

## Partner Guidance on the Transition to Version 2.0 of the WaterSense® Specification for Tank-Type Toilets

In May 2024, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) published Version 2.0 of the *WaterSense Specification for Tank-Type Toilets* (Version 2.0). Version 2.0 will take effect on July 1, 2025. Dual-flush toilets manufactured after June 30, 2025, with a full-flush volume of more than 1.28 gallons per flush (gpf) will no longer be permitted to bear the WaterSense label. While these products will no longer be eligible for the voluntary WaterSense label, they will remain legal for sale in the United States under federal law.<sup>1</sup>

To facilitate a smooth transition, EPA is publishing this document to clarify for program partners and other stakeholders<sup>2</sup> the certification status of impacted dual-flush tank-type toilets before, during, and after the transition to Version 2.0. It is EPA's hope that utilities and providers of rebates or other incentives offer flexibility in recognizing previously labeled models for a period of time following the effective date of the specification to allow time for sales of previously labeled models from manufacturer and retailer inventories.

### Certification Date and Status

The WaterSense label is applied to eligible products at the date of manufacture. Once a tank-type toilet has earned the WaterSense label, the certification status will not be rescinded from that product at any point, regardless of when it is sold to consumers or installed.

If a dual-flush tank-type toilet with a full-flush volume greater than 1.28 gpf has earned the WaterSense label under a previous version of the specification and was manufactured on or before June 30, 2025, the following applies:

- The toilet can be packaged and marked with the WaterSense label.
- The toilet can remain in retail circulation with the label on packaging until it is sold.
- The model will remain on the WaterSense Product Search Tool for six months following the effective date (i.e., until December 31, 2025). This will allow incentive providers or consumers to confirm the labeled status of products that may still be available for sale.
- The model will be removed from the WaterSense Product Search Tool after December 31, 2025. However, EPA can still confirm the prior labeled status of models upon inquiries from consumers, utilities, or other interested parties, even after December 31, 2025, when the dual-flush toilet model is removed from the WaterSense Product Search Tool. Contact the WaterSense Helpline ([watersense@epa.gov](mailto:watersense@epa.gov)) to inquire about the labeled status of a model.

If a dual-flush tank-type toilet with a full-flush volume greater than 1.28 was manufactured on or after July 1, 2025, the following applies:

- The toilet will not be eligible to earn the WaterSense label.
- The toilet cannot be packaged or marked with the WaterSense label.

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<sup>1</sup> Individual states and localities may have stricter requirements than U.S. law.

<sup>2</sup> This guidance is aimed at utility and retailer/distributor partners. More detailed information for manufacturers can be found in the Transition Agreement on the [WaterSense website](#).

- The toilet is still legal for sale in the United States under federal law.

During the six-month period between July 1, 2025, and December 31, 2025, EPA expects manufacturers, private labelers, and retailers to update printed and online materials to remove the WaterSense label and associated language for all models that are no longer eligible for the WaterSense label under Version 2.0. EPA will curtail brand-monitoring activities on dual-flush toilets during this six-month period.

By December 31, 2025, manufacturer and retailer inventories of any WaterSense labeled dual-flush toilets with a full-flush volume greater than 1.28 gpf should have been sold. However, if some of these models remain, EPA will not require that manufacturers remove the WaterSense label from their packaging or otherwise destroy products or packaging from the marketplace, and these products can continue to be sold with the label until inventories are depleted.

### **Incentive Programs**

Many utilities and other promotional partners offer rebates or other incentives to consumers who replace an existing, inefficient toilet with a WaterSense labeled model. EPA recognizes some labeled models of dual-flush toilets will lose certification under Version 2.0 and will no longer qualify within these programs. While EPA does not determine the eligibility requirements of these programs, it encourages these programs to offer flexibility throughout the transition period.

As stated previously, dual-flush toilet models with a full-flush volume greater than 1.28 gpf can still bear the WaterSense label up until the specification effective date, so there is potential for these models to be in stocked inventory and available in the marketplace during and shortly after the transition period. Utilities or other promotional partners that operate rebate or incentive programs for WaterSense labeled toilets are encouraged to accept previously labeled models for some amount of time, at their discretion, following December 31, 2025. Even if a model does not appear on the WaterSense Product Search Tool, the WaterSense Helpline ([watersense@epa.gov](mailto:watersense@epa.gov)) is available to assist in confirming whether that model has ever been previously labeled.

EPA's timeline and activities associated with the transition to Version 2.0 that affect retailer, utility, and other promotional partners are summarized in Table 1 on the next page.

**Table 1. Timeline and Activities Associated With the Transition to *WaterSense Specification for Tank-Type Toilets, Version 2.0* Relevant to Retailers, Utilities, and Other Promotional Partners**

Description	Date	Activities
Publication date	May 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>EPA publishes final <i>WaterSense Specification for Tank-Type Toilets, Version 2.0</i>.</li> </ul>
Effective date	July 1, 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>WaterSense Specification for Tank-Type Toilets, Version 2.0</i> takes effect.</li> <li>Dual-flush models that are unable to meet the Version 2.0 specification criteria can no longer bear the WaterSense label.</li> </ul>
Grace period	July 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025	<p>Dual-flush models meeting Version 1 of the specification and manufactured before June 30, 2025:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>can be marked with the WaterSense label;</li> <li>can remain in retail circulation and packed inventories with the label on packaging until it is sold; and</li> <li>will remain on the WaterSense Product Search Tool until December 31, 2025. This is to allow incentive providers or consumers to confirm the labeled status of products that may still be available for sale.</li> </ul>
Discontinue date	December 31, 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All dual-flush models no longer meeting the Version 2.0 specification criteria are removed from the WaterSense Product Search Tool.</li> <li>EPA can still confirm the prior certification status of previously labeled models.</li> </ul>