controller specification
- Sensor based irrigation controllers may continue to be used provided they meet all feature requirements
- An enforcement date for requiring that weather based irrigation controllers be labeled will be established based on discussions with stakeholder, manufacturers, and certifying bodies
Questions or comments?
Proposed modifications

LANDSCAPE DESIGN
Landscape Design

Current:
Two options for complying with landscape requirements:

- Option 1: Regionally-based allocations determined using EPA’s water budget tool
- Option 2: Maximum turf allocation determined using a set percentage (40%) of the landscaped area

Draft:
Requires use of the water budget tool
Landscape Design

Water Budget Tool:
- Allows for more flexibility in landscape design
- Can be applied to a broader range of landscapes
- Takes into account local weather patterns
- Rewards projects for making more efficient design and irrigation choices
Landscape Design

Water Budget Tool:

- After two years of use the water budget tool is more familiar and comfortable to many stakeholders
- Now available in easier to use online format
- Has been used in the vast majority of WaterSense labeled homes to date
- Harmonized with the LEED for Homes 2012 rating system
Landscape Design Requirements

Questions or comments?
Additional Information

- **WaterSense Information**
  - Web site: [www.epa.gov/watersense](http://www.epa.gov/watersense)
  - Future updates: [http://www.epa.gov/watersense/new_homes/homes_final.html](http://www.epa.gov/watersense/new_homes/homes_final.html)

- **For questions or to submit technical information:**
  - E-mail: watersense-homes@epa.gov
  - Toll-free Helpline: (866) WTR-SENS
    - 1(866) 987-7367