



Find it. Fix it. Save Water!

# Detecting Water Leaks

Water leaks can waste over 10,000 gallons a year in the average home — enough to fill a backyard pool! Because our region relies on surface water, every drop matters, especially during drought. Try these tips to manage your bill and support wise water use every day.



## Indoors

- Inspect faucets & showerheads**  
Look for drips or pooling water. Replace worn washers or fixtures if needed.
- Check toilets for silent leaks**  
Add a few drops of food coloring to the tank. If color appears in the bowl without flushing, there is a leak.
- Listen for running water**  
Hear water running when nothing's on? Investigate.
- Look under sinks**  
Check for moisture, corrosion or warped cabinets or flooring.
- Check appliance connections**  
Inspect hoses behind washing machines, refrigerators and dishwashers.
- Consider a smart leak detector**  
Wi-Fi sensors placed near laundry rooms, water heaters and other water-use areas detect leaks in real time, limiting waste and damage.

## Found a Leak?

Help protect our water supply. Fix leaks right away. For projects beyond a simple DIY, contact a licensed plumber. Get tips for repairs and saving water at [mydropcounts.org](http://mydropcounts.org).



## Outdoors

- Examine hose bibs & spigots**  
Turn the water on and look for cracks in the hose or drips at connections.
- Inspect the irrigation system**  
Run each zone. Look for overspray, soggy spots or broken heads.
- Install efficient equipment**  
WaterSense-labeled fixed pressure irrigation heads ensure consistent water distribution.
- Look for unexplained wet areas**  
Mushy patches or pooling water in the yard could signal a hidden leak or serious septic issue.
- Know your numbers**  
Familiarize yourself with your water bill to quickly detect abnormal usage.
- Check your meter**  
Turn off all water inside and outside. If the meter is still moving, you may have a leak.

## REMEMBER!



Outdoor watering may only occur between **4 p.m. and 10 a.m.** to reduce evaporation and help make every drop count.

Everything You Do  
Makes a Difference!



For ways to save, visit  
[northgeorgiawater.org](http://northgeorgiawater.org).