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From: Maier, Brent
Sent: Wed 6/22/2016 5:47:21 PM
Subject: U.S. EPA Press Release: 10 Years of EPA's WaterSense Program Results in Savings of More than a Trillion Gallons of Water and Billions on Utility Bills

Dear Colleagues:

The following press release is being issued today by the EPA Region IX press office. If you have questions or need any additional information, please give me a call.

Regards,

Brent Maier
Congressional Liaison
Telephone: 415.947.4256

EPA Environmental News

For Immediate Release: June 22, 2016
Media Contact: Michele Huitric, Huitric.michele@epa.gov, 415-972-3165

10 Years of EPA's WaterSense Program Results in Savings of More than a Trillion Gallons of Water and Billions on Utility Bills

SAN FRANCISCO — Since the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency launched the WaterSense program 10 years ago, Americans have saved $32.6 billion in water and energy costs. WaterSense has also helped save 1.5 trillion gallons of water, which is more than the amount needed to supply all of the homes in California with water for a year.

In the Pacific Southwest, more than 350 utilities, local governments, manufacturers, retailers, distributors, builders, and other organizations have partnered with EPA to produce and promote water-efficient products, programs, and homes.

"WaterSense partners are ambassadors spreading the water-efficiency message," said Tomás Torres, EPA's Water Division Director for the Pacific Southwest. "As we endure a fifth year of drought in the West, it's more important than ever for consumers to choose and use water efficient products."

WaterSense labeled products, which are independently certified to use at least 20 percent less water and perform as well or better than standard models, have been on the market since 2007. Toilets were the first products to be labeled. Since then, more than 16,000 items have been added to the program, including products for residential and commercial bathrooms, commercial kitchens, and outdoor irrigation.

In addition to saving water, WaterSense labeled products save the energy associated

with treating, pumping, and heating water. Since 2006, WaterSense labeled products saved energy equal to the amount used to power 19.4 million homes for a year, while preventing 78 million metric tons of associated greenhouse gas emissions.

Learn more about WaterSense at www.epa.gov/watersense

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Brent Maier

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