



# LEAK DETECTION

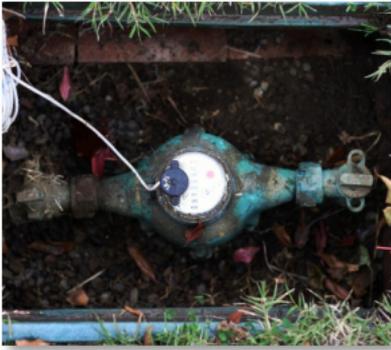


City of Woodland

Water Conservation (530) 661-2067

[www.CityofWoodland.org/WaterConservation](http://www.CityofWoodland.org/WaterConservation)

# LOCATING LEAKS



Leaks often result in high water use and costly water bills. Following the steps below, you can easily confirm if there is a leak on your property and isolate the source. Checking regularly for leaks can save both water and money!

## STEP ONE: DO YOU HAVE A LEAK?

- ◆ Make sure no water is being used inside or outside of your home.
- ◆ Locate your water meter. It is most likely in a green box in your front yard and looks like the photo above.
- ◆ Write down the meter reading: \_\_\_\_\_
- ◆ Wait 30 minutes and **do not use any water**.
- ◆ Check the meter reading. If the number has changed, you have a leak.

Your meter may also have a small triangle or dial for detecting leaks. If this is moving, you have a leak.

## STEP TWO: IS THE LEAK INSIDE OR OUTSIDE?

- ◆ Turn **off** your master shutoff valve. It is most often located near an outdoor faucet or may be inside your garage.
- ◆ Write down the meter reading: \_\_\_\_\_
- ◆ Wait 30 minutes and **do not use any water**.
- ◆ Check the meter reading. If the number has changed, the leak is outside. If the number has **not** changed, the leak is likely inside your home.



# LOCATING LEAKS

## STEP THREE: WHAT IS THE SOURCE?

### If you've determined the leak is indoors:

- ◆ Turn **on** your master shutoff valve and turn **off** the water supply valves to toilets, faucets, and appliances.
- ◆ Write down the meter reading: \_\_\_\_\_
- ◆ Wait 30 minutes and **do not use any water**.
- ◆ Check the meter reading. If the number has **not** changed, the leak is in one of those services.
- ◆ Turn **on** each service **one at a time** and check the meter until you find the problem.



### If you've determined the leak is outdoors:

- ◆ Turn **off** your master shutoff valve **and** your main irrigation system valve.
- ◆ Write down the meter reading: \_\_\_\_\_
- ◆ Wait 30 minutes and **do not use any water**.
- ◆ Check the meter reading. If the number has changed, you have a leak in the service line (the line between your meter and the master valve). If the number has **not** changed, the leak is in your irrigation system.



FOR A LIST OF PLUMBERS AND LEAK  
DETECTION SERVICES VISIT:  
[www.cityofwoodland.org/leaks](http://www.cityofwoodland.org/leaks)



# COMMON LEAKS



## TOILET LEAKS

A toilet leak is the most common household leak. It can waste up to 100,000 gallons of water a month. If it sounds like your toilet is still filling up when it shouldn't be, try jiggling the handle.

This may fix the leak and fill your tank.

**CHECK FOR LEAKS** Other leaks may be less obvious. Add a few drops of food coloring into the toilet tank and wait for 15 - 20 minutes without flushing. If color appears in the toilet bowl, you have a leak. Most of them can be fixed with replacement of a toilet flapper.



## FAUCET LEAKS

A leaky faucet that drips at the rate of one drip per second can waste more than 3,000 gallons per year. That's the amount of water needed to take more than 180 showers!\*

\* Source: U.S. E.P.A. <https://www3.epa.gov/watersense/pubs/fixleak.html>

## ESTIMATED WATER WASTE & COSTS DUE TO LEAKS

Leak Diameter	Gallons per Day	Gallons per Year	Cost per Year
● 1/16"	822	300,030	\$1,969
● 1/8"	3,289	1,200,485	\$7,880
● 3/16"	7,400	2,701,000	\$17,730
● 1/4"	13,128	4,791,720	\$31,454

Calculations are estimated based on 2016 tier three residential water consumption rates and 60 PSI water pressure.

# COMMON LEAKS



## LANDSCAPE IRRIGATION LEAKS

The largest use of water in the Sacramento Valley is for landscape irrigation. Regularly check and tighten sprinkler heads to avoid common leaks.

**CHECK FOR LEAKS** Look around the hose and sprinkler connections. Look for standing water on the surface near the irrigation system's spray heads. If you see areas of the lawn that are brighter green than others, you may have a leak. Be sure to check your meter however, as some leaks can be hidden.



## OTHER LEAKS

Other common leak locations include water softeners, swimming pools, hot water heaters, ice makers, and humidifiers.

**CATCH LEAKS QUICK** with

**AquaHawk**  
**ALERTING!** 

**Sign up for FREE!**

[www.cityofwoodland.org/mywateruse](http://www.cityofwoodland.org/mywateruse)



# AQUAHAWK

Woodland's Water Use Portal, AquaHawk Alerting, allows you to view your water usage and bill information 24/7. You can also set alerts to be automatically notified of issues like leaks.

## STEP ONE: CREATE YOUR ACCOUNT

- ◆ Visit [www.cityofwoodland.org/mywateruse](http://www.cityofwoodland.org/mywateruse)
- ◆ **Sign-In** with the same login used to pay your water bill or **Register** to create a new account.
- ◆ Click on the link "**Hourly Water Usage and Alert Settings—via AquaHawk**" to open the portal.

## STEP TWO: LOOK FOR LEAKS

- ◆ Looking at the graph, choose an hourly view. There are pre-set options for the last 24 and 72 hours or you can click on any day to zoom in and see hourly water use data.
- ◆ If there is water use every hour for long periods of time, you may have a leak.

## STEP THREE: SET AN AUTO LEAK ALERT

- ◆ Click **Alert Settings** and then **Click Here** to set advance meter thresholds.
- ◆ Example: Fill out the last row as shown below to be alerted if you used 7 gallons an hour, every hour, for 24 hours straight.

<input type="text" value="7"/>	gallons per hour for	<input type="text" value="24 Hours"/>	▼
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