# Keeping the Tap on For Builders

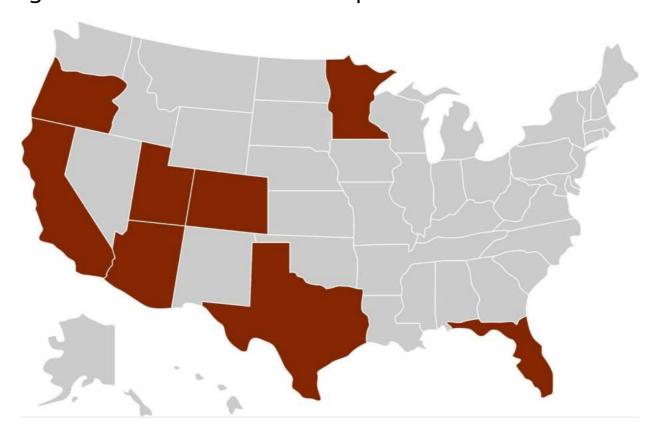
Adam DeHeer, LeapFrog Design Mike Collignon, Green Builder® Coalition

What word stops a builder in their tracks?

Moratorium

# **Water Scarcity Halts Building**

States where building moratoriums have been imposed due to water restrictions.





## **Water Scarcity Halts Building**





EVELOPMENT HOUSTON

## Red Hill greenlighted for 550 homes in Magnolia when moratorium ends

Must wait to embark on 95-acre project due to water shortage



#### **Arizona**

- In June of 2023, Gov. Katie Hobbs announced a moratorium on building additional subdivisions in Valley communities that relied solely on one source of water (groundwater), saying that they could not prove they had a 100-year water supply.
- The Home Builders Association of Central Arizona (HBACA) warned that the moratorium will hurt the state's economy severely.

"From an economic perspective, the sudden and drastic measures announcing no new certifications of assured water supply from groundwater created uncertainty and risk, an effective deterrent to potential investors in our state's economy."



#### **Florida**



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# Town of Dundee Facing Building Moratorium Due to Water Shortage

The Construction Halt Would Be the First in the Area

Robert Connors | Last updated Aug 01, 2024 8:22am





Skyrocketing development pressures are colliding with dwindling supplies of water across Florida. Those same forces are now causing angst for elected officials along the Ridge, who are wrestling with increased costs and possible building moratoriums, even as the collapse of the citrus industry along the Ridge in eastern Polk has caused many former citrus growers to offer their huge tracts of land to developers.

Water Use Permits issued by the Southwest Florida Water Management District provide the once-sleepy community with only 917,500 gallons of water per day, with current consumption reaching more than 800,000 gallons.

Against that tight supply background, more than 5,700 new houses and apartments are in the permitting process in the town. They are expected to more than double the demand for water.



#### Florida's Solution?

• Efficiency?

X

Limit outdoor irrigation?



Buy more expensive water?





#### **Alternative Solutions**

- Prescriptive codes Yes/No, Pass/Fail
- Performance-based codes Water ratings are on-site analyses of single-family & multifamily properties that subsequently forecast future water usage.
  - Ratings do not mandate anything; they simply assess the design & materials used for the project.
  - When used in codes, they typically set the required level of efficiency.
- WaterSense for Homes Blended Approach



#### **Bottom Line**

#### **Builders** need to be proactive

- Search the market for existing solutions.
- Provide options to home buyers.
- Advocate with local and state decisionmakers.
  - City Council
  - Water Conservation Office
  - Municipal Water Utility
  - State Water Board



What keeps the tap on for builders?

