

A High Bill Usually Means a Leak

Did you know that approximately 50 percent of all households have some kind of plumbing leak? Most of these leaks are due to worn out washers, flappers or faulty tank valves, which can result in hundreds or even thousands of gallons of water wasted needlessly. Not only is this a waste of natural resources, but it also registers through the meter, which could affect your water bill.

Follow These Steps To Determine If There May Be A Leak...

Most meter faces have a flow indicator (small in size, white or black in color, triangular in shape). If there is no water being used at the time of inspection, and the flow indicator is moving or spinning, this is a good indication that there may be a leak somewhere in or around your dwelling. Not all leaks are big and clearly noticeable. If the meter does not have a flow indicator or the flow indicator is not moving, continue with these steps to further evaluate the situation.

Copy down the numbers (from left to right) on the meter's register. Do not use any water for a period of two (2) hours. Take another reading from your meter's register after the two (2) hour testing period, and compare it to the first reading. If the second reading is higher, there may be a water leak. This works even better if done while at work, when no one is home, or over night!

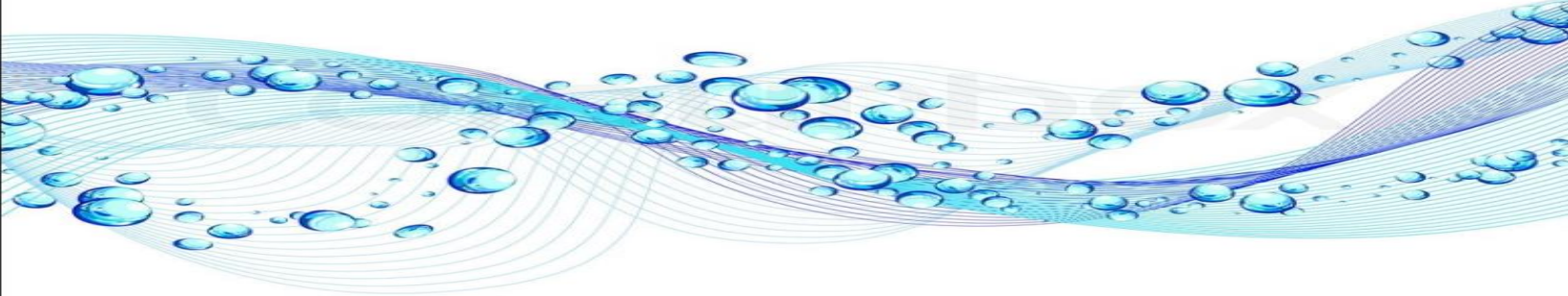


Checking the Toilet

A leaking toilet is one of the most common water wasters, but toilet leaks are less noticeable than faucet leaks. A leaky toilet can waste over 200 gallons of water per day! Left unfixed, it can waste over 73,000 gallons of water a year. Most toilet flush tanks work in the same way. Here are some easy ways to check for a toilet leak.

Flush the toilet. Wait for the toilet to stop refilling, and then make a visual inspection of the bowl. If water can be heard, your toilet is leaking. However sometimes you still might have a toilet leak that you cannot hear.

Although water may not be seen or heard running, your toilet may have a silent leak. Try conducting this simple experiment. Take the lid off the toilet tank and add a couple of drops of food coloring to the water in the tank. **Do not flush!** Wait 1 to 2 hours. If the food coloring shows up in the toilet bowl, your toilet has a leak. Most likely it is due to a bad flapper. Checking and changing a flapper is a snap. For everything you need to know, including which replacement flapper you need, go to www.toiletflapper.org.



Look for Faucet Leaks

All faucets, including those in the basement or storage areas, should be checked periodically. Most faucet and shower head leaks result from worn out washers. Replace washers on dripping faucets and showers immediately. Even a small leak can waste several gallons of water a day and can add up on your bill. Your water heating costs will also increase if it is a hot water leak.

Other Places to Look for Leaks

- Furnace Humidifier
- Water Softener
- Hot Water Tank
- Ice Maker
- Hose Spigot

Leak Chart @ 60 P.S.I

- 1/32" leak can waste73,992 gallons per year
- 1/16" leak can waste295,992 gallons per year
- 1/8" leak can waste1,183,992 gallons per year
- 1/4" leak can waste4,725,996 gallons per year

Some Interesting Facts and Statistics

About 70% of the typical family's indoor water usage is in the bathroom. This is partly because water is used at a faster "flow rate" in the bathroom than in any other part of the home. Toilets and showers usually have a flow rate of 5-7 gallons per minute; most dishwashers and clothes washers use less than three gallons per minute.

Toilet	5 to 7 gallons per flush (Non high-efficiency toilet)
Shower	5 to 7 gallons per minute (Non high-efficiency shower)
Bathtub	36 to 60 gallons per bath
Dishwasher	10 to 25 gallons per cycle
Washing machine	20 to 45 gallons per load

If you have any questions regarding your water bill
please call the Village Hall at 847-426-2822