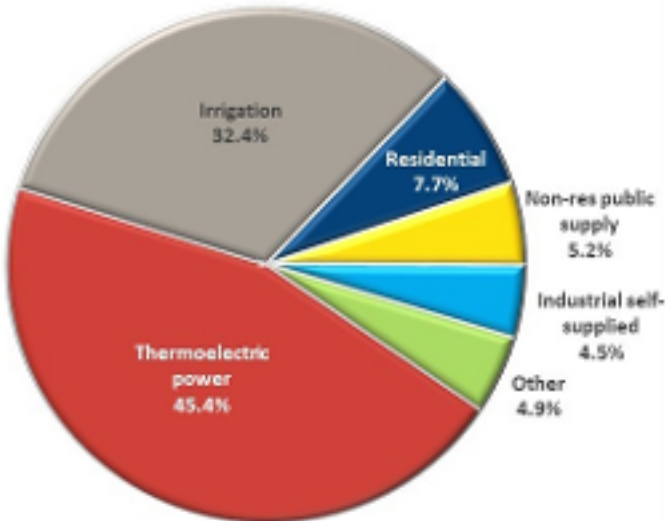


BuilderBulletin

Official Newsletter of the Home Builders Association of Southwest Missouri



December 2017



U.S. Water Use Totals 355,000 Million Gallons Each Day

Source: *Estimated Use of Water in the United States in 2010: US Geological Survey Circular 1405*

How Much Water Do Homes Use?

The residential sector accounts for less than 8% of water used in the U.S., according to a recent [NAHB analysis of information](#) published by the U.S. Geological Survey. The analysis also found that the average home in the U.S. uses about 260 gallons of water per day.

However that amount can vary considerably. The survey also revealed a distinct geographic pattern with relatively low use per home in some upper Midwest and New England

states, and higher use per home in the central South and West, especially in mountain and desert states.

At the state level, water use per housing unit is positively correlated with average temperature and household size, and negatively correlated with annual rainfall.

In short, homes tend to use more water in states that are hot and dry and have larger households.

LEADERSHIP

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Mayberry Construction

Kevin Seward

Seward Insulation

Mark Shallenburger

Sunbelt Rentals

Massachusetts Builders Halt Federal Land Grab

The Army Corps of Engineers proposed a rule in 2016 that would have illegally expanded Clean Water Act jurisdiction to include 900,000 acres of [dry land in Massachusetts](#). But after pushback from NAHB and the Home Builders and Remodelers Association of Massachusetts, the Corps has issued a revised version of the rule that removes an expansive and illegal vernal pool buffer requirement.

The proposal would have required Massachusetts builders and developers to notify the Corps and mitigate any environmental impacts when working within a 750-foot buffer surrounding isolated seasonal ponds called vernal pools.

There are nearly 37,000 vernal pools across Massachusetts, and conservative estimates indicate 17% of the commonwealth's area falls within the proposed vernal pool buffer.

Supported by NAHB's Legal Action Committee and State and Local Issues fund, the Home Builders and Remodelers Association of Massachusetts, together with NAHB staff, joined forces at the Corps' New England District Offices in August 2016 to fight this overreach.

In response to our joint comments and analysis of the flawed proposal, the Corps has issued a revised version that removes the expansive and illegal vernal pool buffer requirements.

NAHB's Meeting of the Members

Don't miss NAHB's [Meeting of the Members](#) on Jan. 10 during the [International Builders' Show](#) in Orlando.

Learn about NAHB advocacy initiatives and membership benefits, network with like-minded building professionals, and hear Shark Tank personality and entrepreneur Daymond John.

Housing Starts Near Post-Recession High

Nationwide [housing starts](#) rose 13.7% in October to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 1.29 million units after a slight upward revision to the September reading, according to newly released data from HUD and the Commerce Department.

This is the highest housing production reading since October 2016, when total starts hit a post-recession high of 1.33 million.

Single-family production rose 5.3% to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 877,000.

Year-to-date, single-family starts are 8.4% above their level over the same period last year.

Multifamily starts jumped 36.8% to 413,000 units after a weak September report.

OSHA Extends Crane Operator Deadline

At NAHB's urging, OSHA is delaying by one year its [crane operator certification](#) deadline. The deadline is now Nov. 10, 2018.

OSHA is also extending for the same one-year period the

employer duty to ensure that crane operators are competent to operate a crane safely.

NAHB remains concerned that OSHA's requirements for third-party certification of crane operators are too restrictive.

