What is the ShowerSaver™?

The ShowerSaver™ is a monitoring device for use in the shower that provides the user with real-time data on shower duration and water consumption. The device features a sensor which allows it to turn on and off automatically - users just need to get in and start showering. It also requires no connection to the plumbing, doesn’t control water flow, and is very easy to install. Unlike rudimentary shower timing devices, the ShowerSaver’s design features various psychological cues, which encourage users to reduce their shower time. Most prominently, a virtual water level rises in tandem with shower duration, which then corresponds to green, yellow, and red – color cues with which our minds are quite familiar. Click here or go to www.greenstartshere.com/products/showersaver for our interactive product demo to learn more.

Save Water, Energy, and the Planet!

Information is power. By providing you with real-time information about your own shower, you will be empowered to make the sustainable decision. Most people don’t realize the full cost of a shower. In addition to using fresh clean drinking water, our showers are typically heated by fossil fuels such as heating oil and natural gas, both of which contribute to global warming. With more than one-third of the US and other parts of the world in severe drought conditions, and with water/energy prices continuing to rise, the cost of your shower is probably more than you think. Depending on water and energy costs in your area, the annual cost of a daily 8-minute shower in the US can be anywhere from $150 to over $500 for each member of your family, and that is assuming you already have a low-flow shower head installed. Taking just one minute off your daily shower time can result in meaningful dollar savings at home while also providing a significant benefit to our environment.

How does it work?

The ShowerSaver™ works by combining the average water-flow rate of your shower (see calibration p. 2) with your shower time to produce an easy-to-read graphical display of your shower. Thanks to a built-in sensor, the ShowerSaver™ knows when you are in the shower and will start timing for you – no start button needed. When you finish your shower, the device will also turn-off automatically, and will not restart until the next shower begins. Finally, you can use the default settings or create your own customized goals targeting time or water consumption.

Where was the ShowerSaver™ made?

The ShowerSaver™ was designed in New York City, NY and assembled in Shenzhen, China.

Normal Operation

When the ShowerSaver™ detects a user, a small green LED illuminates, the digital timer starts to count, and the virtual water level begins to rise. The timer will continue to advance as long as the sensor detects someone in its immediate proximity. If you leave the sensor field of range, the timer will continue to advance for approximately 90 seconds. If detection is lost, the timer will reset. When inactive, the device will show on the current defaults on the display. The device will also reset by pressing the SET button.
Setting your ShowerSaver™

Outside of normal operation, there are two optional modes which are used for calibration and for setting a time goal or water target goal. If you choose to calibrate, remember to also set up a time or vol. goal.

Calibration Mode

This is where you input your shower’s individual flow rate (average water output). The ShowerSaver™ comes factory set at the original standard U.S. low-flow rate of 2.5 gallons per minute (or 9.46 liters per minute). If you have this type of Showerhead or do not wish to customize your experience, there is no need to go through the calibration and you can skip this step. The device will still be accurate in terms of time, and provide the same benefits of increased awareness.

Step 1 – How to get your flow rate

Although this can be done alone, we suggest you make this a team effort in order to avoid getting wet. All you need is a container of known volume such as a large measuring cup (4 cups/32oz) or iced tea pitcher (64oz) and a timer. We don’t recommend anything under 32oz. Holding the container under the showerhead, turn the water on to your normal shower pressure and record how many seconds it takes to fill. Using the simple formula below, you can now easily determine your flow rate in gallons or liters per minute. Alternatively, you can click here or visit greenstartshere.com/calibration for our online calculator.

For Gallons, let’s use an example of a juice pitcher (1 quart or 32oz) that took 5 seconds to fill.

1) Divide 60 seconds by the time to fill container → 60/5 = 12
2) Take that result and multiple by container volume → 12 x 32 = 384
3) Divide 128 (oz) by the result from above → 384/128 = 3.0

In this case, your shower uses 3.0 gallons per minute

For Liters, let’s use an example of a juice pitcher (2 liters or 2,000ml) that took 10 seconds to fill.

1) Divide 60 seconds by the time to fill container → 60/10 = 6
2) Take that result and multiple by container volume → 6 x 2,000 = 12,000
3) Divide 1,000 (ml) by the result from above → 12,000/1,000 = 12

In this case, your shower uses 12.0 liters per minute

Step 2 – Programming Your Flow Rate

Now that you have you flow rate from Step 1, it is time to program your ShowerSaver™.

1) With the batteries in, press and hold the SET button for 3 seconds. Upon release, you should see the word CALIB on the bottom which means you are in calibration mode. You should also see the preset factory flow rate of 2.5 gallons on the top right and 9 liters on the top left. The 1 “mins” in the middle tells you that these amounts are measured in 1 minute so 2.5 gallons per minute or 9 liters per minute.