# Water conservation policies and onsite water reuse

## **Greywater Reuse: Where is it Legal?**

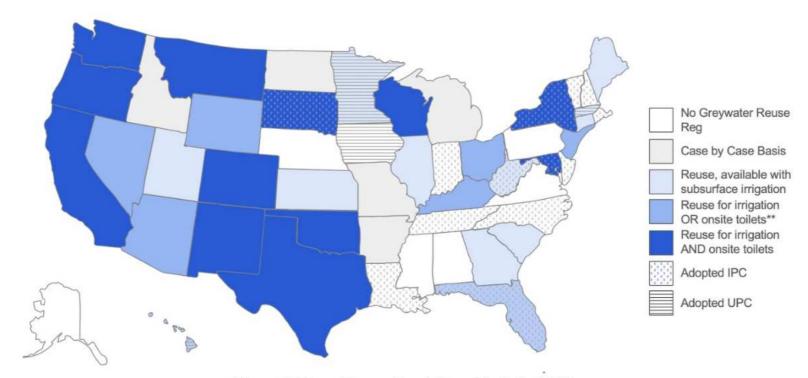
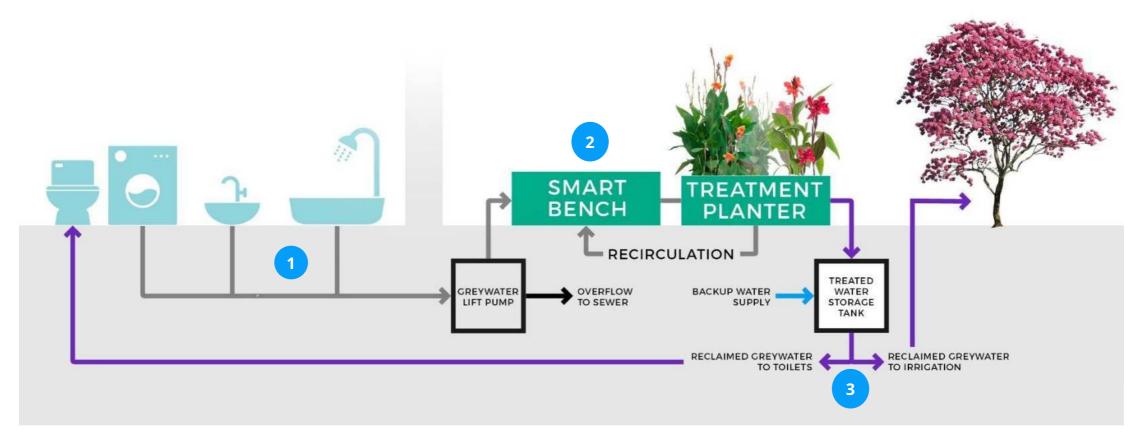


Figure 2. Map of Reuse Regulations Made by LIXIL



<sup>\*\*</sup>More commonly utilized for irrigation. Three states, Florida, Georgia, and New Jersey, allow treated greywater for toilet flushing only and not irrigation.

## **Greywater Reuse: How It Works**





# **Engineering and Nature-based Technology**

**Plants** 







Filtration Media



Control, Monitoring, Data





# **Treatment Process Creates High Quality Water**





# **ROI Calculator**

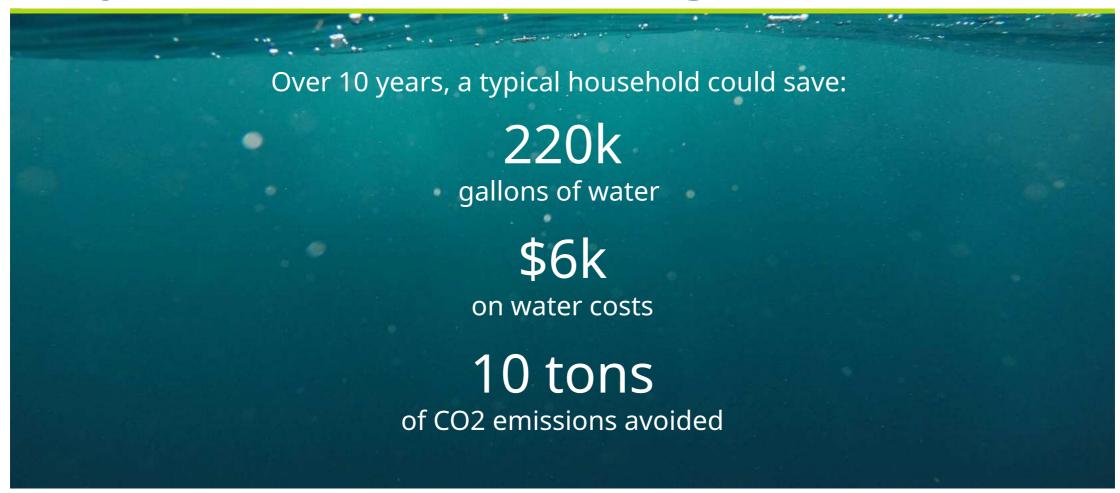
|   |  |                               | All Houses | New homes meet WaterSense 1.0   |
|---|--|-------------------------------|------------|---|
| House   | nold Water Consumption                         |                               |            |   |
|   | Average Daily Indoor Water Use (SELECT SOURCE) | REU -                         | 117.2      | IF REU, use C22 value. IF USGS, use per capita for state multiplied by size of household      |
|   | Outdoor Daily Use                              | gphd                          | 117.2      | REU2016 50/50 indoor/outdoor  |
|   | Swimming Pool Daily Evap (0%=N, 100%=Y)        | 0.0%                          | 0          | Year round average evaporation for 400 square foot pool in arid climate                       |
| House   | nold Water Consumption TOTAL                   | gphd                          | 234        | gallons per household per day   |
|   |  | CCF per month                 | 9.53       |   |
| Greyw   | ater (recyclable)                              |                               |            |   |
|   | Shower   | 21.4%                         | 25         | REU2016 all households, adjusted for lower Leaks + Other in newer homes (reduce 13+3 to 5.2%) |
|   | Bath   | 4.4%                          | 5          | REU2016 all households  |
|   | Faucet (exclude kitchen)                       | 11.4%                         | 13         | REU2016 all households  |
|   | Clothes washer                                 | 17.4%                         | 20         | REU2016 all households  |
|   | Greywater TOTAL                                | 54.6%                         | 64         |   |
| Blackw  | ater and non recyclable                        |                               |            |   |
|   | Toilet   | 25.4%                         | 30         | REU2016 all households  |
|   | Faucet (kitchen)                               | 11.4%                         | 13         | REU2016 all households  |
|   | Dishwasher                                     | 3.4% 4 REU2016 all households |            | REU2016 all households  |
|   | Leaks and Other                                | 5.2%                          | 6          | REU2016 all households adjusted down by 9.8% (other categories adjusted up by 1.4%)           |
|   | Blackwater TOTAL                               | 45.4%                         | 53         | 0.098   |
| System loss                                       |  | 3%                            | 1.9        | gphd  |
| Recycled greywater saved with Greywater Reuse     |  | gphd                          | 62         | gphd  |
| Indoor reuse for laundry (0%=N, 100%=Y)           |  | 0.0%                          | 0          | gphd  |
| Indoor reuse for toilet flushing (0%=N, 100%=Y)   |  | 100.0%                        | 30         | gphd  |
| Water available for irrigation or topping up pool |  |                               | 32         | gphd  |

