

March 22, 2018

The Honorable Scott Pruitt
Administrator
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20460

Dear Administrator Pruitt:

The Alliance for Water Efficiency and the undersigned water utilities, manufacturers, distributors, consumer groups, and water efficiency advocates join in urging you to continue to fund EPA's highly successful WaterSense® program, a voluntary public-private partnership that has saved American consumers more than \$46 billion on their water and energy bills since 2006 through the end of 2016.

WaterSense is a voluntary program, not a regulatory one, and it costs less than \$2 million dollars per year to administer. It is universally supported by consumers, manufacturers and the public and private agencies charged with supplying water to American households and businesses. Since its inception in 2006, it has been immensely successful at achieving its goal of reducing water consumption. Through the end of 2016 an estimated 2.1 trillion gallons have been saved using WaterSense-labeled products. To underscore this, a report conducted by the U.S. EPA Office of Inspector General in 2017 found that the WaterSense program adhered to good practices in program management, achieved significant returns on investment, documented its controls on water savings and product performance, and obtained broad partner and consumer support.

WaterSense is Good for American Businesses and American Jobs

- WaterSense fuels innovation in American manufacturing and is strongly supported by the plumbing and irrigation industry. WaterSense performance standards and independent certifying process helps start-ups get to market more quickly and helps companies differentiate their products in the marketplace.
- More than 1,800 manufacturers, retailers and distributors, water and energy utilities, state and local government, non-profit and trade organizations, irrigation training organizations, and home-builders strengthen their businesses through partnerships with WaterSense.
- Businesses can reduce their operating costs and increase resiliency by updating their facilities with WaterSense-labeled fixtures and appliances.
- Homeowners and businesses can hire any of the 2,625 WaterSense-certified irrigation professionals to help design, install, and maintain an irrigation system that delivers a healthy landscape while minimizing waste.

WaterSense Helps Americans Save Money and Provides Choices

- WaterSense-labeled products have saved more than \$46 billion on American consumers' water, sewer, and energy bills.
- Water utilities, many of whom have been facing drought and other supply constraints in recent years, utilize WaterSense certified products as a vital tool that they can promote through conservation outreach and rebate programs, saving ratepayers the expense of each utility certifying water savings of products separately.

- Thanks to WaterSense and its partners, American families and businesses can buy WaterSense-labeled products that use at least 20 percent less water and work as well as or better than standard models.
- Americans can choose from more than 21,000 available models of WaterSense-labeled products for bathrooms, commercial kitchens and irrigation systems.

WaterSense Helps Create Thriving and Resilient Communities

- WaterSense has already saved more than 2.1 trillion gallons of water. That’s more than the amount of water used by all of the households in California for one year!
- Saving water helps protect our water future. It means we can serve more people today and secure supplies for future generations. It saves water for emergencies. And, it leaves more water in lakes, rivers and underground aquifers to support water-based recreation and wildlife habitat.

WaterSense is a Cost-Effective Investment and Eliminating WaterSense Endangers Our Economy and Our Communities

- With an annual budget of \$2 million, WaterSense produces benefits that far outweigh its costs – strengthening our economy, protecting water for our communities, and helping families maximize their budgets.
- Without WaterSense, 284 billion kilowatt hours of electricity would not have been saved. That is one year’s worth of power to more than 26.3 million American homes.

WaterSense Enjoys Broad, Bipartisan Support

- Support has been clearly demonstrated this past year by actions taken in the House and Senate. Both chambers included the language below categorically rejecting the elimination of this important program.
 - “The Committee rejects the proposed elimination of the WaterSense program, and provides not less than the fiscal year 2017 level.” *Senate report, Dept. of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Bill, 2018*
 - “The Committee...rejects the proposed elimination of the WaterSense program.” *H. Rep. 115-238 - Dept. of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Bill, 2018*

Since the WaterSense program has never been specifically authorized by Congress, its modest costs have been paid from discretionary funds available to previous EPA administrators of both parties. We urge you to continue this practice for FY 2019 and beyond, so that this valuable and highly productive partnership between government and the private sector can continue.