2) Next, hold the SET button for another 3 seconds after which you will see the word SETUP appear next to CALIB. You will also notice that both gallons and liters have begun to rise. Don’t be alarmed - these numbers will first count up to the maximum programmable flow rate of 10 gallons per minute or 37 liters per minute and then begin to fall down to the minimums. When the desired rate is displayed, in this case 3 gallons per minute or 12 liters per minute, press the SET button to lock in your selection.

3) You are now in Goal Setting Mode. Since you have set your flow rate, you should now set a time or water consumption goal for your shower. Please see “Goal Setting Mode” directly below.
**Goal Setting Mode – Target Time or Water Consumption**

This is where you can customize your own shower experience. By setting a time or water target goal, the virtual water level will rise based on your exact specifications. For example, you may want to take a shower of say 5 minutes or have a goal of using only 20 gallons – you can easily program either scenario.

1) Beginning from normal operation, press and hold the SET button for 3 seconds. Upon release, you should see the word CALIB on the bottom which means you are in calibration mode. Now press the SET button again and you will see the word MAX on the bottom right of the unit. You are now ready to set your maximum time or water consumption goal. If you just calibrated the unit, you are already in MAX mode.

2) Next, hold the SET button for another 3 seconds after which you will see the word SETUP appear on the bottom left of the display. You will also notice that gallons, liters, and minutes have all begun to rise. Depending on whether your goal is time or water consumption (gallons or liters), simply wait until the desired time or volume is displayed and press the SET button to lock in your selection.

3) Your goal has now been set and you should be back in normal operation. These settings will remain until the batteries have been removed.

**Viewing Defaults**

The following shows you how to viewing current or default settings (without changing the settings)

1) Press and hold the SET button for approximately 3 seconds. When the button is released, the CALIB icon and the current flow rate settings for gallons per minute and liters per minute will appear on the display.

2) Press the SET button, and the MAX icon along with the maximum minutes, gallons, and liters will appear on the display.

3) Press the SET button again to exit.

**Installing Batteries**

1) With a Phillips head screwdriver, unscrew the back panel and insert the provided batteries.

2) Taking care to ensure the rubber gasket seal is in place, reinsert the panel and fasten the screw.

3) Please note, when inserting batteries, try to avoid multiple quick insertion and removal as this may cause the device to malfunction. If this happens, remove one battery for 30 seconds, allowing everything to discharge, and reinsert the battery quickly in a single motion.

**Frequently Asked Questions / Troubleshooting**

**Q:** My ShowerSaver™ keeps resetting during the shower?

**A:** The ShowerSaver™ will run as long as the sensor can actively detect you. As discussed in “normal operation” on page 1, there is a 90 second hold before the timer will reset. If you need to be away from the sensor for more than 90 seconds (eg cleaning feet, shaving), please wave your hand in front of the sensor periodically to prevent a reset. As long as the green light flashes on, you know that the sensor has detected you and the 90 seconds will reset.

**Q:** My ShowerSaver™ is frozen and won’t reset when I press SET.

**A:** Remove one battery and wait 30 seconds. Reinsert in one swift motion as instructed above (see “installing batteries”).

**Q:** Is the ShowerSaver™ waterproof? What if it drops in the bath tub?

**A:** No. Although we designed the ShowerSaver™ to be highly resistant to moisture, it is not rated for submersion in water and should not be placed in direct spray of water. If the unit happens to get submerged, please treat the device as you would any portable electric device and allow to fully dry before using again.
Q: My ShowerSaver™ won’t let me go into program or calibration modes?  
A: Remove one battery and wait 30 seconds. Reinsert in one swift motion as instructed above (see “installing batteries”).

Q: How do I reset the factory defaults for calibration and goal setting modes?  
A: Remove one battery and wait 30 seconds. Reinsert in one swift motion as instructed above (see “installing batteries”). The factory defaults will reappear.

Q: The green light on my ShowerSaver™ won’t go off? What does this mean?  
A: This means that the sensor is capturing another object such as a shower curtain or wall within its range. Please move your ShowerSaver™ to a location on the shower wall where false triggering does not occur. In some cases, such as where the shower is small or where the shower curtain is within range, there is a workaround explained below under “Sensor Workaround”.

Q: I have to move my ShowerSaver™. How do I remove the cradle from the wall?  
A: If you are using the 3M double sided tape (otherwise known as powerstrips), simply hold the cradle with one hand and pull slowly and straight down on the rounded tip of the tape with the other. The tape should slowly remove itself without leaving any residue on the wall.