#### **ROI Calculator**

|   |           | 1                             |
|---|-----------|-------------------------------|
| Water Conservation                        |           |                               |
| Daily Water Purchase Reduction in gallons | 62        | gallons per household per day |
| Monthly water savings in gallons          | 1,888     | gallons per month             |
| Monthly water savings in CCF              | 2.52      | CCF per month                 |
| Annual water savings in gallons           | 22,656    | gallons per year              |
| Annual water savings in CCF               | 30.29     | CCF per year                  |
| Annual water savings in Acre Feet         | 0.0695    | AF per year                   |
| Daily Sewage Reduction in gallons         | 64        | gallons per day               |
| Monthly Sewage Reduction in CCF           | 2.60      | CCF per month                 |
| Annual Sewage Reduction in gallons        | 23,357    | gallons per year              |
| Annual Sewage Reduction in Acre Feet      | 0.0717    | AF per year                   |
| Utility Savings                           |           |                               |
| Monthly Water Bill reduction              | \$ 25.24  | per month                     |
| Monthly Sewer Fee reduction               | \$ 26.02  | per month                     |
| Annual Savings TOTAL                      | \$ 615.10 | per year TOTAL                |



## **Greywater Reuse: Real Savings**





## **Onsite Water Reuse Can Help**

#### Help Developers & Builders

- Brand differentiation with high performance products that stand out
- Meet building codes and water conservation regulations
- Monitor water savings to show high performance for code compliance.
- Increase real home value
- Reduce development costs





#### **Florida**

## **New Greywater Legislation**

#### Florida Statute 403.892

Florida recently passed a law that provides developers with strong financial incentives for adoption of greywater systems.

- 25% density/intensity bonus if 75% of development will have greywater system
- 35% density/intensity bonus if 100% of development will have greywater system

- Applies in addition to other bonuses
- Developments of  $\geq$  25 units
- Each unit must have its own greywater system solely dedicated to its use.



# Value at Scale

#### **Increase Profit by over 30%**

| Without greywater reuse      | 75 units    |
|------------------------------|-------------|
| Water impact fees*           | (\$3,500)   |
| Average home con \$ **       | (\$400,000) |
| Cost of LF system            | (\$0)       |
| Increased sale value / price | \$0         |
| Assumed Profit               | 20%         |
| Profit                       | \$6M        |

| With greywater reuse         | 100 units   |
|------------------------------|-------------|
| Water impact fees*           | (\$2500)    |
| Average home con \$ **       | (\$400,000) |
| Cost of LF system            | (\$8,000)   |
| Increased sale value / price | \$8000      |
| Assumed Profit               | 20%         |
| Profit                       | \$8M        |

<sup>\*</sup> Water impact fees are ave. for Paco, Collier, and Bay counties. The 40% reduction in fee is based on the 40% lower water use. Source



<sup>\*\*</sup>though pinning down an exact number can be difficult, real estate experts say \$12,000-\$24,000 can be added in home value by adding the LeapFrog Design landscaping benefits

