



**CITY OF NOVATO**  
CALIFORNIA

**Sustainability Commission**

**AGENDA**

**Thursday, November 16, 2023 - 6:00 p.m.**

Novato City Hall, 901 Sherman Avenue

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**Chair**

Bob Brown

**Vice Chair**

Chris Yalonis

**Members**

Tim Blofeld, Zach Brownstone, Pablo Paster, Dhanya Subramanian, and Nicole Tai

**Staff Liaison**

Gretchen Schubeck

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The Sustainability Commission welcomes your attendance at its meetings, which are held on the third Thursday of each month at 6:00 p.m. Your interest is encouraged and appreciated.

**Public Participation Options**

Members of the public may provide public comments and participate in Sustainability Commission meetings as follows:

- **Written Public Comments:** May be submitted via [sustainability@novato.org](mailto:sustainability@novato.org). Written public comments received more than 3 hours before the start of the meeting will be distributed to the Commission prior to the meeting. Written public comments will not be read during the meeting.
- **In-person Public Comments:** May be made during the meetings, which are held at Novato City Hall, 901 Sherman Avenue.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the City Clerk at (415) 899-8986. Notification at least 48 hours prior to the meeting will enable the City to make reasonable accommodation to help ensure accessibility to this meeting. The Sustainability Commission may discuss and/or take action on any or all of the items listed on the agenda irrespective of how the agenda items are described.

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**A. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**

**B. APPROVAL OF FINAL AGENDA**

**C. PUBLIC COMMENT**

*There is a three-minute time limit to speak, although the Chair may shorten the time based on the number of speakers or other factors. A speaker may not yield their time to another speaker.*

*For issues raised during Public Comment that are not on the published agenda, except as otherwise provided under the Ralph M. Brown Act, no action can legally be taken. The Commission may direct that the item be referred to the Staff Liaison for action or may schedule the item on a subsequent agenda.*

**D. CONSENT ITEMS**

**D.1 Approve minutes of meeting held on October 19, 2023**

**E. GENERAL BUSINESS**

*These items include significant and administrative actions of special interest and will usually include a presentation and discussion by the Commission. They will be enacted upon by a separate vote.*

**E.1 Workshop: Climate Action Plan Update (Adaptation & Carbon Sequestration)**

**E.2 Discuss and consider recommending that the City Council consider adopting the County of Marin's model reach code related to electric vehicle infrastructure.**

**G. COMMISSIONER & STAFF LIAISON REPORTS**

*This section is used for Commissioners and the Staff Liaison to orally report on topics that can be considered for discussion at a future meeting.*

**G.1 Commissioner Reports**

**G.2 Staff Liaison Reports**

**H. ADJOURNMENT**

*Materials that are submitted to members of the Commission after the distribution of the meeting's agenda packet will be available upon request.*

**AFFIDAVIT OF POSTING**

I, Gretchen Schubeck, certify that on November 9, 2023, the agenda was posted on the City Community Service Board at 922 Machin Avenue and on the City's website [www.novato.org](http://www.novato.org).

/ Gretchen Schubeck /

Gretchen Schubeck, Sustainability Coordinator



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**CITY OF NOVATO**  
**CALIFORNIA**

**Sustainability Commission**

**MINUTES**

**Thursday, October 19, 2023 - 6:00 pm**

Novato City Hall, 901 Sherman Avenue, Novato

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**Chair**

Bob Brown

**Vice Chair**

Chris Yalonis

**Members**

Tim Blofeld, Bob Brown, Zach Brownstone, Pablo Paster, and Dhanya Subramanian

**Staff Liaison**

Gretchen Schubeck

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**A. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**

Commission Chair Brown called the meeting to order at 6:02pm.

**Commissioners Present:** Tim Blofeld, Bob Brown (Chair), Zach Brownstone, Pablo Paster, Dhanya Subramanian, and Nicole Tai

**Staff Present:** Jessica Deakyne, Assistant City Manager and Gretchen Schubeck, Sustainability Coordinator

**B. APPROVAL OF FINAL AGENDA**

*Upon a motion of Commissioner Tai and second by Commissioner Blofeld the Commission voted 6-0-1 to approve the final agenda.*

**AYES: BLOFELD, BROWN, BROWNSTONE, PASTER, SUBRAMANIAN, TAI**

**NOES: NONE**

**ABSENT: YALONIS**

*Motion carried.*

**C. PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

**D. CONSENT ITEMS**

*Upon a motion of Commissioner Tai and second by Commissioner Blofeld, the Commission voted 6-0-1 to approve the meeting minutes of August 17, 2023.*

