

Leak Checklist

Check Your Property for Leaks

- Irrigation – check backflow prevention device for puddles on the ground or continuous leak around piping
- Sprinkler Heads – check for rocks, dirt or debris – these often prevent valves from closing properly
- Broken Equipment – missing or broken drip irrigation emitters, cracked riser pipes, wiper seals, broken bubblers
- Wet Spots – inspect yard for wet and/or green spots; a small hole or depression indicates an underground water leak
- Visibility – a leak in the irrigation system is not always visible above ground and water can often leak into the porous limestone earth

Pools and Spas

- Check for an abnormal drop in water level. An autofill can mask a leak as it will automatically replace water lost and thereby prevent a visible drop in pool level
- Check float – If set too high it can cause higher than desired pool water level
- Visual inspection of equipment and pipe joints need to be made periodically
- Check for structural cracks or damaged basins

Toilets

- Place a few drops of food coloring into the tank. If color appears in the bowl without flushing, then you have a leak in the mechanics
- Lift chain in basin, it should not catch on anything
- Ensure the flapper is seating properly
- Be aware that toilets can often leak intermittently

Read Your Meter

(Turn off all water using fixtures prior to this reading, even stop ice maker)

- The meter is located near the curb or sidewalk inside a metal or composite box in the ground
- Observe the sweep hand; if it is moving then you have a continuous leak
- Read your water meter odometer and record the numbers – wait 20 minutes – read your meter again, then subtract the first read from the second. If gallons used is greater than zero and you know every water fixture was off, you likely have a leak