# This presentation premiered at WaterSmart Innovations

watersmartinnovations.com





# Low-Income Residential Water Conservation Programs High-Efficiency Toilet Direct Install Program

#### WaterSmart Innovations 2012

Julie Ortiz, Water Conservation Manager

Chandra Johnson, Water Conservation Administrator

San Francisco Public Utilities Commission



#### **Presentation Outline**

#### **About the SFPUC**

**Low-Income Residential Programs** and Services

Residential Low-Income High-Efficiency Toilet Direct Install Program

**Lessons Learned** 

**Next Steps** 



# **Services We Provide**



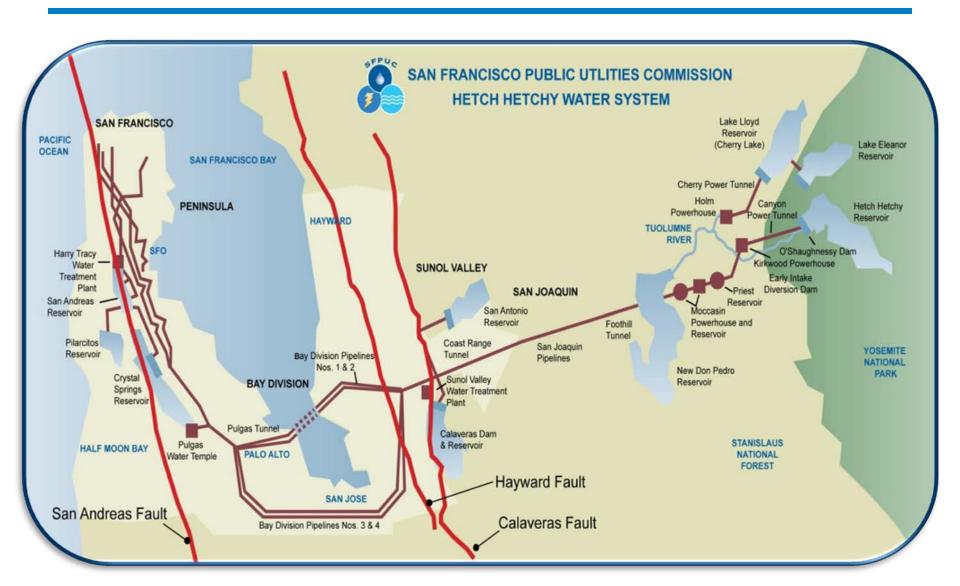








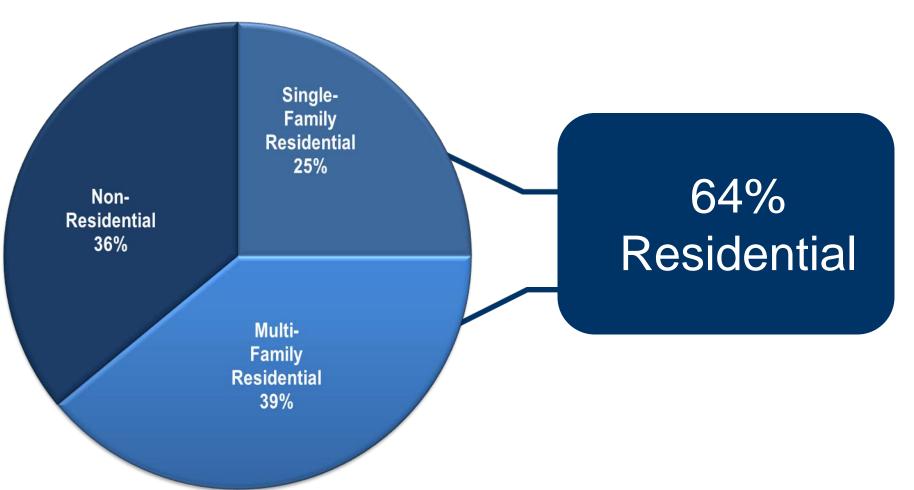
# **Bay Area Regional Water System**





# Water Use By Customer Type

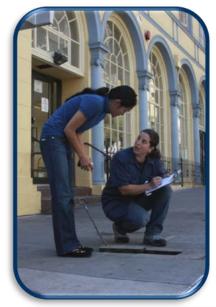
#### San Francisco Water Use @ 64 MGD





## **Water Conservation Services**





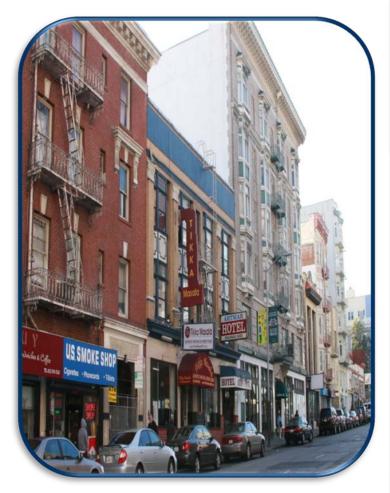








## **Objectives for Low-Income Services**



Single room occupancy hotels

# Nearly 12% of San Francisco residents live below the Federal Poverty Level

Reduce
adverse
impacts of
rate increases
