### FIXTURES 101:



# KNOW YOUR LOW-FLOW FAUCETS

### O1 WHAT ARE LOW-FLOW FAUCETS?

Low-flow faucets use **less water** to perform activities where the faucet is **turned on for an extended period of time** (e.g., washing your hands). While faucet water use depends on **user behavior**, efficient faucets typically have **low-flow aerators** that mix air with water, lowering the flow rate to a maximum **1.5 GPM** (gallons per minute) while achieving satisfactory performance.

## **02** WATER EFFICIENCY REGULATIONS

#### WaterSense

WaterSense® is a voluntary labeling program that identifies consumer products that meet the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)'s performance criteria.

#### California Energy Commission (CEC) - Title 20

Title 20-compliant faucets follow state efficiency standards that meet or exceed those set by the WaterSense program.

#### California Green Building Standards Code (CALGreen)

CALGreen requires all newly constructed buildings in California to include fixtures that can reduce indoor water consumption by 20 percent as compared to baseline models and flow rates.

### 03 WHY LOW-FLOW FAUCETS?

#### Pros

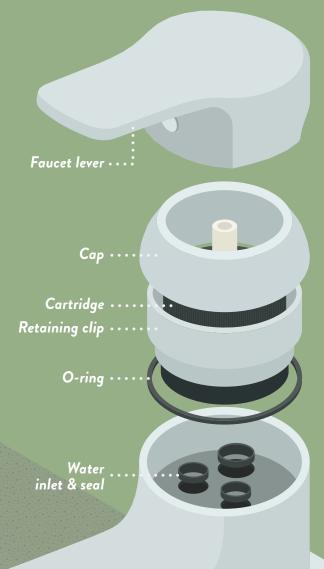
- + Significant water & energy savings
- + Available at different price points & in different styles
- + May be eligible for **rebates & vouchers**
- + Comparable performance to standard faucets

#### Con

- + May provide **lower water pressure**
- + Potentially high initial cost
- + Savings may vary based on

individual water use

& behavior



Faucet body · · ·

Water supply ••

Screen · •

Spout · · · ·

Low-flow aerator · · ·

Sources: Sandy Roberston, EcoBlock • American Standard • Bob Vila • U.S. EPA