Sincerely,

The following 169 national, regional, and local organizations:

Alliance for Water Efficiency
Chicago, IL

AIQUEOUS
Austin, TX

American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy
Washington, DC

American Rivers
Decatur, GA

American Rainwater Catchment Systems Assoc.
Tempe, AZ

American Society of Irrigation Consultants
Royal Oak, MI

American Supply Association
Itasca, IL

American Water Works Association
Denver, CO

Amy Vickers & Associates
Amherst, MA

Apache Junction Water Utilities CFD
Apache Junction, AZ

Aqua Water Supply Corporation
Bastrop, TX

Arizona Municipal Water Users Association
Phoenix, AZ

Arizona Nursery Association
Tempe, AZ

Arizona Water Association
Queen Creek, AZ

Association of Metropolitan Water Agencies
Washington, DC

Athens-Clarke County
Athens, GA

Bay Area Water Supply & Conservation Agency
San Mateo, CA

Best Management Partners
Waterloo, IL

BLH Aqua Technology
San Jose, CA

Boulder Associates
Boulder, CO

Business for Water Stewardship
Portland, Oregon

C&C, Inc.
Seattle, WA

Cahaba River Society
Birmingham, AL

California Water Service
San Joes, CA

Carpinteria Valley Water District
Carpinteria, CA

Center for Water-Energy Efficiency, UC Davis
Davis, CA

Chattahoochee Riverkeeper
Atlanta, GA

City of Avondale Public Works
Avondale, AZ

City of Bellingham
Bellingham, WA

City of Bend
Bend, OR

City of Big Bear Lake
Big Bear Lake, CA

City of Bozeman
Bozeman, MT

City of Buckeye
Buckeye, AZ

City of Durango
Durango, CO

City of Durham
Durham, NC

City of Flagstaff
Flagstaff, AZ

City of Fountain
Fountain, CO

City of Glendale
Glendale, AZ

City of Goodyear
Goodyear, AZ

City of Hays
Hays, KS

City of Mesa
Mesa, AZ

City of Napa
Napa, CA

City of Peoria
Peoria, AZ

City of Phoenix
Phoenix, AZ

City of Portsmouth
Portsmouth, NH

City of Round Rock
Round Rock, TX

City of Sacramento
Sacramento, CA

City of San Antonio
San Antonio, TX

City of Santa Barbara
Santa Barbara, CA

City of Santa Cruz, Water Dept.
Santa Cruz, CA

City of Tucson, Water Department
Tucson, AZ

City of Tumwater
Tumwater, WA

Cobb County Water System
Marietta, GA

Codes & Standards International
Belen, NM

Colorado WaterWise
Denver, CO

Connecticut Water Company
Clinton, CT

Cool Choices
Madison, WI

Cushman & Wakefield
Tampa, FL

Dallas Water Utilities
Dallas, TX

Denver Botanic Gardens
Denver, CO

Dropcountr
San Francisco, CA

East Bay Municipal Utility District
Oakland, CA

Econics
Victoria, BC, Canada

Elevate Energy
Chicago, IL

Flo Technologies
Culver City, CA

FloLogic, Inc.
Morrisville, NC

Flow Dynamics, LLC
Encinitas, CA

Gary Klein and Associates
Rancho Cordova, CA

Gauley Associates, Ltd.
Acton, Ontario, Canada

Global Water Policy Project
Amherst, MA

Global Water Works
Libertyville, IL

Golden State Water Company
Anaheim, CA

Greater Edwards Aquifer Alliance
San Antonio, TX

Green Building Initiative
Portland, OR

Green Builder Coalition
Glen Carbon, IL

Green Business Certification Inc.
Washington, DC

Greywater Action
Berkley, CA

Halperin Creative, LLC
Denver, CO

Hawaii First Water, LLC
Kailua Kona, HI

Huron River Watershed Council
Ann Arbor, MI

HydroTech Solutions
Fort Worth, TX

IAPMO Group
Mokena, IL

Imagine H2O
San Francisco, CA

Irrigation Association
Fairfax, VA

Irrrometer Co., Inc.
Riverside, CA

Jordan Valley Water Conservancy District
West Jordan, UT

Kohler Co.
Kohler, WI

Las Vegas Valley Water District
Las Vegas, NV

LIXIL Water Technologies Americas
