

UMass Chan Medical School

Office of Sustainability
and
Environmental Building Services

Green Restroom Fixtures and Dispensers Guidelines

March 2026

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OVERVIEW

❖ Purpose

UMass Chan Medical School is committed to designing, operating, and maintaining restroom facilities that support water conservation, waste reduction, hygiene, and occupant health while minimizing environmental impact.

❖ Scope

These guidelines apply to all restroom and bathroom facilities in owned and leased UMass Chan Medical School buildings, excluding hospital facilities. The guidelines cover fixtures, dispensers, and consumable products.

❖ Guiding Principles

If an alternative product is proposed due to ADA Compliance, the design team should discuss alternatives with the Office of Sustainability.

Other guiding principles:

- Promote water efficiency and conservation
- Reduce material waste and packaging
- Improve hygiene and user experience
- Minimize maintenance needs and operational impacts
- Prioritize safer, environmentally preferable products

❖ Roles and Responsibilities

Environmental Building Services (EBS)

- Maintain restroom fixtures and dispensers
- Follow stocking and replacement procedures

Facilities Management

- Oversee installation of fixtures during renovation
- Consult with EBS on fixture selection and placement of fixtures in alignment with this policy

Facilities Maintenance

- Replacement of fixtures as needed through work order requests in alignment with this policy

Environmental Health & Safety (EHS)

- Review product safety where applicable

Office of Sustainability

- Provide standards and guidance

Fixture Selection

Each restroom fixture listed below includes examples – it should be noted that the examples shared are not requirements. Evaluation of the installed condition is encouraged to find strategies that support occupant comfort, cleanliness, and safety.

The below fixture types include examples of products we have used successfully on our campus. They are given to show examples that deliver on our shared criteria for more sustainable and healthy buildings. For many fixtures in our bathrooms, UMass Chan values a touchless condition but wants to avoid frequent battery replacements. Where conflicting criteria exist, our teams should consider the entire criteria in making fixture selections or recommendations for the best value. Other fixtures are compatible

❖ Sink Faucets

Restroom sink faucets should:

- Meet U.S. Environmental Protection Agency WaterSense certification standards
- Be low-flow models designed to reduce water consumption
- Utilize non-battery automatic sensor activation where feasible to minimize water waste and improve hygiene
- Batteries may be selected only if they are rechargeable by the potential energy of the waterflow through the faucet.
 - *Example) Toto EcoPower*

❖ Toilet Systems

Toilets and urinals should:

- For toilets, utilize flush valves with dual-flush technology that allow users to select lower or higher water volumes depending on flushing needs
- For urinals, product should be calibrated for 0.125–1.0 gallons-per-flush. No-flush urinals may be evaluated with input from EBS and Sustainability teams
- Be designed to reduce water consumption while maintaining performance
 - *Example) Sloan ECOS® Dual Flush Flushometer (toilet); Sloan G2 Optima Plus Urinal Flushometer (sensor)*



Figure 1 Photo of the Sloan dual flush flushometer, with a photo demonstrating how to use it beside.

❖ Soap Dispensers

Soap dispensers should:

- Use refillable systems compatible with approved soap products
- Avoid battery-powered or sensor-based units, when possible, to reduce battery waste and maintenance requirements
- Support durable, tamper-resistant designs suitable for high-use environments
 - Example) Kutol Designer Series SS001BK31 Manual Dispenser 10.75" x 6.75" x 5.5" in black.



Figure 2 Photo of the Designer Series Soap Dispenser and specific product code

❖ Toilet Paper Dispensers

Toilet paper dispensers should:

- **Be compatible with coreless toilet paper systems** to reduce packaging waste and cardboard cores
- Prefer wall-mounted, self-refilling dispensers that limit user access to a single roll at a time to reduce waste
- Prefer models that do not collect toilet paper dust in the bottom tray
- Accept durable stainless-steel side-by-side toilet paper roll models, when necessary, provided they are compatible with coreless toilet paper are designed to withstand frequent use
- Prefer designs that allow bottom-loading roll replacement, which automatically advances the next roll when the previous roll is depleted
 - Prefer *Scott® Pro™ Coreless Standard Roll Toilet Paper Dispenser (09606), 2 Roll Capacity, Stainless Steel, 10.13" x 7.13" x 6.38"*
- Environmental Building Services procedures specify that toilet paper rolls should not be replaced until approximately **10% or less** of the roll remains to minimize unnecessary waste.



Figure 3 Photo of the Scott Coreless Standard Roll Toilet Paper Dispenser

❖ Feminine Hygiene Product Dispensers and Disposal Bin

Restroom facilities should provide dispensers for menstrual hygiene products, including pads and tampons, to support accessibility and occupant health.

When selecting product dispensers:

- Prefer locked, stainless steel dispenser featuring a sliding shutter that ensures one pad roll is used at a time
 - Example) *Egal Pads Inc. Product 3PL4MBS, a 11" x 7" x 3"*
- Use countertop non-porous containers to store tampons in women's and gender-neutral bathrooms as space allows. *Example) Acrylic drawer containers*

When selecting menstrual products, preference should be given to options that:

- Avoid added fragrances, dyes, or unnecessary chemical additives
- Use cotton or plant-based materials where feasible
- Avoid chlorine bleaching when possible
- Minimize plastic packaging and applicators where alternatives exist
- Comply with applicable safety and consumer product regulations
- Product selection should consider emerging research on potential contaminants in menstrual products and prioritize safer material options when available.



Figure 4 Photo of the outside of the Egal Product Dispenser, with a photo of the device opened up to view the rolls of pads inside, beside

For feminine product dispensers, prefer stainless-steel disposal bins in each stall.

❖ Paper Towel Dispensers

In lieu of automatic hand dryers, UMass Chan prefers paper towel dispensers. Installation of automatic hair dryers should be avoided to limit energy consumption, promote hygiene, and to conserve space.

Paper towel dispensers should:

- Avoid C-fold towel dispensers
- Use roll towel systems rather than C-fold or multi-fold paper towels
- Utilize jumbo or large-capacity rolls to reduce the frequency of replacement
- Prefer manual pull dispensers with built-in cutting mechanisms that dispense a consistent length of towel to reduce overuse and paper waste
- Avoid battery-powered or sensor-based units when possible to reduce battery waste and maintenance requirements
- Prefer black or stainless-steel color
 - Example) *Sanitouch Hard Roll Towel Dispenser 1.5" Hub 09991-04*



Figure 5 Photo of the black Sanitouch Hard Roll Dispenser

Procurement Standards

Preference for products and systems that:

- Reduce water and material consumption
- Minimize maintenance and waste
- Align with sustainability goals

Operations and Maintenance

EBS will:

- Maintain dispensers for proper function
- Follow waste-reduction stocking practices
- Ensure consistent availability of supplies

Performance Tracking and Continuous Improvement

Tracking may include:

- Water usage reductions
- Waste reduction metrics
- Maintenance frequency
- User feedback

Exceptions

Exceptions must be approved by Facilities Management and EBS where applicable and reviewed periodically.

Compliance and Review

This policy will be reviewed every two years and updated as needed.

Effective Date: June 2026

Responsible Offices: Environmental Building Services, Office of Sustainability

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