

Every industry has a common goal, to satisfy customers and protect its reputation.

Professional Certification

The WQA Professional Certification program helps consumers and employers identify individuals in the point-of-use/point-of-entry—at the tap or whole house water treatment — industry who have demonstrated a certified level of professional expertise and are dedicated to high professional standards. WQA education resources include technical and business basics for beginners and non-technical employees, theory and applications of water treatment technologies, specific residential applications, commercial sizing and application, and industrial applications. WQA education resources, available to all their members also include topics on plumbing basics, equipment installation guide, disinfection, and different approaches to system optimization.

When looking at installing or optimizing water treatment, individuals can find certified professionals in their area through WQA's website at www.wqa.org.

Product Certification

How can consumers feel confident that not only are they buying products to fit their demands, but that they also truly do what they say they are going to do? In many American industries, including water treatment, the answer is simple, it is called "product certification."

Product certification can be loosely interpreted as a seal of approval. Often, an actual seal is placed on products to distinguish those that have met the various stringent requirements established. In most cases, certification is not simply passing a single test. In fact, when done right, product certification encompasses many aspects including such items as best practices, rigorous testing according to industry standards, and third-party oversight.

Certification is a reliable way an industry can direct consumers to products that most effectively do what they want.

More About the Water Quality Association

The Water Quality Association advocates for the water treatment industry and its technologies. WQA members make and sell products such as treatment systems at the faucet, whole-house improvement devices, water softeners, and more. There products fall under two different categories: point-of-use (POU) and point-of-entry (POE) systems that improve water quality in a home or business.

WQA Gold Seal Certification Program is dedicated to providing public health and safety services throughout the USA and globally, and maintaining expert service, superior reputation, and fair pricing.

The Water Quality Associations Water Treatment Industry Toolkit

The Water Quality Association provides these facts sheets and resource guides as a services to its members, policymakers, and the general public They are designed to promote discussion on key issues through facts and data.

Learn more

- Water Quality Research Foundation
www.wqa.org/WQRF
- Water Quality Association
www.wqa.org
- WQA Gold Seal
www.wqa.org/goldseal
- WQA Modular Education Program
www.wqa.org/MEP

For more information contact:



International Headquarters and Laboratory
4151 Naperville Road
Lisle, IL 60532-3696 USA
Phone: 630-505-0160
Website: www.wqa.org
A not-for-profit organization

Water Softener Benefits

Independent study evaluates energy savings using softened water



Courtesy of The Water Quality Association
A not-for-profit organization

DOES YOUR SHOWER LOOK LIKE THIS?



OR THIS?



Top photo is of a showerhead after seven days of accelerated testing with soft water showing all 45 of 45 spray nozzles open. Bottom photo is of a showerhead after seven days of accelerated testing with hard water showing only 6 of 45 spray nozzles open.

Energy Savings Study

Benefits of Removal of Water Hardness (Calcium and Magnesium Ions) From a Water Supply

Showerheads

Showerheads on hard water lost 75% of the flow rate in less than 18 months of simulated normal operation.

Faucets on hard water could not maintain the specified 1.25 gallons per minute flow rate because of scale collection of the strainers.

Carbon Footprint

The carbon footprint increases 18% for gas storage tank water heaters when operated on 26 grains per gallon of hard water for 15 years as compared to the same operation on softened water.

For instantaneous-type natural gas water heaters, this same carbon footprint increases 4% when operated on 26 grains per gallon of hard water versus 0 grains per gallon of softened water over 15 years.

Gas Storage Tank Water Heaters

Each 5 grains per gallon of water hardness causes a 4% loss in efficiency and 4% increase in cost of energy in gas storage tank water heaters when using 50 gallons of hot water per day.

Tankless Water Heaters

The economic savings of softened water with instantaneous tankless water heaters can lead to recovery of the cost of a water softener and operating supplies in a period as short as a year.

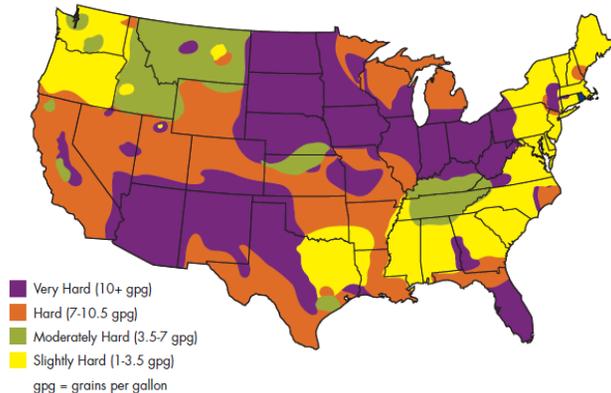
Softened water saves 40% of costs compared to operating on 20 grains per gallon of water hardness and saves 57% compared to operating on 30 grains per gallon hard water.

Electric Water Heaters

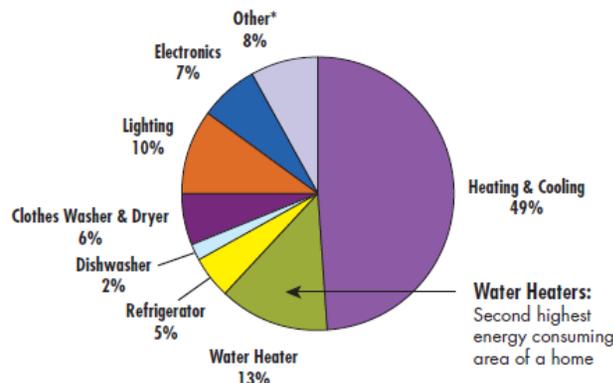
Up to 30 pounds of calcium carbonate rocklike scale deposits can accumulate in electric water heaters. Each 5 grains per gallon of water hardness caused 0.4 pounds of scale accumulation each year in electric storage tank water heaters.

Conducted in 2009 by the Battelle Memorial Institute and funded by the Water Quality Research Foundation

Concentration of Water Hardness Across The United States



US Household Energy Usage



Predicted Efficiency

