



10% of homes have leaks that waste 90 gallons of water or more per day



The average household leak can waste more than 10,000 gallons of a year



An average of 18,000 customers receive a leak notification from Cleveland Water every year



Fixing most household water leaks can save you about 10% on your water bill



Cleveland Water

1201 Lakeside Avenue • Cleveland, Ohio 44114
216.664.3130 | clevelandwater.com



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HOW TO FIND & FIX LEAKS



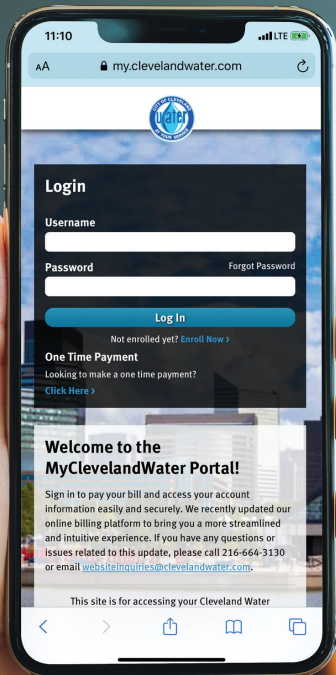
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How to Check for Leaks

The easiest and quickest way to know if you have a leak is to sign up for the Cleveland Water web portal. By creating an account at my.clevelandwater.com you can monitor your actual water and receive leak alerts via email.

Check for a leak in your home by following these simple steps:

1. Turn off anything that uses water inside or outside your home.
2. Check around faucets, toilets, water heaters, etc. for signs of a leak like puddles of water or drips.
3. Find your meter. This is typically located in a basement or crawl space where your water line enters your home. On the meter, locate the blue star, white triangle, or red circle-shaped test wheel on the register face.
4. If the test wheel is spinning even though no water is being used anywhere, you likely have a leak somewhere.



Where to Find & How to Fix Leaks

Typical sources of leaks are often easy to fix, requiring only a few tools and hardware that can pay for themselves in water savings.



Toilets

A running toilet can waste as much as 200 gallons of water or more per day.

The most common cause of a toilet leak is the rubber flapper valve. Over time, the valve becomes worn out and it does not seal shut properly. Replacing the valve is a quick and easy fix. One way to find out if you have a toilet leak is to place a drop of food coloring in the toilet tank. Wait 15-30 minutes without flushing. If the color shows up in the bowl, you have a leak.



Faucets

A leaking faucet that drips at rate of 1 drip per second can waste more than 3,000 gallons of water a year.

The most common sources of a faucet leak are a worn out washer or gasket, a loose O ring, or a corroded valve seat. These problems are easily fixed with inexpensive parts available at most hardware stores.

Showerheads

A showerhead leaking at 10 drips per minute wastes more than 500 gallons of water per year.

Most leaky showerheads can be fixed by ensuring a tight connection between the showerhead and pipe stem using pipe tape. You may also need to replace the washer inside the showerhead. Consider replacing an old showerhead with a more efficient, low-flow one.



Appliances

Appliance leaks are one of the most common issues causing costly water damage. A burst washing machine or dishwasher hose can send gallons of water flooding through your home.

Check any water-using appliances, such as dishwashers, refrigerators, washing machines and water heaters, for puddles or drips. These appliances often have plastic or rubber hoses that should be regularly checked for clogs, cracks or tears. Tighten any connections and inspect any tubes or hoses, replacing them if necessary.



Outdoors

An irrigation system that has a leak 1/32nd of an inch in diameter can waste about 6,300 gallons of water per month.

In-ground irrigation systems, garden hoses, and spigots are often the source of leaks outside of the home. If you have an in-ground irrigation system, check it each spring before use to make sure it wasn't damaged by frost or freezing. Check your garden hose for leaks at its connection to the spigot. If it leaks, replace the nylon or rubber hose washer and ensure a tight connection to the spigot using pipe tape and a wrench.



WaterSense Products

If you're replacing fixtures or appliances, look for products with the U.S. EPA's WaterSense label. The WaterSense label makes it simple to find water-efficient products that meet EPA's criteria for efficiency and performance. WaterSense-labeled products are certified to use at least 20% less water, save energy, and perform as well as or better than regular models.