

Helpful Leak Tips

For mechanical meters, it is helpful to first turn on a faucet and look at the meter. This way you will be able to see the leak indicator in motion. Once the faucet is turned off, motion of the detector should stop. If water loss is intermittent, however, such as a toilet tank that leaks slowly and refills itself only when the water drops to a certain level, the leak detector may not be effective. In this situation, recording meter readings can help.

If there is a time period when you know that no water should be used (for example being at work during the day or away from the house for any other reason), the reading on the meter dial should not advance. Recording the meter reading before you leave and comparing it to a second reading recorded as soon as you return home, before water is used again, will tell you if there was water loss while there you were away.

If you determine that there is a leak, you must then determine if it is inside the house or underground in the line bringing water from the meter to the house. This can be done by locating the main shutoff valve at the house. These valves are usually located in the crawl space, garage or utility room. Closing this valve will stop all water from entering your house. With this valve closed, if the meter is still showing water use, the leak is somewhere in the line between the meter and the house.

HOW TO TELL IF YOUR TOILET IS LEAKING

1

Squeeze 10 drops of food coloring into the tank.

2

Wait 15 minutes.

3

**Look in the bowl: If you see dye, you've got a leak!
Flush and call a plumber.**

