

How Low Can We Go With Showerhead Flow In Existing Buildings?



Showerhead Flow Trends – Now Sub 2.0 In All Markets

Consumer market is rapidly moving to 1.8 gpm while conservation/weatherization programs consider targeting 1.25 gpm.



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Most Consumers Don't Want Low Flow Shower Heads

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Sponsored (i)

Shower Head - Rainfall High Pressure 6" - Rain High Flow Fixed Luxury Chrome Showerhead - Removable Water Restrictor -Adjustable Metal Swivel Ball Joint - For the Best Relaxation and Spa by SomovWorld

by Somovworld



POWER SHOWERS

"Power showers are what most participants aspire to owning. When it comes to showers a powerful water flow is important, many participants do not like what they describe as "a trickle / dribble", they want it to be hot and powerful."

NO DESIRE FOR SHOWER EFFICIENCY

"When asked about the possibility of buying water **efficient showers, most participants were not positive**. This is because there is a general feeling that water efficient showers may not be as good in terms of power and therefore effectiveness."

NO WATERSENSE - LOW FLOW PEAKED 10 YR AGO - HIGH PRESSURE GROWTH



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The Anatomy Of A Shower & Key Considerations



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Behavioral

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20% - 30% Of Shower Is Wasted Before Bathing Begins

In 2004 and 2011 papers Jim Lutz at Lawrence Berkeley National Lab indicates that shower warm-up waste falls in the 20% - 30% range.





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~ 6 Minutes Of This BATHING USE

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Structure Drives Behavior – Behavioral Waste

Behavioral waste occurs when bathers use their time comfortably and efficiently while waiting for hot water to reach the shower. Activities include brushing teeth, using the washroom, picking out clothes, drinking coffee ...



71%

do other stuff while waiting for hot water to reach the shower 52%

do more than one thing as part of their warm-up routine

60%

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say routine, not presence of hot water, dictates time spent away from shower

1 MINUTE LONGER than it takes for hot water to arrive

Evolve Technologies: Shower Survey 2008 Lawrence Berkeley National Lab: Lutz 2011"Water And Energy Wasted During Residential Shower Events"

Impact of Lower Flow Rates On Existing Structures

At lower flow rates, 50% - 100% more water must clear the pipe than is actually sitting in the pipe before hot water reaches the shower.





SOURCE: Koeller, J (2007) Residential Hot Water Distribution Potential Best Management Practices.pdf

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Frequent Flow Rates < 1 gpm on Hot Water Line

At lower flow rates, 50% - 100% more water must clear the pipe than is actually sitting in the pipe before hot water reaches the shower.





20 Second Waits Are Becoming 3 Min.

Waits that were 20 seconds in 1990 are rapidly approaching 3 min.



SOURCE: Gary Klein, Estimates for hot water volume to purge 1-2 gallons (1.5gal avg.). Koeller, J (2007) Residential Hot Water Distribution Potential Best Management Practices.pdf

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Structural & Behavioral Solutions

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Reduce Structural Waste & Tighten WaterSense Performance



Evolve ShowerStart TSV

Amazon's Choice for "evolve shower head"

★★★★☆ ✓ 257 customer reviews | 26 answered questions

On Demand Hot Water Pump

Tighten WaterSense Flow Performance

OL CON			
** EPA	Specified Flow	Min @ 45 PSI	Min @ 20 PSI
CURRENT STANDARD	Stated @ 80 PSI	75%	60%
	1.5 gpm	1.12 gpm	.9 gpm
ACHIEVABLE TODAY (WaterSense Test Report Data From Evolve Showerhead)	Stated @ 80 PSI	93%	87%
	1.5 gpm	1.4 gpm	1.3 gpm

- High quality pressure compensating flow regulation is available today less than 13% drop off from 80 – 20 psi.
- Don't allow actual flow rates to drop • below 1.25 gpm



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SHOWER START

Evolve Showerheads SS-2107CP-US Roadrunner II Water-Saving Shower-Head, Chrome Polish ★★★★★ • 95 customer reviews | 11 answered questions



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Conclusion

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