

## Plumbing Contractor Best Practices Checklist

As a contractor on an applicable Iowa Economic Development Authority assisted project, you are expected to implement best practices identified in the [Iowa Green Streets Criteria](#). Here are key plumbing strategies and best practices expected to be implemented in this project. As the plumbing contractor you should also familiarize yourself with the best practices checklists for all other trades including electrical, HVAC, site, and general contractor. See sections 4 and 7 of the [Iowa Green Streets Criteria](#) for full details.

### Install Water-Conserving Fixtures:

- Toilets: WaterSense-labeled and  $\leq 1.28$  gpf, OR dual-flush toilets, OR pressure-assisted toilets
- Urinals: WaterSense-labeled and  $\leq 0.128$  gpf maximum
- Showerheads: WaterSense-labeled and  $\leq 1.75$  gpm
- Kitchen Faucets:  $\leq 2.0$  gpm
- Lavatory Faucets: WaterSense-labeled and  $\leq 1.5$  gpm
- Static Service Pressure:  $\leq 60$  psi (buildings  $\leq 3$  stories)

### Water Heaters:

- Install Power Vented or Direct Vent
- Provide adequate drainage including drains or catch pans with drains piped to exterior
- Natural gas  $\leq 55$  gallons - Energy Factor (EF)  $\geq .67$  and Energy Star Qualified
- Natural gas  $> 55$  gallons - (EF)  $\geq .77$  and Energy Star Qualified
- Electric  $\leq 55$  gallons - (EF)  $\geq 2.00$  and Energy Star Qualified
- Electric  $> 55$  gallons - (EF)  $\geq 2.20$  and Energy Star Qualified
- Electric Heat Pump - (EF)  $\geq 2.20$ , work with HVAC contractor on heat pump location
- Gas Instantaneous - (EF)  $\geq .90$  and Energy Star Qualified
- High Capacity Storage – Thermal Efficiency (TE)  $\geq .90$  and Energy Star Qualified

The Iowa Green Streets Criteria promote public health, energy efficiency, water conservation, smart locations, operational savings and sustainable building practices. Benefits include improved energy performance and comfort, a healthier indoor environment, increased durability of building components, and simplified maintenance requirements that can lead to financial efficiencies for property managers and owners.

The Criteria follows closely the Enterprise Green Communities Criteria used in 22 states and nearly 50,000 homes and apartments. Enterprise's project pipeline includes projects that through implementing a robust integrative design approach met the criteria at no additional cost. In a 2012 study, Enterprise found a median 2% increase to total development cost. The average project achieved lifetime utility savings with a simple payback of 5.59 years.

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