**AYES: BLOFELD, BROWN, BROWNSTONE, PÄSTER, SUBRAMANIAN, TAI**  
**NOES: NONE**  
**ABSENT: YALONIS**

*Motion carried.*

## **E. GENERAL BUSINESS**

### **E.1 Workshop: Climate Action Plan Update (Waste & Water)**

- Climate Action Plan (CAP) consultant Christine O'Rourke presented an overview of greenhouse gas emissions generated from the waste and water sectors in Novato (PowerPoint attached).
- Following the presentation, Commissioners and members of the public were invited to join one of three topic-focused tables to review a set of draft waste- and water-related actions for potential inclusion in the updated CAP.
- 12 community members, six Commissioners, and three staff members reviewed the proposed actions and discussed whether to keep the action as proposed, or to modify. There was also an opportunity to propose new actions.
- Table one focused on *Waste Prevention, Reduction, Reuse, & Repair and Single-Use Disposable Items & Packaging*; table two on *Organic Waste Diversion, Waste, Recycling, & Organics Infrastructure, and Building Materials*; and table three on *Potable Water Use and Recycled Water (Community) and Water Use (Municipal)*.
- The CAP consultant and staff will transcribe feedback provided at the workshop for review by the Commission at a future meeting.

## **F. CONTINUING ITEMS**

### **F.1 Review and Provide Feedback on Revised Proposed Climate Action Plan Energy Actions**

- Commissioners agreed to review proposed revisions to the energy actions once they have been incorporated in the draft updated CAP.

## **G. COMMISSIONER AND STAFF LIAISON REPORTS**

### **G.1 Commissioner Reports**

- Commissioner Subramanian noted that 350Marin.org is organizing a rally in opposition of the proposed Costco gas station at Vintage Oaks on November 4.
- Commissioner Brown shared that the virtual Marin Green Home Tour will be held on October 26 starting at 6pm.

***Upon a motion of Commissioner Brown and second by Commissioner Blofeld, the Commission voted 6-0-1 to add an agenda item to a future meeting to discuss recommending that the City Council adopt the County of Marin's model reach code related to electric vehicle infrastructure.***

**AYES: BLOFELD, BROWN, BROWNSTONE, PÄSTER, SUBRAMANIAN, TAI**  
**NOES: NONE**  
**ABSENT: YALONIS**

*Motion carried.*

## **G.2 Staff Liaison Reports**

- Coordinator Schubeck shared that Zero Waste Marin is open to hosting an informational webinar for jurisdiction staff to discuss both SB 1383 and the foodware ordinance.

## **H. ADJOURNMENT**

***Upon a motion by Commissioner Subramanian and second by Commissioner Brownstone, the Commission voted 6-0-1 to adjourn the meeting at 7:45pm.***

