

CHECKLIST FOR IDENTIFYING AND FIXING LEAKS

Water leaks can happen unexpectedly and for different reasons. While some are simple to fix, others may require a plumber or irrigation expert. Undetected leaks can waste water and drive up your water bill. This checklist helps you spot and resolve leaks before they become costly problems.

INDOOR LEAKS

TOILETS

Place 10 drops of food coloring in each toilet tank. Do not flush. If any color shows up in the bowl after 20-30 minutes, you have a leak.

FAUCETS AND SINKS

Listen for drips and turn on the tap to check for water spraying the wrong direction. Check inside the cabinets for any pooling water under pipes and rust around joints.

APPLIANCES

Check kitchen appliances to look for pooling water underneath dishwashers and refrigerators with ice makers.

WATER HEATER

Check beneath the tank for pooling water, rust or other signs of leakage.

WHOLE HOUSE FILTRATION AND REVERSE OSMOSIS SYSTEMS

Check to see if they are working properly and look for signs of leaks.

WATER SOFTENERS AND HUMIDIFIERS

Water softeners and humidifiers can malfunction and cause continuous flow without you knowing. Check to see if they are working properly by inspecting the base of both appliances for pooling water.

BE ON THE LOOKOUT FOR DRIPS

Water dripping is a tell tale sign of a leak. Check for drips in showers, faucets, plumbing fixtures and washing machine hookups.



OUTDOOR LEAKS

IRRIGATION SYSTEM

Check for broken sprinklers or nozzles spraying in the wrong direction. Watch for swampy areas which can indicate an underground leak.

CONTROLLER

Make sure your irrigation controller is set to water no more than 2-3 times a week. Program it for Cycle & Soak which means you break up your watering times into three shorter cycles spaced apart for maximum absorption.

SPRINKLER COMPONENTS

Check the backflow preventer and valve boxes for dripping or pooling water. Inspect sprinkler heads that don't pop up or spray evenly.

SPIGOT

Ensure there is a tight connection with the hose and spigot. Check the hose washer to see if it needs to be replaced.

SERVICE LINES & METER PIT

Watch for wet surfaces around your meter pit; leaks can be hidden. A higher-than-normal water bill may signal a leak. Consider contacting a plumber who can help identify underground leaks that are hard to detect.



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