

How to Check for Leaks

Did you know....

- Minor household leaks account for more than 1 trillion gallons of wasted water every year in the U.S.?
- 20% of all toilets leak silently or at night and can lose up to 200 gallons of water per day?

Checking for Leaks Inside the Home:

Toilet –Flapper Leak: Put a few drops of food coloring in the tank and wait 15 minutes. If color appears in the bowl, there is a flapper leak.

Toilet - Overflow Tube: Remove the tank lid and observe the water level. If the water level is higher than one inch below the overflow tube, it most likely runs at night.

Look for drips in your faucets, fixtures, hoses, and plumbing in the kitchen, bathrooms, laundry rooms and appliances.

Water heater leaks are usually quite obvious; there will be substantial amounts of water on the floor around your heater. The first sign of a problem is water dripping from the bottom of the jacket.

Checking for Leaks in the Irrigation System

Observe irrigation in use – look for broken sprinkler head, missing emitters, cut drip lines and saturated areas.

If you have an irrigation controller, change the back-up battery.

Irrigation valve boxes can leak. Listen for the sound of running water at the pressure regulator where the water line comes into the house.

Look for Drips at all outside plumbing and irrigation.

To check a pool, place a bucket at the top step of the pool and fill it to the pool's water level. After a day, if the water level in the pool is lower than the bucket, there is probably a leak in the pool structure or plumbing system.