



# Certification Programs for Irrigation Professionals



Commercial and residential outdoor water use in the United States accounts for more than 7 billion gallons of water each day, mainly for landscape irrigation. As much as half of that is lost or wasted due to evaporation, wind, or improper irrigation design, installation, and maintenance. As part of an overall effort to improve national water efficiency, WaterSense®, a program sponsored by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), is labeling certification programs for landscape irrigation professionals that advance the principles and applications of water-efficient irrigation.

## WaterSense Labeled Certification Programs for Irrigation Professionals



Programs that earn the WaterSense label have met several criteria to ensure rigorous testing and certification processes that accurately assess professional competency in designing, installing, maintaining, or auditing water-efficient irrigation systems. To qualify for the label, programs must evaluate proficiency through examinations and be subject to independent oversight.

WaterSense only labels programs that certify experienced irrigation system design, installation/maintenance, and auditing professionals. Certified professionals must confirm their ability to assess critical soil/water/plant relationships and resulting impacts on irrigation system efficiency. They must also renew their certification periodically to confirm their qualifications and demonstrate awareness of recent innovations and technology developments.

WaterSense labeled certification programs verify professional proficiency in water-efficient irrigation system design, installation and maintenance, and performance audits. Landscape irrigation professionals who are certified by a WaterSense labeled program can signify their commitment to promoting water-efficient landscape watering systems by becoming a WaterSense partner.



### Irrigation System Design

Irrigation design professionals with a WaterSense labeled certification can tailor irrigation systems to the surrounding landscape and local climate conditions.

### Irrigation System Installation/Maintenance

Installation and maintenance professionals with a WaterSense labeled certification are capable of selecting the appropriate equipment, site layout, and proper scheduling for optimal irrigation system performance.

### Irrigation System Audits

Audits conducted by irrigation system professionals with a WaterSense labeled certification can identify systems that are distributing water unequally or inefficiently and determine how to improve performance.

### What to Look for

When seeking irrigation services, ask for professionals who are WaterSense partners or certified by WaterSense labeled programs. In the future, look for the WaterSense label on water-efficient products and programs that meet EPA criteria. For more information, visit <[www.epa.gov/watersense](http://www.epa.gov/watersense)>.