Piscataway, NJ

Lone Star Groundwater Conservation District
Conroe, TX

Maddaus Water Management, Inc.
Danville, CA

Madison Water Utility
Madison, WI

ManageWater, Inc.
Redwood City, CA

Marin Municipal Water District
Corte Madera, CA

Massachusetts Water Works Association
Acton, MA

Maximum Performance (MaP) Testing
Yorba Linda, CA

Medford Water Commission
Medford, OR

Metropolitan North GA Water Planning Dist.
Atlanta, GA

Metropolitan Water Dist. Of Southern CA
Los Angeles, CA

Middletown Sprinkler Company
Port Monmouth, NJ

Monterey Peninsula Water Management Dist.
Monterey, CA

Murray City Corporation
Murray City, UT

National Turfgrass Evaluation Program
Beltsville, MD

National Wildlife Federation
Reston, VA

Natural Resources Defense Council
New York, NY

Neponset River Watershed Association
Canton, MA

Niagara Conservation Corp.
Flower Mound, TX

North Marin Water District
Novato, CA

Northern Arizona Municipal Water Users Assoc.
Scottsdale, AZ

Olivenhain Municipal Water District
Encinitas, CA

PAC Properties
St. Paul, MN

Panhandle Groundwater Conservation District
White Deer, TX

PCR Resources
Santa Fe, NM

Plumbing-Heating-Cooling Contractors Association
Milwaukee, WI

Plumbing Manufacturers International
Rolling Meadows, IL

Pluvial Solutions
Atlanta, GA

Prescription Landscape, Inc.
St. Paul, MN

Purlin, LLC
Sarasota, FL

Ramona's Plumber/diypumbingadvice.com
Ramona, CA

Rancho California Water District
Temecula, CA

Rain Bird Corp.
Azusa, CA

Recycled Hydro Solutions
Rogers, AR

Regional Water Authority
Citrus Heights, CA

Regional Water Providers Consortium
Portland, OR

River Network
Boulder, CO

Sacramento Suburban Water District
Sacramento, CA

Same Drop
San Francisco, CA

Sammamish Plateau Water
Sammamish, WA

San Francisco Public Utilities Commission
San Francisco, CA

Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency
Santa Clarita, CA

Santa Margarita Water District
Rancho Santa Margarita, CA

Scottsdale Water
Scottsdale, AZ

Seelig and Associates
Livermore, CA

Sierra Club
Oakland, CA

SLOAN
Franklin Park, IL

Sonoma County Water Agency
Santa Rosa, CA

Sonoma-Marin Saving Water Partnership
Santa Rosa, CA

South Central CT Regional Water Authority
New Haven, CT

South Tahoe Public Utility District
South Lake Tahoe, CA

Southern Environmental Law Center
Birmingham, AL

Southern Nevada Water Authority
Las Vegas, NV

Southern Oregon Landscape Association
Medford, OR

Spokane Aquifer Joint Board
Spokane, WA

Sustainable Waters
Crozet, VA

Sweetwater Authority
Chula Vista, CA

T&S Brass and Bronze Works
Travelers Rest, SC

Tampa Bay Water
Clearwater, FL

Terlyn Industries
Clearwater, FL

Texas Water Foundation
Austin, TX

Tohono O'odham Nation
Sells, AZ

TOTO USA, Inc.
Ontario, CA

Town of Queen Creek
Queen Creek, AZ

Tualatin Valley Water District
Beaverton, OR

U.S. Green Building Council
Washington, DC

U.S. Golf Association
Stillwater, OK

U.S. Water Alliance
Washington, DC

Upper San Gabriel Valley MWD
Monrovia, CA

Urban Fabrick Inc.
San Francisco, CA

Utah State University
Logan, UT

Verdani Partners
Carlsbad, CA

WasteWater Education, Inc.
Traverse City, MI

Water—Use It Wisely
Phoenix, AZ

Water Demand Management
Boulder, CO

Water Supply Citizens Advisory Board
Belchertown, MA

WaterNow Alliance
San Francisco, CA

Watershed, LLC
Vashon, WA

West Basin Municipal Water District
Carson, CA

Western Resource Advocates
Boulder, CO

Woodcock & Associates, Inc.
Northborough, MA