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**u.s. army corps of engineers endorses use of non-water-using urinals**

December 1, 2006



Photo courtesy of Waterless Co.

Washington, D.C. — When the U.S. Congress passed the Energy Policy Act of 1992, it mandated the use of low-flush urinals that require no more than one gallon of water per flush (gpf) in order to conserve water. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers discovered the average urinal can use as much as 40,000 gallons of water per year, as well as raise sewer costs; require freeze protection in some areas; require electricity to pump and remove water to and from a facility; and raise overall infrastructure costs for the Army.

According to a Corps spokesperson, "Waterless urinals reduce the Army's environmental burden by saving water and energy and [also] reduce sewage treatment expenses," and that studies have found for each no-water urinal that replaces a 1.0 gpf unit, the government can save between \$250 and \$875 per year.

After evaluating the urinals, the Corps now recommends that non-water-using urinals be considered for new urinal installations and to replace existing urinals that use 1.5–3 gpf if retrofit criteria are met and proper maintenance procedures can be budgeted and assured. However, there are areas of the country where local codes or agencies still prohibit the installation of non-water-using urinals.

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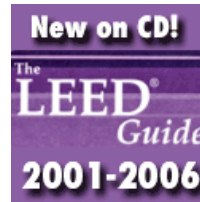
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