

WATER LEAK CHECKLIST

- 1. Leaky or Running Toilets:** Check all toilets for leaks; don't forget the ones in the basement. Do you hear a hissing noise? Is it constantly running? Check the tank flapper, water line connections, and seals. Many times, it is a faulty flapper causing the leak.
 - a. **Dye Test:** You'll need some food coloring or a dye tablet. Take the lid off your toilet's tank and put in a couple of drops of coloring (or a dye tablet). After you've put the dye in the tank, wait for 15-20 minutes and check the toilet bowl for dye. If dye is present, then there's a leak allowing tank water to flow into the bowl.
- 2. Leaky Faucets/Fixtures:** Sink faucets with a constant drip can waste 15 gallons of water per day. Remember to also check shower heads and any other water fixtures. It is usually a bad rubber washer that can be easily replaced.
- 3. Leaking Washing Machines or Dishwashers:** Check underneath and around them for water that might be leaking.
- 4. Outside Hose Spigot:** Check to make sure it isn't leaking or dripping. Did it accidentally get left turned on?
- 5. Lawn Sprinklers:** Look for extremely wet patches or standing water in your lawn. A sprinkler line may have cracked, or a joint may be loose. Check with your neighbors to see if they are getting run-off from a possible leak in the system. Is the system running more often or longer than it is programmed to run?
- 6. Water Softener:** They are preset to regenerate/backwash on a regular basis. Fresh water is used during this process. Check to make sure the valve did not get stuck in the open position, causing a continuous flow of water through the softener.
- 7. Other things to consider:**
 - a. Have you added another water consuming piece of equipment?
 - b. Have you had guests that stayed for a longer period and would have caused extra water to be used?

The table below shows how much water can be lost during a leak:

Leak Size	Gallons Per Day	Gallons Per Month
Dripping leak	15 gallons	450 gallons
1/32 in. leak	264 gallons	7,920 gallons
1/16 in. leak	943 gallons	28,300 gallons
1/8 in. leak	3,806 gallons	114,200 gallons
1/4 in. leak	15,226 gallons	456,800 gallons
1/2 in. leak	60,900 gallons	1,827,000 gallons