



## WATER CONSERVING PLUMBING FIXTURES

### Building Division

Economic and Community Development

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As of January 1, 2014, Senate Bill 407 (SB 407) establishes requirements that residential properties, **built on or before January 1, 1994**, must replace all plumbing fixtures that are not water conserving (defined as non-compliant plumbing fixtures) when a property is undergoing alterations or improvement. Based on the definitions found within the CA Building Code and the CA Green Building Code, alterations and improvements are interpreted to mean any construction to an existing structure which enhances or improves the structure. Construction related to repairs or maintenance of the structure is not considered to be an alteration or improvement.

Through this interpretation, SB 407 only applies to permitted additions, alterations and improvements. Additionally, permits can be pulled for property maintenance and repair without triggering the SB 407 requirements. Below is a list of permits that are considered to be repair or maintenance.

#### **PERMITTED REPAIRS THAT WILL NOT TRIGGER SB 407:**

- Electrical Service Change Out
- HVAC Change Out
- Sewer Line Replacement
- Reroof, Siding or Stucco
- Water Heater Replacement
- Window Replacement
- Dry Rot and Termite Repair
- Solar Photovoltaic Systems
- Electric Vehicle Charging Stations
- Site Work: Retaining Walls, Fences, Walk Ways, Etc.
- And other repairs or work not associated with the building itself as determined by the Chief Building Official

#### **LOW FLOW (WATER CONSERVING) AS PRESCREIBED IN CHAPTER 4 OF CALIFORNIA PLUMBING CODE.**

##### Water Closets:

- Water closets shall not exceed 1.28 gallons per flush.
- Dual flush toilets are defined as the composite, average flush volume of two reduced flushes and one full flush.

##### Urinals:

- Urinals shall not exceed 0.125 gallons per flush. Other urinals shall have an average supply not to exceed 0.5 gpf.

##### Showerheads:

- Single showerheads shall have a maximum flow rate of 1.8 gallons per minute at 80 psi.
- When a shower is served by more than one showerhead, the combined flow rate of all showerheads and/or other shower outlets controlled by a single valve shall not exceed 1.8 gallons per minute or the shower shall be designed to allow only one shower outlet to be in operation at a time.
- A handheld shower shall be considered a showerhead.

Residential Lavatory Faucets:

- Residential lavatory faucets shall not exceed 1.2 gallons per minute at 60 psi.
- The minimum flow rate shall not be less than 0.8 gallons per minute at 20 psi.

Kitchen Faucets:

- Kitchen faucets shall not exceed 1.8 gallons per minute at 60 psi.
- Kitchen faucets may temporarily increase the flow above the maximum rate, but not to exceed 2.2 gallons per minute and must default to a maximum flow rate of 1.8 gallons per minute.
- Where faucets meeting the maximum flow rate of 1.8 gpm are unavailable, aerators or other means may be used to achieve reduction.

Sink Faucets:

- Residential lavatory faucets shall have a maximum flow rate of not more than 1.2 gpm at 60 psi.