WATER EFFICIENCY

In the United States, approximately 340 billion gallons of fresh water are withdrawn per day from rivers, streams, and reservoirs to support residential, commercial, industrial, agricultural, and recreational activities. This accounts for about one-quarter of the nation’s total supply of renewable fresh water. Almost 66% of this water is discharged to rivers, streams, and other water bodies after it is used. On an annual basis, Americans currently extract 3.700 billion gallons per year more than they return to the natural water system to recharge aquifers and other water sources creating a deficit that is impacting our long-term water supply and associated ecosystems.

Each bathroom in EAST HALL is equipped with low flow water faucets that use 0.5 gallons per minute versus a standard 2.5 gallons per minute, as well as “two-flush” toilets that offer a choice of using either 1.5 gallons per flush or 1.6 gallons per flush. Also, showers in each unit are fitted with low-flow showerheads that use 1.5 gallons per minute versus the standard 2.5 gallons per minute. As a result, water usage in the EAST HALL facility is 31% more efficient than a typical building of this size and type. The net effect of equipping each bathroom with these high efficiency features is an overall savings of over 500,000 gallons of water each year, which also leads to 500,000 less gallons per year that are required to be treated as waste water.