

WATER EFFICIENCY TIPS & LEAKS

Water Efficiency Tips for Residential Customers:

1. Install water efficient devices, such as toilets, washing machines and smart irrigation controllers, and get a rebate. *
2. Take shorter showers and install low flow showerheads.
3. Use the dishwasher (4-5 gallons of water per load) versus handwashing (1.5 gallons a minute).
4. Check your irrigation system weekly for leaks and breaks. *
5. Water your landscape infrequently but deep. The deeper the water gets into the soil, the deeper the roots grow, and less evaporation occurs.
6. Remove your grass and replace it with water smart plants. *
7. Look and listen for water leaks (see details below)!

GOT LEAKS? Water leaks can waste massive amounts of water! The issue can be a pinhole leak in an underground pipe or water continuously flowing in a running toilet. To see if you have a leak, check your meter. Put on gloves and open the meter box. If the dial on the meter is moving and no one is using water, you have a leak. Isolate the leak by shutting off the water to the house and checking the meter again. See the list below for more assistance.

Area	How to Detect it
Toilet	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Put a few drops of food coloring in the toilet tank and wait 15 minutes. 2. If the food color seeps to toilet bowl, you have a leak. This issue can often be fixed with a new flapper.
Irrigation	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Check overhead sprinklers and drip lines visually for leaks. 2. Check the valve boxes to see if any valves are leaking or running. 3. Isolate the issue to outside or inside by shutting off the water supply valve for the irrigation <u>or</u> the house – not all homes have this.
Pool, Pond or Jacuzzi	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Check the autofill/float valve to see if it's continuously running. 2. If you think your pool has a leak, google the "Pool Bucket Test".
Water heater or filter system	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Check devices to look and listen for water leaks or flow issues. 2. Even small filtration systems can malfunction and continuously flow.
Pipes & Mystery Issues	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Check pipes to the house by placing your ear to the wall near water pipes to listen for the sound of water flowing. 2. A professional leak detection company may be necessary for challenging leaks.

Common causes for a running toilet



A toilet running 200 gallons an hour will waste enough water to fill a pool in 4 days!