on lowincome
households

Help manage utility costs for multi-family affordable housing providers

Partner with customers for more comprehensive water-savings analysis



## **Residential Low-Income Programs**

#### Single-Family

- 15% reduction on water and 35% reduction on wastewater service rates
- Qualifying households: 200% Federal Poverty Guideline

#### Multi-Family

- 15% reduction on water and 35% reduction on wastewater service rates
- Available to affordable housing providers subsidized by the City and County of San Francisco

#### Pilot Program

- High-Efficiency Toilet (HET) Direct Installation for low-income residential properties
- Funded in part by Federal and State grants



# **High Efficiency Toilet Direct Install**



Water-efficiency audits for low-income single-family households and multi-family affordable housing providers.



Installation of free water-efficient devices for all properties.



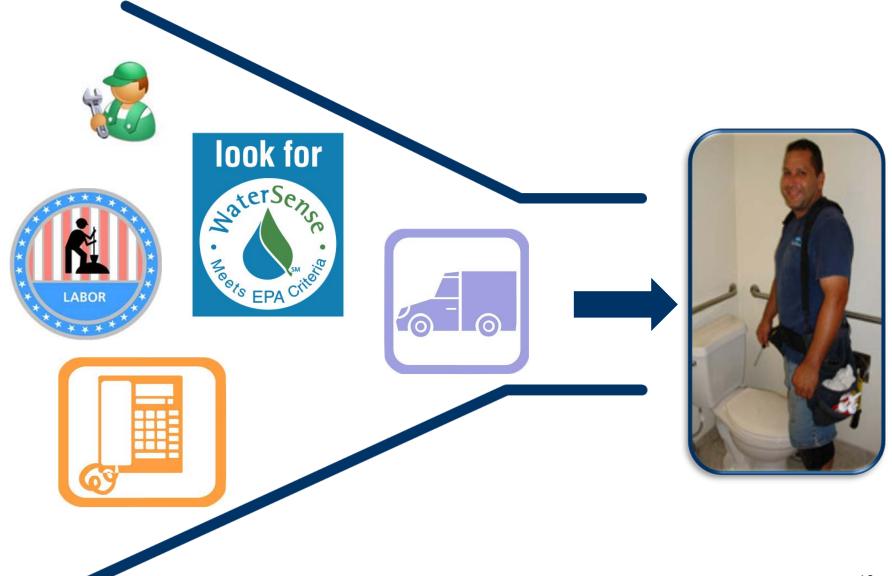
Properties with 3.5 GPF≥ toilet models qualify for free toilet replacement.



Turnkey installation of high-efficiency toilets by licensed plumbing contractor.

