

Leaks

You may have a water leak of which you are unaware. It's easy to check, simply follow these instructions:

SERVICE LINE (A leak between the water meter and the house.)

- Find the water meter
- Turn off all running water and water-using appliances, and do not flush the toilet.
- Read the dial on the water meter and record the reading. After 15 to 20 minutes, re-check the reading.
- If no water has been used and the reading has changed, a leak is occurring. The rate (gallon per minute) of the leak can be determined by dividing the number of gallons by the elapsed time.
- If the leak cannot be found and fixed, a plumber should be called. Before calling, check all toilets for silent leaks by following the instructions below.

When a toilet leaks, water escapes from the tank into the bowl. Toilets are notorious for hidden or silent leaks, because leaks are seldom noticed unless the toilet "runs" after each flush (which can waste 4-5 gallons a minute). To determine if the toilet is leaking do the following:

- Look at the toilet bowl after the tank has stopped filling. If water is still running into the bowl or if water can be heard running, the toilet is leaking.
- Often times, however, the toilet may have a "silent leak". To test for silent leak, mix a few drops of food coloring or place a dye capsule (available free of charge at our office) into the water in the toilet storage tank after the water has stopped running and the tank is full. **DO NOT FLUSH THE TOILET.** Wait for about 10 minutes, if the dye or food coloring appears in the toilet bowl, the toilet has a silent leak.
- Leaks of this type are usually caused by a defective flush valve (flapper) ball or a corroded or scaled valve seat. Replacement balls and valves, which can be installed in less than 30 minutes, are available from most hardware and plumbing stores.

FAUCET LEAKS

Faucet leaks are obvious. The cause of faucet leaks is frequently a worn washer that can be replaced with two or three hand tools. Replacement washers can be purchased from most hardware and variety stores for only a few cents.

FUN Water Facts

75% of the earth is covered with water.

97% of earth's water is in the oceans. Only 3% can be used as drinking water.

75% of the world's fresh water is frozen in the polar ice caps.

A person can live without food for more than a month, but without water approximately 1 week.

The average person in the United States uses 80 to 100 gallons of water each day.

37,018 gallons of water is needed to manufacture a new car.

The first United States water plant with filters was built in 1872 in Poughkeepsie, New York.

One gallon of water is equal to 3.785 liters of water.

A gallon of water weighs 8.3/4 pounds.

Water can exist in three stages; liquid, solid and gas.

More than two-thirds of our bodies are water.

The longest river in Texas is the Rio Grande, which begins its 1,896 mile course as the runoff of melted snow in Colorado.

The first water lines in the United States were made of fire charred bored logs.

Every glass of water you drink contains molecules of water used countless times before.

It take 2,072 gallons of water to make four new tires.

About 35 billion laundry loads are done in the United States each year.

It takes approximately 100 gallons of water to produce 1 serving of tomatoes.
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