

WATER LEAKS

Repairing water leaks is a great way to reduce the use of water that's just being wasted. Slow drips of water can add up quickly. A toilet that "keeps running" after you flush or a sink that drips after it is turned off can waste thousands of gallons of water a year. If the drip is hot water, you are paying for wasted energy, too. The best indication will be a high bill compared to past use. The first step is to determine whether you actually have a leak.

Checking your Meter for mysterious water leaks:

1. Locate the water meter. When water is not being used, nothing on the meter should be moving. Water meters have numbers or spinning dials, which record usage. Most meters also have a small "leak detector," which senses the lower volumes of water common with leaks.
2. Turn off every water-using item inside and outside the home or building.
3. Check the meter. Watch the meter for a minute or more. If the leak detector dial is moving, you have a leak. You may also want to check the main meter reading (numbers) at a set time, and then come back an hour or so later, after you know no water has been used. If it has a higher reading, there is a leak.