**AYES: BLOFELD, BROWN, BROWNSTONE, PÄSTER, SUBRAMANIAN, TAI**

**NOES: NONE**

**ABSENT: YALONIS**

***Motion carried.***

DRAFT

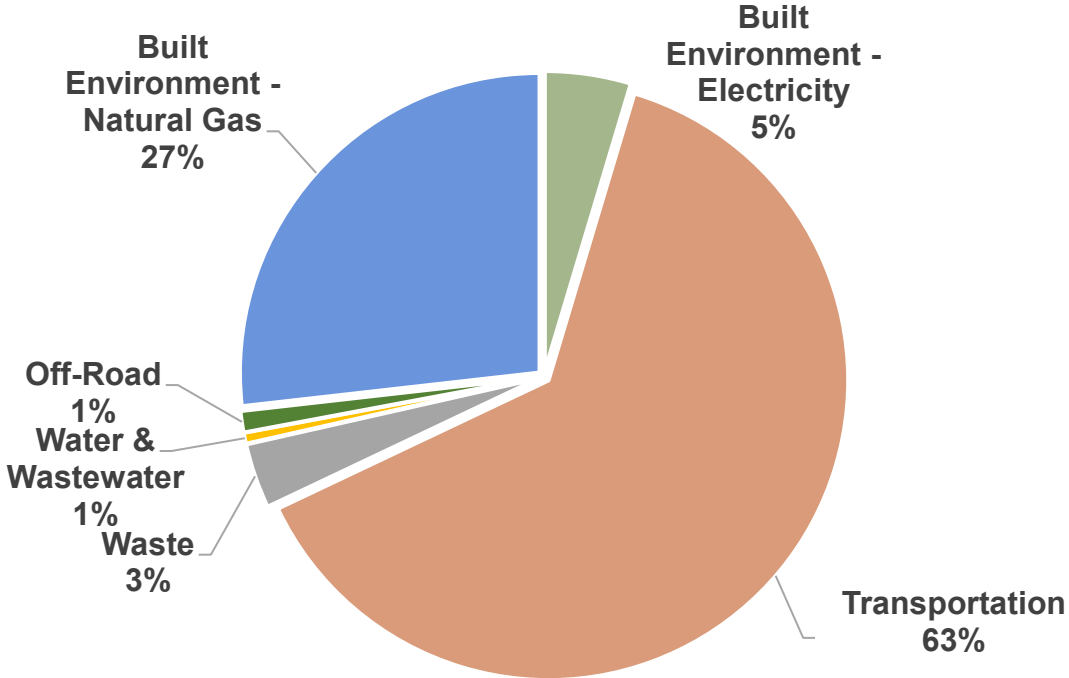


# **Climate Action Plan Waste and Water Strategies**

**Novato Sustainability Commission**

**October 19, 2023**

# Waste, Water and Wastewater Emissions



- Emissions from the Waste, Water and Wastewater sectors are responsible for **4%** of community emissions (2021)

# Waste and Water Emissions: Reduction Measures

## Measures to Reduce Community Emissions

- Waste Prevention, Reduction, Reuse and Recycling
- Single-Use Disposable Items and Packaging
- Organic Waste Diversion
- Waste, Recycling, and Composting Infrastructure
- Building Materials
- Potable Water Use
- Recycled Water

## Measures to Reduce Local Government Emissions

- Waste Prevention, Reduction, Reuse and Recycling
- Organic Materials and Recycled Content Product Procurement
- Municipal Water Use