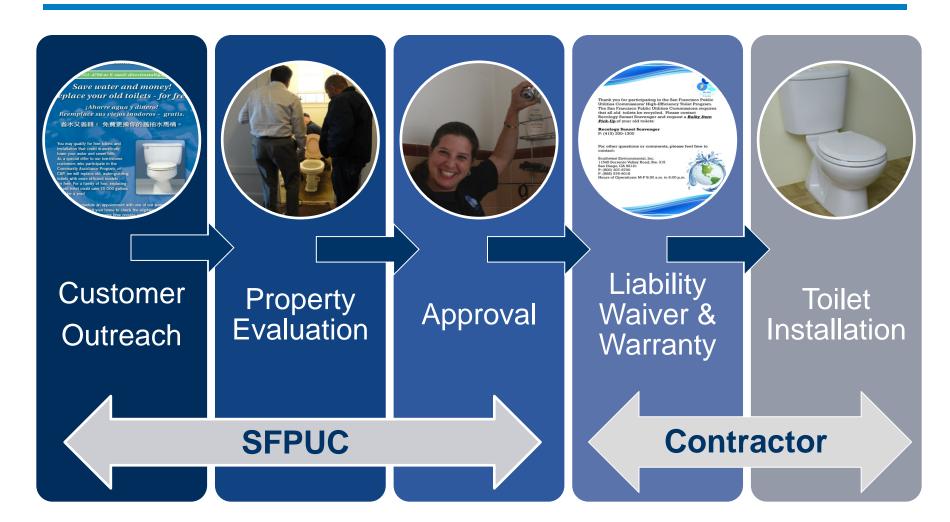


# **Selecting a Contractor**





# **Program Administration**





#### **Tools For Success**





# **Identifying Program Participants**





# **Eligible Low-Income Participants**

#### Singlefamily Households

 Recipients of SFPUC Rate Assistance Program

Multi-family Properties

 Must provide housing for residents with income below 80% of AMI for the San Francisco HUD Metro Fair Market Rent Area (HMFA)





# **Program Marketing**

Media

Press Release

Trade Publications

Web Articles Direct Mail

Letters

**Postcards** 

**Bill Inserts** 

Direct to Property Manager

Telephone calls

Door-to-Door





# 2010-2012 Program Participation

Property Type	Water Efficiency Evaluations	Toilets Installed
Single-family	6,500 Homes	2,865
Multi-family	55 Buildings	2,200
Total		5,065



# **Preliminary Water Use Findings**

# Analyzing water use for low-income single-family homes participating in 2010

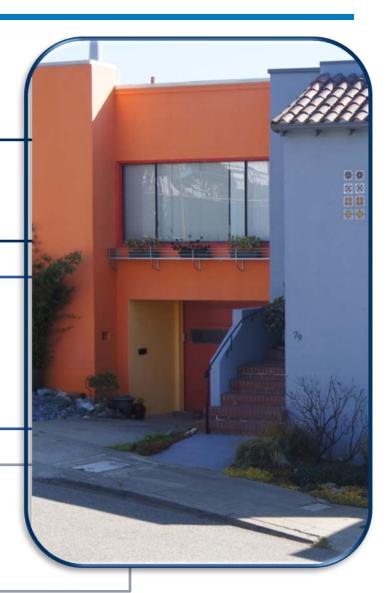
- 2,300 Water efficiency evaluations completed
- 1,200 Households qualified for HET installation

#### **Potential Savings**

- Installation of efficient showerheads and aerators for most homes
- 1,650 HET installations
- Leak identification and repair

#### **Next Steps**

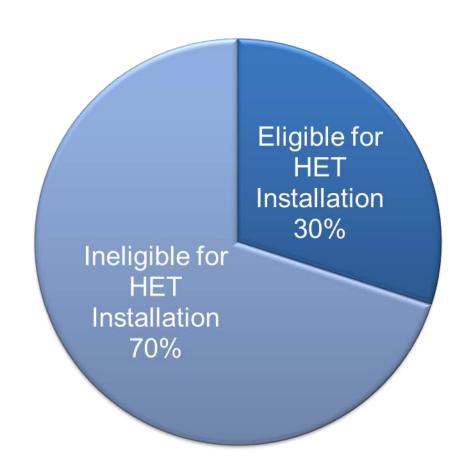
- Continue to monitor water use
- Compare water savings against households participating in HET rebate program





# **Single-family Toilet Replacement Eligibility**

## 2010-2012: 12,405 Toilets Evaluated





#### **Lessons Learned**

Maximize water savings through efficient device installation, leak detection and education during water audits

Ask the experts: Non-profit affordable housing providers

Leverage third-party income verification

Maximize funding through volume installation discounts for multi-family properties

Saturation rates of water-efficient toilets in low-income properties were greater than expected

General public has misconceptions about the quality of high-efficiency toilets

Help property managers prepare for change... tenant education required



## **Next Steps**

# **Continue HET Direct Installations for low-income residents**

Evaluate potential for HET Direct Installations beyond low-income residential

Co-market HET Direct Install with energy-savings programs

Evaluate water savings for program participants



# **Thank You!**

For More Information:

Julie Ortiz
Water Conservation Manager
jnortiz@sfwater.org

Chandra Johnson
Water Conservation Administrator
<a href="mailto:cajohnson@sfwater.org">cajohnson@sfwater.org</a>

www.sfwater.org/conservation