



SUSTAINABLE PLUMBING CHECKLIST

House As A System	☐ Choose WaterSense® high-efficiency toilets (4.8 litres per flush (lpf) or less).
 □ Install high-quality shut-off valves on piping and provide easy access to them through walls or floors. □ Use high-quality materials, fittings and fixtures. □ Insulate cold and hot water pipes with a minimum RSI-0.7 (R-4) insulation. 	 □ Consult MaP testing scores prior to purchasing a new toilet. □ Ensure Drainline is clear of defects and not sagging. □ Install accessible shut-off valves on service pipes to sink taps, toilets, tub and shower.
☐ Run plumbing inside the air barrier system, or, if piping must pass through the barrier, properly seal the joint with	Hot Water System
acoustical caulking (or other appropriate material), and ensure it is structurally supported.	☐ Set hot water tank to 60°C (140°F or as required to meet building code, safety regulations.) and insulate it.
Kitchen	☐ Put heat traps on cold and hot water pipe connections to the water tank.
☐ Install WaterSense® tap or faucet aerators (5.7 litres per	☐ Minimize both the pipe size of the distribution network and
minute (lpm) / 1.5 gallons per minute (gpm) or less).	the distance between the source of hot water and the fixtures. ☐ Install a drainwater heat recovery unti on the shower drain piping
☐ Ensure aerator or faucet has flow regulation settings or a hands-free faucet	☐ Make a new construction solar ready more easily to accept solar water heating systems in the future.
☐ Avoid a sink garbage disposal unit – use compost or kitchen waste programs instead.	
□ Select an ENERGY STAR® dishwasher (as little as 15 litres	Laundry and Mechanical Rooms
per cycle / 4 gallons per cycle).	☐ Select a CEE Tier 3 washing machine (Water factor of 4.0 or less).
☐ Chose a dishwasher with a timer, a heat on/off setting, or a smart sensor.	☐ Check the Water Softener Buyers Guide prior to choosing a new model.
☐ Install an ENERGY STAR® fridge.	☐ Set water softener to a demand-based regeneration cycle.
☐ Install shut-off valves in under the sink faucet and dishwasher.	☐ Install water pressure regulator(s); set to 310-380 kPa (45-55 psi
Bathroom	\square Install backwater valve on building drain to prevent sewer backup
☐ Install WaterSense® tap or faucet aerators (5.7 lpm / 1.5 gpm or less).	Rainwater and Greywater
☐ Install a WaterSense® showerhead (7.6 lpm / 2.0 gpm or less) and no multiple-head shower systems.	☐ Obtain advanced training in installation of rainwater harvesting and greywater systems.
☐ Install thermostatic valves at shower, bath and faucet fixtures. ☐ Install a drainwater heat recovery unit on the shower drain.	☐ Obtain written approval from appropriate regulatory authority for installation of rainwater or greywater systems.
☐ Check for leaks: Faucets, diverter tub spouts, showers,	☐ Rough in new builds to accommodate future dual plumbing for non-potable water distribution.

Source: Canada Mortgage and Housing Corportation (CMHC)

baths and toilets.