



**Water Conservation Amendments –  
Ministerial Order M105**

**No.: PLUMBING-15  
Date: 2011-09-28**

**Purpose:**

To inform owners, designers and contractors of City requirements for restricted flow plumbing fixtures.

**Background:**

- On January 31, 2011, the Minister of Housing and Social Development published amendments to the British Columbia Plumbing Code that become effective on October 3, 2011.
- These amendments include the permitted flow rate for plumbing fixtures in all occupancy classifications as described in the BC Building Code.
- The maximum flow rates for all occupancies are:
  - a) Lavatory faucet 8.3 L/min (1.8 Imperial GPM – 2.1 US GPM)
  - b) Kitchen faucet 8.3 L/min (1.8 Imperial GPM – 2.1 US GPM)
  - c) Shower head 9.5 L/min (2.0 Imperial GPM – 2.5 US GPM)
  - d) Urinal 1.9 L (0.417 Imperial gallon – 0.50 US gallon) per flush cycle whether tank type or flush valve. **Note:** The water supply to urinal flush tanks equipped for automatic flushing shall be controlled with a timing device in order to limit operation to the period during which the building is normally occupied.
  - e) Water Closet 4.8 L (1.055 Imperial gallon – 1.26 US gallon) per flush cycle whether tank type or flush valve when installed in new residential buildings or when major renovations occur. **Note:** A water closet which provides a dual flush cycle of both 4.1 L or less and 6.0 L shall be deemed to comply. A water closet which provides a maximum 6.0 L flush cycle in industrial, commercial and institutional buildings will remain unchanged.

**Implementation:**

- This bulletin supersedes Bulletin PLUMBING-14 and all previous Water Conservation Amendments bulletins.
- Effective for all building permit applications dated on or after October 3, 2011, all installations of new plumbing fixtures must be in accordance with Ministerial Order M275.
- All water conservation fixtures and fittings must be identified as required in the Ministerial Order M275, and include the flow rate in the marking.