



For Immediate Release

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## **Toilet rebates continue to help Waukesha conserve water**

**Waukesha, WI** – Two apartment complexes will be the latest participants in the Waukesha Water Utility’s toilet rebate program. The utility offers rebates of \$100 per fixture for replacing old water guzzling toilets with new efficient toilets, as well as \$25 showerhead rebates.

Jason Faulks, the property manager for the 310-unit Mountain Village Apartments, recently submitted approximately 50 toilet rebate applications to the utility. Faulks knows that Waukesha’s water rates will soon be increasing. Mountain Village Apartments wants to do what they can do to conserve water and keep their bills as low as possible. Faulks said that they recently “updated the toilets in their fully remodeled units and will continue to replace the old toilets as needed.”

The water portion of local water will have rates double or triple, due to the need to develop a new sustainable water supply. Waukesha’s application to borrow and return Lake Michigan water was recently unanimously approved by the Great Lakes governors. Designing, permitting and building the project is expected to take about six year. . To help offset the price increase, Waukesha Water Utility is offering their customers \$100 toilet rebates and \$25 showerhead rebates.

Liane Jones, the property manager for the Hartwell Place Apartments in Waukesha, has notified the utility that they are also in the process of replacing their old water-wasting toilets with new efficient toilets; and is considering changing out the showerheads. Jones stated, “We know that water is going to get pricier, so we have to do what we can do to conserve water.” Jones went on to say that “\$100 rebates for the water efficient toilets make a big difference – it allows us to make these updates.”

In prior years, La Casa de Esperanza’s Village 1 and CDDJ Investments, owners of an apartment building on North Street, also changed out all their toilets. According to Donna Scholl, Administrative Services Manager, for the utility, the program is also available for individual homeowners, but “large apartment projects are especially efficient ways to help meet our conservation goals.”

Waukesha’s current water supply is contaminated with radium, a carcinogen, and is environmentally unsustainable due to a layer of shale rock that limits the recharge of groundwater. Lake Michigan is the only reasonable and sustainable water supply alternative according to the Great Lakes governors. The project will cost more than \$200 million dollars to build a pipeline from the Lake, to upgrade the treatment plant, and to build a second pipe to return the treated water back to the Lake via the Root River.

For more information on the utility’s rebates and other water conservation information, please visit the utility website at [www.waukesha-water.com](http://www.waukesha-water.com) or call the utility at 262-409-4423.