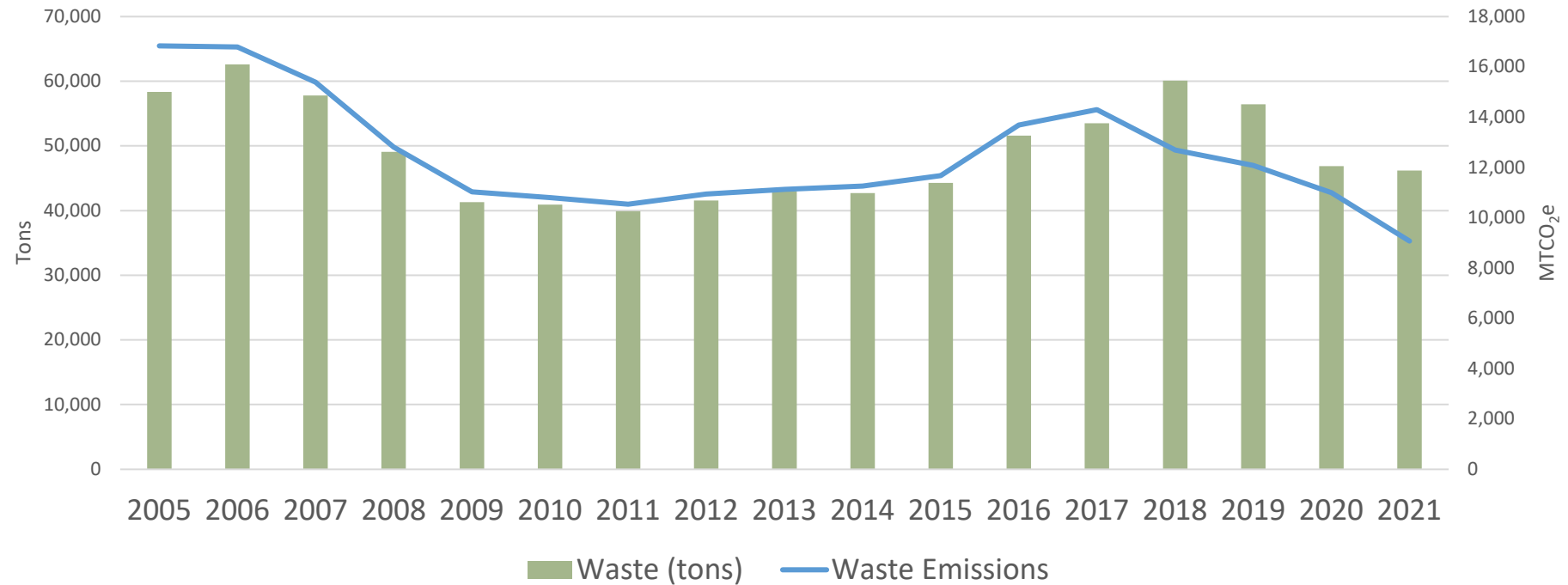


## Waste Disposal Services

- Novato Sanitary District (NSD) holds the waste franchise for Novato
- NSD an independent special district governed by a five- member Board of Directors elected by Novato voters
- NSD contracts with Recology Sonoma-Marin to provide waste, recycling, and organics collection services to residents and businesses
- NSD also provides wastewater services in Novato, has an extensive recycled water program, and manages Novato's household hazardous waste.



## Historic Waste Disposal and Emissions



- Waste tonnage down 21% since 2005
- Emissions from waste disposal down 46%

## SB 1383

- Reduce organic waste disposal 75%
- Increase edible food recovery 20%
- “Organic waste” includes food, green material, landscape and pruning waste, organic textiles and carpets, lumber, wood, paper products, printing and writing paper, manure, biosolids, digestate, and sludges.
- Organic waste must be collected and composted or used in anaerobic digestion facilities.
- Food service providers must donate edible food.
- Ordinance adopted and implemented by Novato Sanitary District.
- City must procure organic materials (compost and mulch) and purchase recycled-content products.

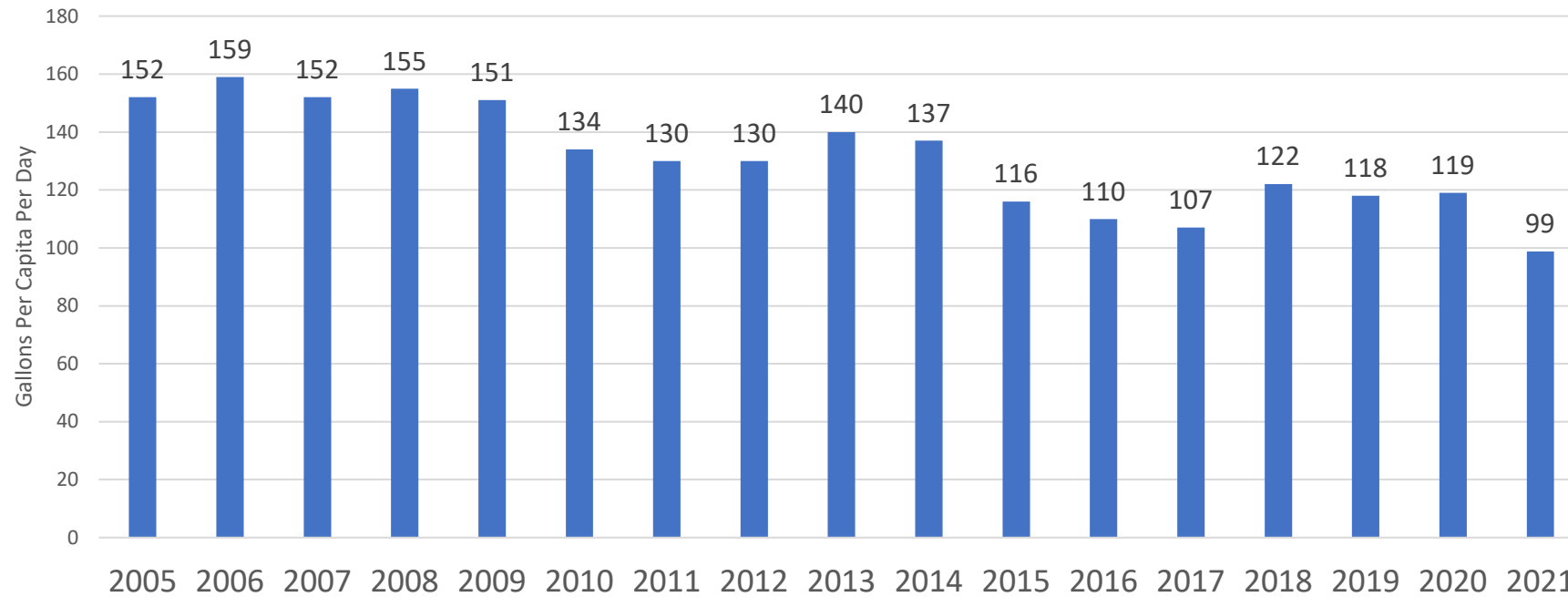


# Water

- North Marin Water District provides potable water and recycled water
- Water comes from Stafford Lake (~20%) and a groundwater aquifer adjacent to Russian River (~80%)
- Recycled water is used in several locations for irrigation and in some commercial applications.
- 2020 Urban Water Management Plan projects water demand to increase 26% by 2045. Sufficient water supplies to meet demand through an agreement with the Sonoma County Water Agency.