Careers in Construction - Start Now!

The building trades offer a great career path. And, the residential construction industry is one of the few sectors where demand for new workers is rising.

Parents, teachers, counselors and students must once again recognize that a vocational education can offer satisfying

career paths and financial gains.

Help us spread the word to young people and those looking for a fresh start!

To learn more about educational programs and job opportunities in the trades in Southwest Missouri visit [hbabuilders.com](#).

Marijuana Legalization Brings New Workplace Challenges

Home builders and other employers have new cause for concern: the legalization and increased use of marijuana.

The laws governing use of marijuana vary by state, and many have implemented laws and regulations that protect current or prospective employees against discrimination based on the worker's use of marijuana.

To help builders address this issue, NAHB has created "A Builder's Guide: Marijuana in the Workplace," which examines items related to the legalization of marijuana and includes a compilation of state laws as well as tips for creating workplace policies.

If you're logged into nahb.org, the [guidebook can be found](#) in the "Trending Now" section of the Construction Liability Resources on NAHB's website.

The guide examines pertinent issues related to the legalization of marijuana, and includes a compilation of state laws and tips for creating workplace policies.

It also provides answers to many frequently asked questions. For example:



- In areas where it is legal to smoke marijuana for medical reasons, can employers still object to their employees smoking marijuana at work? (The answer is yes.)
- Can an employer fire or choose not to hire someone because they admitted to (legally) using marijuana, or because a drug test revealed they had recently smoked marijuana, even if their work performance was not impaired? (The answer varies by state.)

Are you saving money?

You can be with the NAHB Member Advantage!

The Member Advantage program offers NAHB members money-saving discounts that benefit their businesses, employees and family.

The program includes General Motors, Lowe's, GEICO insurance, Dell computers, Hertz, Avis and Budget rental cars, Office Depot and many other great brands.

Additional information about [the savings programs](#), and links for more detail about how the programs work, is available on NAHB's website,

<https://www.nahb.org/en/members/member-discounts.aspx>



2018 ICC Code Adoption Kits

With states and jurisdictions preparing to upgrade to the latest building and energy codes released by the International Code Council, NAHB has developed resources to help HBAs suggest cost-effective changes to improve the newly released 2018 editions. Sign in to nahb.org to download the [2018 I-Codes Adoption Kit](#), which consists of three parts:

- Significant changes that were made in the 2018 I-Codes from the 2015 editions.
- Cost impact of adopting the 2018 IRC to the 2015 edition.
- NAHB-suggested amendments to improve the codes' practicality and cost effectiveness.

The ICC "model" codes are designed with the intent that they can be amended by the state or local jurisdiction to take into account local considerations, such as geography, climate and local practices.

2018 Home Show is back in Joplin!

We are excited to let you know that the 2018 HBA Home Show is back in Joplin! We are leasing 440 N. Range Line Road; the old Office Max/Spirit Halloween space in the North Point Shopping Center located at 7th and Range Line Road. For those of you not familiar with Joplin, this is centrally located in a shopping center with Toys R Us, Ashley Furniture, Ross Dress for Less, PetSmart, Pier 1 Imports, and more!

The 2018 Home Show will kick off with a VIP Night Thursday, February 8 from 5:30pm - 9pm. We will have entertainment, a cash bar, and guests must have a special VIP ticket to get in the venue. We will provide each company that has a booth the VIP tickets closer to the event.

The show will be open to the public Friday, February 9 and Saturday, February 10 from 10am - 8pm both days.

You should have received your Booth Packet in the mail. If you will be selling items at your booth, there is additional paperwork to fill out for the City of Joplin. If you need to utilize equipment to move your booth items in, please schedule your time with staff so that the equipment is available.

Booths will be filled on a first come, first served basis. Advanced tickets for the Home Show, sold prior to the event, will be available at half price.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Cheryl or Valerie.

We're excited for the 2018 Home Show and we'll see you soon!

Message from the EO -

Thank you all for a great 2017! I am so excited to move into 2018 and continue the awesome work of your HBA! Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns.

I hope everyone has a wonderful holiday season with family and friends!

Valerie Searcy

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Events List

December 25 -

MERRY CHRISTMAS!

Wednesday, January 31

7:30am

Member Coffee

Simmons Bank (warm
breakfast provided)

Thursday, February 8

5:30pm

Home Show VIP Night

Friday, February 9 &

Saturday, February 10

10am - 8pm

2018 HOME SHOW