

ARE WATER LEAKS COSTING YOU MONEY?

WATER LEAKS = HIGHER WATER BILLS

The Facts about Leaks:

Leaks can account for, on average, 10,000 gallons of water wasted in the home every year, which is enough to fill a backyard



swimming pool. The amount of water leaked from U.S. homes could exceed more than one trillion gallons per year. That's equivalent to the annual water use of Los Angeles, Chicago, and Miami combined. Ten percent of homes have leaks that waste 90 gallons or more of water per day. Common types of leaks found in the home include leaking toilet flappers, dripping faucets, and other leaking valves. All are easily correctable. Fixing easily corrected household water leaks can save homeowners more than 10% on their water bills. Keep your home leak-free by repairing dripping faucets, toilet valves, and showerheads. In most cases, fixture replacement parts don't require a major investment and can be installed by do-it-yourselfers.

HOW MUCH WATER IS LOST FROM LEAKS?



A dripping leak consumes:
15 gal. per day
450 gal. per month



A 1/8 inch leak consumes:
3,806 gal. per day
114,200 gal. per month



A 1/32 inch leak consumes:
264 gal. per day
7,920 gal. per month



A 1/4 inch leak consumes:
15,226 gal. per day
456,800 gal. per month



A 1/16 inch leak consumes:
943 gal. per day
28,300 gal. per month



A 1/2 inch leak consumes:
60,900 gal. per day
1,827,000 gal. per month

Studies show that dripping faucets and leaking toilets account for as much as 14% of all indoor water use, equivalent to 10 gallons of water lost per person, per day.

Periodically You Should:

Check all faucets for drips. Replace worn and leaking washers, gaskets, pipes or defective fixtures.

Check for leaks on outside faucets, and make sure the valve closes properly

Check toilets for leaks-they are the most common cause of high water bills. Check the overflow of the tank to make sure no water is running over (float level may be too high). The flapper valve in the bottom of the tank is also a location of a possible leak. To check for a flapper valve leak, put a small amount of food coloring in the toilet tank after it has filled. Do not flush the toilet for at least an hour, or overnight if possible. If the food coloring shows up in the bowl without flushing, you probably have a leaking flapper or plunger ball valve.

An average of 20% of all toilets leak



How to check for leaks

Use your water meter to check for leaks in your home or outdoor plumbing. Start by turning off all faucets and water-using appliances and make sure no one uses water during the testing period. Take a reading from the water meter and write the numbers down. Wait at least two hours and take another meter reading. If the reading has changed during the testing period, and no water was used, this means water has run through the meter, indicating a leak.