

WATER SAFETY AND EFFICIENCY REQUIREMENTS*

EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2021



Maximum flush cycle, maximum flow rate and other requirements summarized below.



SINGLE-PASS SYSTEMS, INCLUDING ONCE-THROUGH COOLING
Prohibited



HOT WATER
Domestic hot water to be stored at a minimum of 60°C within a tank. Maintaining a minimum of 49°C is recommended within a recirculation loop.



TOILETS
4.8 L/flush.
Full flush on a dual-flush toilet shall not exceed 4.8 L



COOLING TOWERS AND EVAPORATIVE CONDENSERS
Operating permit required for new and existing systems.



URINALS
1.9 L/flush



DECORATIVE WATER FEATURES[†]
Operating permit required for new and existing systems.



SHOWER HEADS^{}**
7.6 L/min



BUILDING WATER TREATMENT SYSTEMS^{††}
Operating permit required for new and existing systems treating potable water.



LAVATORY FAUCETS^{}**
Private use 5.7 L/min
Public use 1.9 L/min + ● self-closing



ALTERNATE WATER SYSTEMS, INCLUDING RAINWATER HARVESTING^{††}
Operating permit required for new and existing systems. Water quality reporting required every two months.



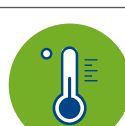
KITCHEN FAUCETS^{}**
Residential use 6.8 L/min
Non-residential use 8.3 L/min



PIPING MATERIALS
New requirements for stainless steel.
New, limited applications for cellular core PVC and fibrocement.



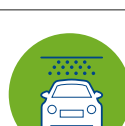
PRE-RINSE SPRAY VALVES
4.8 L/min



GEOEXCHANGE SYSTEMS
Methanol use prohibited. Open-loop systems shall not discharge to sewer.



DISHWASHERS



VEHICLE WASH FACILITIES
Automatic systems: recycle at least 60% of water.
Self-service: 11.4 L/min for foam brushes and spray wands.



CLOTHES WASHERS



RESIDENTIAL LANDSCAPE IRRIGATION SYSTEMS
Pressure reducing valve may be required.
Fertigation and chemigation prohibited.



ICE MAKERS



COMMERCIAL STEAM COOKERS



COMBINATION OVENS



For more information visit:
vancouver.ca/operating-permit
vancouver.ca/building-by-law



* Summary does not include all applicable Vancouver Building By-law and Water Works By-law plumbing requirements.

** Exempt are fixtures within treatment and care (Group B) occupancies and those listed in a professional water management plan.

† Exempt are systems for single-family homes and duplexes. Green walls, fish ponds, and natural bodies of water are also exempt.

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