

# LEAK DETECTION & REPAIR

## Facts

- Studies show that dripping faucets and leaking toilets account for as much as 14% of all indoor water use, equivalent to 10 gallons per person of water lost per day.

## Read Your Water Meter

- Use your water meter to check for leaks in your home. Start by turning off all faucets and water-using appliances and make sure no one uses water during the testing period.
- Find your water meter and open the plastic flip top covering the dial. You will note a small red pin-wheel shaped dial to the left of the red needle. When all the water is off, the small red dial should not be moving. If it is moving, you should look for a leak. The faster the wheel moves, the larger the leak.

## Check for Leaky Toilets

- The most common source of leaks is the toilet. Check toilets for leaks by placing a few drops of food coloring in the tank. If after 15 minutes the dye shows up in the bowl, the toilet has a leak.
- Leaky toilets can usually be repaired inexpensively by replacing the flapper.

## Check for Leaky Faucets

- The next place to check for leaks is your sink and bathtub faucets. Dripping faucets can usually be repaired by replacing the rubber O-ring or washer inside the valve.



*Note: This information was obtained from [www.waterwiser.org](http://www.waterwiser.org), which is a program of the American Water Works Association operated in cooperation with the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation.*