

# Do you have a

# high water bill?

Have you noticed an increase in your water bill? Although water rates have increased to adequately fund system improvements, water storage and treatment processes, a higher-than-average water bill may indicate a leak.

- Leaks can account for 10,000 gallons of water wasted in the home every year.
- Ten percent of homes have leaks that waste 90 gallons or more per day.
- Common types of leaks found in the home include leaking toilet flappers, dripping faucets, and other leaking valves. Many can be easily corrected.
- Fixing easily corrected household water leaks can save homeowners more than 10 percent on their water bills.
- In the summer months, outdoor water usage accounts for many high bills.
- One way to find out if you have a toilet leak is to place a drop of food coloring in the toilet tank. If the color shows up in the bowl within 15 minutes without flushing, you have a leak. Make sure to flush immediately after this experiment to avoid staining the tank



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# Where does the water go?

Did you know that an American home can waste more than 10,000 gallons of water every year due to running toilets, dripping faucets, and other household leaks?

CHART YOUR LEAKS			
Rate of leak		Gallons of water wasted	
Drops/30 seconds	Drops per minute	In 1 billing cycle	In 1 year
5 drops	10 dpm	24	292
10 drops	20 dpm	48	584
15 drops	30 dpm	72	876
20 drops	40 dpm	96	1168
25 drops	50 dpm	120	1460
30 drops	60 dpm	144	1752
35 drops	70 dpm	168	2044
40 drops	80 dpm	192	2336

\* Based on 30 days average per billing period; 365 days/year.

**It's easy to check your home for leaks - follow these steps:**



- Turn off all water faucets and water-using devices in your home.
- Locate water meter in basement.
- Find the red triangle on the face of the meter.
- If the red triangle is rotating and you are not using water, you have a leak. Check toilets and faucets - and don't forget outside faucets.
- When conducting this test remember to account for automatic icemakers and humidifiers.