



WaterSense Labeled Homes Program

Home Certification Organization: CHEERS

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) WaterSense® program works with Home Certification Organizations (HCOs) to certify and issue the WaterSense label to homes that meet EPA's criteria for both water efficiency and performance.

What's in a WaterSense Labeled Home?

All WaterSense labeled homes are independently certified to meet EPA's Mandatory Checklist and be at least 30 percent more water-efficient than a typical new home.



MANDATORY CHECKLIST TO ENSURE QUALITY PERFORMANCE

LEAKS

- Pressure-loss test on all water supplies detects no leaks
- Free of visible leaks from all fixtures and appliances at point of use or point of connection to water distribution system
 - Toilets
 - Bathroom faucets
 - Showerheads
 - Bathroom tub faucets, i.e., tub spouts
 - Kitchen and other sink faucets
 - Other fixtures or appliances (e.g., water heaters, clothes washers, dishwashers)

WATERSENSE LABELED PLUMBING FIXTURES

- Toilets
- Bathroom sink faucets
- Showerheads



EFFICIENCY REQUIREMENT

VERIFIED EFFICIENCY

- At least **30 percent** more water-efficient than a typical new home (based on national standards and common design and landscape practices).

What is a Home Certification Organization's Role in Labeling Homes for WaterSense?

Within the WaterSense Labeled Homes Program, HCOs are responsible for quality assurance, verifier training and oversight, home verification protocols, and reporting. HCOs also maintain their own certification method (reviewed and approved by EPA) to evaluate a home's water efficiency and determine whether it meets EPA's efficiency requirement. This **WaterSense Approved Certification Method (WACM)** can include features such as water-efficient fixtures, appliances, and systems (e.g., irrigation and hot water delivery) that builders can include in homes to meet the efficiency requirement. Keep reading to learn more.



How Builders Can Get Involved:

Are you a builder ready to get started? Partner with WaterSense and visit www.epa.gov/watersense/watersense-labeled-homes to learn more.

HCO Profile: CHEERS

As California's largest Home Energy Rating System (HERS) Provider, CHEERS operates the central data verification platform where building industry professionals register projects for California energy code (Title 24), state, and federal efficiency program compliance. From single-employee shops to the nation's largest builders, more than 60,000 registered users utilize CHEERS to implement California energy and water efficiency programs.

Method for Labeling Homes: CHEERS WaterSense

CHEERS WaterSense is a system for rating whole-house water efficiency that includes both indoor and outdoor water uses. It is a performance-based program that requires a score of 70 or lower to earn the WaterSense label.

Scope

CHEERS WaterSense scope includes new single-family homes in California.



Alignment With Other Certification Programs

As a California Energy Commission approved HERS Provider and EPA ENERGY STAR® Partner, CHEERS' addition of WaterSense is a natural complement to CHEERS HERS Raters, who serve energy and water efficiency-minded builders.

Information for Verifiers

All CHEERS HERS Raters are eligible to conduct WaterSense field verifications after completing CHEERS' online WaterSense training program. This training is provided by CHEERS at no cost.

For more information about CHEERS, visit: www.cheers.org/watersense/



EPA-832-F-22-009A
APRIL 2022