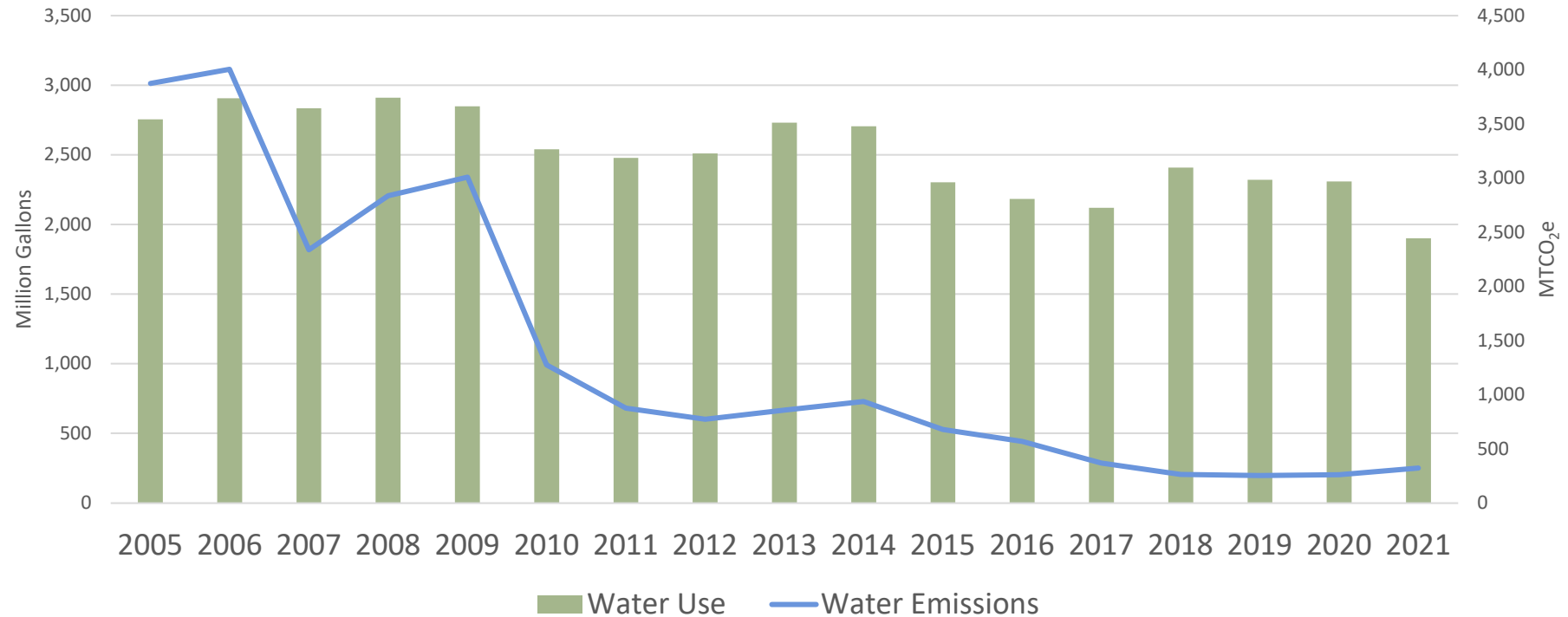


## Historic Per Capita Water Use



- Water use down 35% since 2005

## Historic Water Use and Emissions



- Water use down 31% since 2005
- Emissions from water use down 92% due to low-carbon electricity

# Water Conservation Programs

- North Marin Water District (NMWD) provides the following incentives
  - Water catchment and greywater systems
  - Turf replacement and mulch
  - Inefficient clothes washer and toilet replacement
  - Pool covers
  - Weather-based irrigation controllers
  - Indoor and outdoor water use evaluations
- NMWD regulations
  - Low-water use landscaping
  - Efficient water fixtures

