



## City of Woodland 2009 Residential Toilet Rebate Frequently Asked Questions

*The City of Woodland is offering cash rebates for the replacement of older toilets in residences with newer, more efficient toilets.*

### **1) Why should I replace my toilet?**

Water conservation is a State of California priority, especially as we approach another drought year. Toilets manufactured before 1992 use 3.5 to 7 gallons per flush (gpf) or, on average, between 17,000 and 34,000 gallons per year. Newer toilets reduce this water use by one half or more. For this reason, toilet replacement programs are a major focus of California water conservation efforts, and residents and businesses are encouraged to contribute to water savings by replacing inefficient toilets with newer models.

### **2) When does the program begin?**

The program begins on February 18, 2009. Only toilets purchased after this date and prior to December 31, 2009 are eligible.

### **3) How long will rebates be available?**

Rebates will be available until December 31, 2009 or until funds are depleted, whichever comes first. A total of 300 rebates are available, approximately 150 for each of the two types of new toilets described below (ULFTs and HETs) (see #5).

### **4) Who is eligible?**

The rebates are available only for residential toilet replacements. Single or multi-family homes within the Woodland city limits that are served by the City's water system are eligible. Rebates are not available for new construction.

### **5) What toilets are eligible for the rebate?**

Ultra-Low Flush Toilets (ULFTs) and High Efficiency Toilets (HETs) are eligible for the rebate. ULFTs use 1.6 gpf or less while HETs use 1.28 gpf or less. The most significant water and cost savings will be realized by installing a new HET. The high-efficiency toilet market is expanding rapidly. Four technologies have emerged in high-efficiency toilet design: dual-flush, pressure-assist, single-flush gravity, and flushometer valve. Dual-flush and pressure-assist are most common.

### **6) What are the rebate amounts?**

Qualifying residents will receive up to \$125 for replacing a toilet using 3.5 gpf or more (pre-1992) with a new ULFT. A rebate of up to \$175 will be received for replacing a 3.5 gpf toilet or a pre-1995 ULFT with a new HET. Rebate amount will not exceed money spent.

**7) How do I know if my toilet replacement qualifies for a rebate?**

The easiest way to tell is by the age of the toilet. If your toilet was manufactured before 1992, it most likely is not a water efficient model (1.6 gpf or less). If it was manufactured after 1992, it most likely is a water efficient model.

To determine the gallons-per-flush on your toilet, check the toilet's *GPF stamp* located on the toilet bowl rim. Manufacturer dates are usually engraved on the wall of the toilet tank or on the underside of the back inside the tank lid.

**8) How many toilets can I replace?**

There is no limit on replacements for a single-family or multi-family home as long as the toilets meet the other qualifications set out in the rebate application.

**9) Can I install the toilet myself?**

You can install the toilet yourself or hire a licensed contractor.

**10) What expenses are eligible for the rebate?**

Eligible expenses include 1.6-gpf or less tank, bowl, seat, supply line, wax ring, caulking, bolts, bolt covers, tax, and cost of professional installation. Rebates are limited to \$125 for a new ULFT and \$175 for a new HET, as described in #6 above.

**11) Will my toilet installation be verified?**

The City of Woodland is required to inspect 10% of the installations under the rebate program. Submitting a signed application represents agreement to have the City verify the existing toilet and installation of the specified toilet(s) with your accompaniment. City staff may contact you to schedule an inspection of the newly installed and/or old toilets.

**12) How do I apply?**

Check the City of Woodland website under Rebates or call the Water Conservation Coordinator (406-5117) to be sure that rebates are currently available. Purchase and install the new toilet(s). Download the rebate application from the City's website, pick one up at a City display, or obtain one from a local plumber or retailer. Complete the application, sign it, and answer the customer survey. Submit the original receipt and/or plumber's invoice with the price, model and brand of each toilet listed individually.

**13) How is this program funded?**

The City of Woodland has joined in with other local agencies to be part of the Regional Water Authority's Toilet Replacement Program. The Toilet Replacement Program is based on a Department of Water Resources (DWR) Proposition 50 grant. Under the program, approximately half of the rebate funds are to be reimbursed from DWR. The remainder of the funding for Woodland's program comes from the City's Water Enterprise Fund.

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