

Sloan Waterfree Urinal Replacement Mistakes and FAQs

Common Waterfree Maintenance Mistakes

This is a must read for those who maintain Sloan waterfree urinals or plan on buying them in the future. Below are the two most common mistakes that are made, and these mistakes often result in more problems whose solutions are difficult to identify. Avoid making these mistakes by properly maintaining your waterfree urinals. If you follow these instructions, you shouldn't have any problems.

Mistake #1: Flushing the waterfree urinal cartridge with water after the sealant has been administered.

The most common Sloan waterfree urinal maintenance mistake is flushing the cartridge with water AFTER the blue sealant has been added. Flushing the cartridge with water after the sealant has been added will flush the sealant down the drain, which in turn causes the cartridge not to work properly. The smell of urine will come back through the cartridge if there is no sealant in the cartridge.

Mistake #2: Failing to clean the housing and drain nipple when changing the urinal cartridge.

The second most common mistake when performing maintenance of waterfree urinals is failing to properly clean all areas of the urinal and housing cartridge each time the cartridge is replaced. The short, horizontal drain nipple gets clogged by struvite, which is a water-soluble biosolid found in urine. Struvite that accumulates in the housing and drain nipple causes a slow flow of urine out of the urinal if the struvite is not properly removed. It can be removed with a bottle brush and some soapy water. This should be done each time a cartridge is replaced.

Waterfree Urinal Cartridge FAQs

How much water do waterless urinals save?

Waterless urinals can save up to 40,000 gallons of water each year. This enables buildings to gain maximum LEED credits for their urinal fixtures. They also greatly reduce water and sewage costs.

When does a waterfree urinal cartridge need to be replaced?

Cartridges need to be replaced every 3 months or every 7,000 uses.

The easiest way to schedule cartridge replacement is to simply replace it every 3 months, which works for most locations. Urinals that get more use, however, may need to be replaced sooner than every 3 months.

One way to figure out how many days your cartridge will last until it needs to be replaced is to count restroom traffic for a duration of time. For example, if you count 10 users over the period of an hour, then divide 7,000 by 10, then you would find that your cartridges need to be replaced every 700 hours which equates to approximately 29 days. (Divide 700 by 24 to convert hours to days.) If there is more than one waterfree urinal in the restroom, then divide the number of users per hour by the number of waterfree urinals. Then divide 7000 thousand by that number, and finally divide that number by 24 to get the numbers of days before you need to change the cartridge.

Other signs that your waterfree urinal cartridge needs to be replaced:

- If your restroom starts to smell like urine even when they are clean, that is a sign that your cartridges need to be replaced.
- The blue indicator on top of the cartridge is no longer visible
- Fluid flows very slowly into the cartridge
- Blue sealant appears on top of the cartridge
- What urinals use waterfree urinal cartridges?

The following Sloan urinal models are waterfree urinals that utilize WES-150 waterfree urinal cartridges:

WES-1000

WES-4000

WES-7000

How do I clean the urinal bowl without using water?

Cleaning the urinal bowl without ruining the urinal cartridge (water removes the sealant) is simple. Use a spray cleaner and then wipe the bowl down with a rag, sponge, or mop.