



Fix a Leak Week – April 15 – 21, 2013

What is Fix a Leak Week?

Minor water leaks account for more than 1 trillion gallons of water wasted each year in U.S. homes; the U.S. EPA Agency's WaterSense program promotes Fix a Leak Week each year. It is an annual reminder to Americans to check household plumbing fixtures and irrigation systems for leaks.

The Facts on Leaks:

- The average households leaks can account for more than 10,000 gallons of water wasted every year, or the amount of water needed to wash 270 loads of laundry.
- Household leaks can waste more than 1 trillion gallons annually nationwide: equal to the annual household water use of more than 11 million homes.
- Ten percent of homes have leaks that waste 90 gallons or more per day.
- Common types of leaks found in the home include worn toilet flappers, dripping faucets, and leaking showerheads.
- Fixing easily corrected household water leaks can save homeowners about 10 percent on their water bills.
- Keep your home leak-free by repairing dripping faucets, toilet flappers, and showerheads.

Leak Detection:

- A good method to check for leaks is to examine your winter water use. It's likely that a family of four has a serious leak problem if its winter water use exceeds 12,000 gallons per month.
- Check your water meter before and after a two-hour period when no water is being used. If the meter does not read exactly the same, you probably have a leak.
- One way to find out if you have a toilet leak is to place a drop of food coloring in the toilet tank. If the color shows up in the bowl within 10 minutes without flushing, you have a leak. Make sure to flush immediately after this experiment to avoid staining the tank.

Check your irrigation system when you turn it on for the first time!