

## LEAK DETECTION – WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

Leaking faucets and toilets are the most common cause of costly water problems in the home. A running toilet can use approximately 1,000 gallons of water a day. **Repairing easily corrected household water leaks can save homeowners about 10 percent on their water bills.** There are some easy tips you can follow to detect and fix household leaks.

### What should I do when I think I've found a leak?

Turn off the shut-off valve closest to the leak, make certain that the low flow indicator on the water meter stops moving, and then call a registered plumber to make the repairs. If attempting repairs on your own, *remember to turn off your water valve before starting any repairs.*

### How can I find a leak on my property?

Soggy spots in your lawn will indicate a leak with a sprinkler or service line. In the case of a service line leak outside of your property, contact PWSA to request a shut at the curb so that your registered plumber can make the necessary repairs.

### How can I find a leak in my home?

Your senses are your best tool. Listen for water running continuously, smell for foul odors coming from a water source, and look for puddling water near a source. These may indicate a leak. You can also look at the low flow indicator on your water meter. If there is no dishwasher, ice maker, or toilet in use and it is spinning, water is going through the meter and is running somewhere in the house.

### How do I prevent toilet leaks?

Keep an eye on bathrooms that get minimal use; they are more likely to malfunction without anyone noticing. If you suspect a leak, check the flapper valve, overflow pipe, and float for leaks in the toilet tank. To detect a toilet leak, you can add food coloring to the tank and let it sit. If the dye leaks from the tank into the bowl without flushing, call a registered plumber to make the necessary repairs..

### How do I prevent other household leaks?

Make sure all faucets are shut tight. If you find leaks coming from faucets, you may need to change the washers.

**Any customer who needs additional information should call:  
PWSA Emergency Dispatch 24/7 at 412.255.2423**