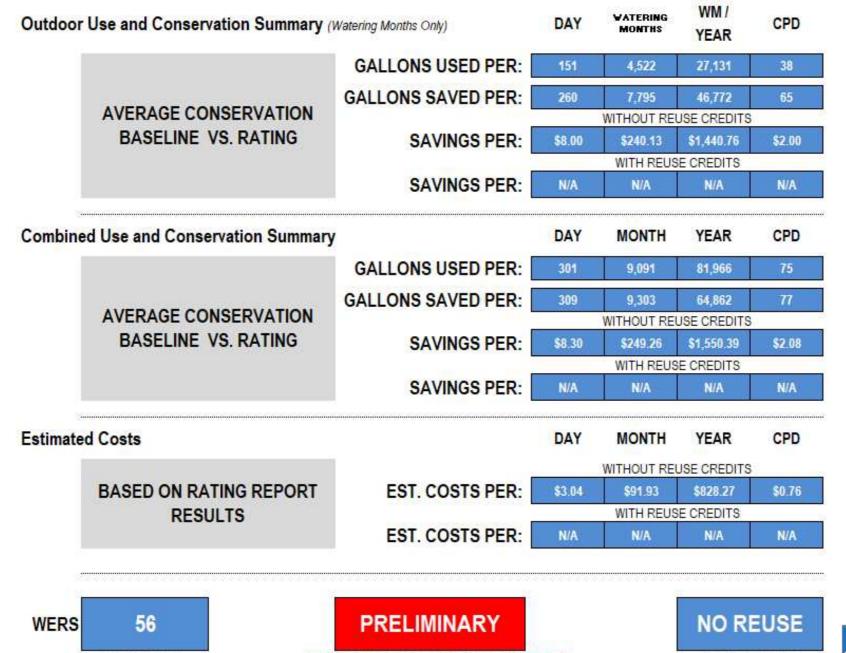
<sup>\*\*\*</sup> Based on reduction in impact fees, meter fees, and other plating costs associated with water and sewer utilities.

# Santa Fe, NM Residence

|                        | Before | + Toilet Upgrade | + Toilet<br>+ Greywater |  |  |
|------------------------|--------|------------------|-------------------------|--|--|
| Water usage            | 81,966 | n/a              | n/a                     |  |  |
| Gallons saved per year | n/a    | 3,504            | 23,381                  |  |  |
| WERS                   | 56     | 53               | 35                      |  |  |



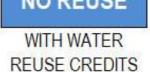




UNCONFIRMED AND UNCERTIFIED

NO REUSE

**CREDITS** 



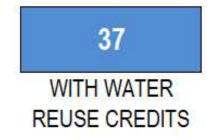


## The Impact of a Greywater System

Projected Outdoor Water Demand = 3,866 gal/wm Projected Monthly Greywater Supply = 3,681 gal Net Difference = 185 gal/wm \*wm = watering month









#### As Is

#### **Toilet Upgrade Only**

|                    | DAY                   | MONTH  | YEAR     | CPD    |  | DAY                | MONTH   | YEAR     | CPD    |
|--------------------|-----------------------|--------|----------|--------|--|--------------------|---------|----------|--------|
| GALLONS USED PER:  | 150                   | 4,570  | 54,835   | 38     | GALLONS USED PER:  | 141                | 4,278   | 51,331   | 35     |
| GALLONS SAVED PER: | 50                    | 1,507  | 18,090   | 12     | GALLONS SAVED PER:   | 59                 | 1,799   | 21,594   | 15     |
|                    | WITHOUT REUSE CREDITS |        |          |        | WITHOUT REUSE CREE   |                    |         |          |        |
| SAVINGS PER:       | \$0.30                | \$9.14 | \$109.62 | \$0.08 | SAVINGS PER:   | \$0.36             | \$10.90 | \$130.86 | \$0.09 |
| 92                 | WITH REUSE CREDITS    |        |          |        | A APPRICATION OF A STATE OF THE | WITH REUSE CREDITS |         |          |        |
| SAVINGS PER:       | N/A                   | N/A    | N/A      | N/A    | SAVINGS PER:   | N/A                | N/A     | N/A      | N/A    |

One Home Saves 3,504 gallons/year Ten Homes Save 35,040 gallons/year One Hundred Homes Save 350,040 gallons/year



The tools and technologies exist to build water-efficient homes.

# Builders need municipalities to see the potential.

What keeps the tap on for builders?

# Proactive Advocacy

for water conservation policies and onsite water reuse

#### What Can Builders Do?

- Proactively look for solutions available today.
- Present home buyers with options.
- Advocate with local and state decisionmakers.



# Thank you!

Adam DeHeer LeapFrog Design adam.deheer@leapfrog.design Mike Collignon Green Builder® Coalition info@greenbuildercoalition.org