



For Immediate Release

Toilet Leaks Tend to be Invisible and Can Cost a lot of Money

When toilets leak, hundreds of gallons of water a day can be wasted without the homeowner's knowledge. For this reason, Waukesha Water Utility encourages customers to check their toilets for leaks during this year's national Fix a Leak Week.

To identify silent toilet leaks, the Utility recommends doing a dye test – put 8-10 drops of food coloring into the tank and wait 20 minutes. If color appears in the bowl before flushing, there is a leak. Below is a diagram on how to do the dye test.



You may also want to check the age of your toilet, while you're testing your toilet for leaks. Replacing water-wasting toilets installed 1993 or earlier, with a WaterSense-labeled toilet can save homeowners approximately 13,000 gallons of water per year and \$300 on water and wastewater bills. If you live in the city of Waukesha, you may also qualify for a \$100 toilet rebate and a \$25 shower head rebate.

In addition to testing the toilet for leaks, check for dripping faucets, showerheads, irrigation systems, spigots, and other fixtures. These types of leaks are often easy to fix, requiring only a few tools and hardware that can pay for themselves in water savings.

For more information about the toilet rebate, or finding and fixing leaks, visit the Utility's conservation page at www.waukesha-water.com.