Q: I had to move my ShowerSaver™. Where can I get more of the 3M double-sided tape?  
A: We do not directly sell the tape but you can purchase more on Amazon via the link on our website at www.greenstartshere.com/accessories

Q: My cradle fell from the wall? What happened?  
A: Since the tape is designed to hold 8x the weight of the ShowerSaver™, it is likely that there was an error during installation. Please ensure that instructions are followed closely. We do not directly sell the tape but you can purchase more on Amazon via the link on our website (see link above).

Q: Can I use regular (alkaline) AA batteries?  
A: Yes. You can use most AA type batteries but for sustainability purposes we recommend using the rechargeable NiMH that were included with your ShowerSaver™.

Q: How long is the battery life of the ShowerSaver™?  
A: We estimate that the ShowerSaver™ should last over a year per person on each charge. The AA rechargeable NiMH batteries that we have provided can be charged an estimated 800 times.

Q: My ShowerSaver™ display seems to be peeling or just doesn’t look quite right?  
A: The device is protected by a thin layer of plastic when it is shipped from the factory. Please ensure that this is removed prior to use.

Q: How do I keep my ShowerSaver™ looking like new?  
A: The ShowerSaver™ requires no special maintenance. We recommend wiping the unit gently with your bath towel after each shower. To restore the lens, a simple damp cloth do the trick.

**Package Contents**

(1) ShowerSaver™, (2) AA batteries (rechargeable NiMH), (1) cradle, (1) 3M double-sided tape (powerstrip), (1 set) Torx tamper proof screw and bolt, (2) damper stickers.
Sensor Workaround

Showers come in a wide variety of shapes and sizes and the ShowerSaver™ was calibrated to work with most showers. One of the key features of the ShowerSaver™ is that it comes equipped with a built-in auto-sensor, which starts the timer as soon as you get into the shower. The sensor works by detecting temperature changes in its field of view. Similar to human eye sight, the field of vision widens out as you get further away from the sensor (Figure 1). In some cases, your shower size or unique dimensions may be such that the sensor is triggered by other objects such as the opposite shower wall, shelf, or curtain. In these cases, a small damper sticker can be placed over the proximity sensor which is located on the bottom right side of the ShowerSaver™ (Figure 2). If you did not receive one of these stickers in your packaging, please contact info@greenstartshere.com and we will provide you with one.

FCC Information

NOTE: This equipment has been tested and found to comply with the limits for a Class B digital device, pursuant to Part 15 of the FCC Rules. These limits are designed to provide reasonable protection against harmful interference in a residential installation. This equipment generates, uses and can radiate radio frequency energy and, if not installed and used in accordance with the instructions, may cause harmful interference to radio communications. However, there is no guarantee that interference will not occur in a particular installation.

If this equipment does cause harmful interference to radio or television reception, which can be determined by turning the equipment off and on, the user is encouraged to try to correct the interference by one or more of the following measures:
- Reorient or relocate the receiving antenna.
- Increase the separation between the equipment and receiver.
- Connect the equipment into an outlet on a circuit different from that to which the receiver is connected.
- Consult the dealer or an experienced radio/TV technician for help.

90-Day Limited Warranty

This product is warranted to the original purchaser to be free from defects in material or workmanship for a period of ninety days from the date of the original retail purchase.

This warranty does not cover defects or damage due to improper installation, alteration, accident or any other event beyond the control of the manufacturer. Defects or damage resulting from misuse, abuse or negligence will void this warranty. This warranty does not cover scratching or damage that may result from normal usage. This warranty extends only to consumers and does not extend to retailers.

This warranty is nontransferable and is expressly limited to the repair or replacement of the defective product. During the warranty period, the manufacturer shall repair or replace defective parts at no cost to the purchaser. Shipping charges and insurance are not covered and are the responsibility of the
purchaser. Labor charges and related expenses for removal, installation or replacement of the product or components are not covered under this warranty.

The manufacturer reserves the right to make substitutions to warranty claims if parts are unavailable or obsolete.

The manufacturer shall not be liable for loss of use of the product or other consequential or incidental costs, expenses or damages incurred by the consumer of any other use. The user assumes all risk of injury resulting from the use of this product.

This warranty is expressly in lieu of all other warranties, expressed or implied, including warranties of merchantability or fitness for use to the extent permitted by Federal or state law. Neither the manufacturer nor any of its representatives assumes any other liability in connection with this product.

All warranty claims must be made through the retailer where the product was originally purchased. A purchase receipt or other proof of date of purchase will be required to process all warranty claims. The model number and part numbers found within the assembly instructions will be required when submitting any parts requests or warranty claims.

Company Info
Green Starts Here, LLC
111 Canfield Avenue, Building C 1-10
Randolph, NJ 07869
Info@greenstartshere.com
www.GreenStartsHere.com

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