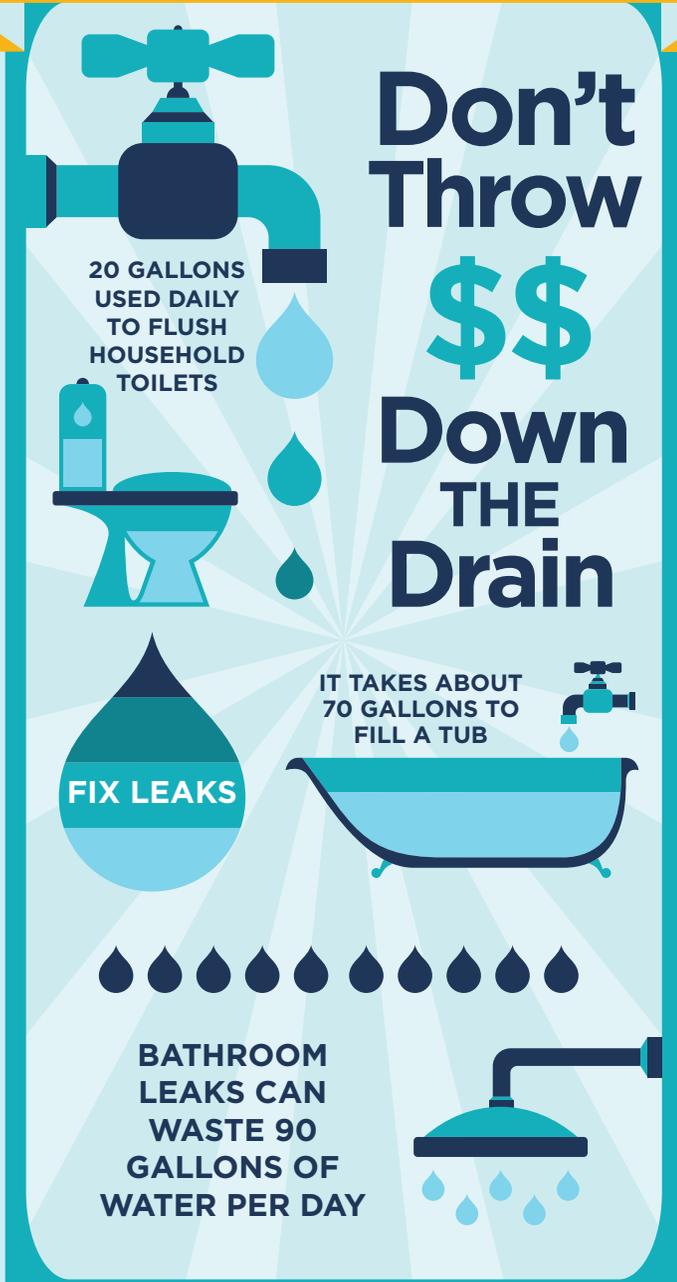


WATERWORKS

Hallsdale-Powell Utility District Customer Newsletter

SUMMER 2017

Save GREEN



Don't Throw \$\$ Down THE Drain

20 GALLONS USED DAILY TO FLUSH HOUSEHOLD TOILETS

IT TAKES ABOUT 70 GALLONS TO FILL A TUB

FIX LEAKS

BATHROOM LEAKS CAN WASTE 90 GALLONS OF WATER PER DAY

The infographic features several icons: a faucet with water dripping, a toilet, a bathtub with a faucet, a showerhead with water spraying, and a large water drop containing the text 'FIX LEAKS'. The background is light blue with a sunburst pattern.

Water is an essential aspect of daily life.

But how can people use this vital resource without wasting it?

EVERY DROP COUNTS:

• Bathrooms are the largest use of water in the home, using more than 50% of all indoor water.

• About 5 to 10% of homes have easy to fix leaks that drip about 90 gallons a day or more.

• Residential outdoor water use in the US accounts for nearly 9 billion gallons of water each day, mainly for landscape irrigation.

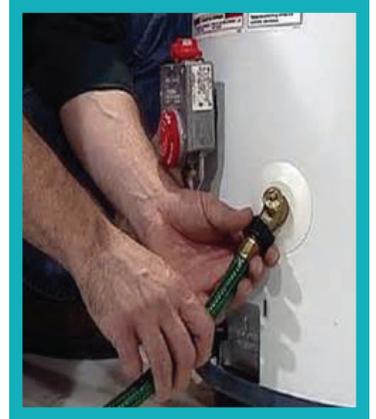
What can you do to save money? Water-saving features such as low-flow water faucet aerators and low-flow showerheads change the flow of water to reduce the amount used. Installing a water faucet aerator to regular faucets can reduce the flow of water by two gallons per minute and conserves energy by minimizing the amount of hot water used.

For more money-saving tips about being "water wise" visit www.epa.gov/watersense.

Check out the back of this newsletter to learn how to perform a leak test on your toilets!

Keep Your Hot Water Heater "Sediment Free"

Most water heaters are usually found in out-of-the-way places such as basements, garages or closets. Even though they are not often in view, there are several reasons to clean your water heater, inside and out. Sediment will collect in the bottom of the tank over time. This sediment comes from the reaction of the heating element changing the properties of the supply water and causing calcium and mineral deposits to form. These substances occur naturally in our water supply from lakes and streams and levels vary according to where you live.



Steps to Drain & Flush Your Hot Water Heater:

After the outside of the water heater is wiped clean, you'll be better able to drain the tank, which will help to clean the inside of the tank. Draining and flushing the tank will help get rid of most, if not all, of the sediment that collects in the tank.

- Make sure that the hot water heater is turned off.
- Turn off the "cold" water supply to the hot water heater.
- Attach a clean garden hose to the drain at the bottom of the tank. Lead the hose to a place where the water can drain, such as a drain in the floor or a bucket that you can empty somewhere else.
- With your drain hose in place, open up any hot water faucets in the house and allow the tank to empty. Be patient. This may take a while.
- When the tank is empty, shut off the drain valve at the bottom of the tank and turn on the cold water to loosen any remaining sediment.



After the tank is partially filled, drain it one more time. If you notice that there is still a lot of sediment coming out of the tank, consider filling and emptying it several more times until the water runs clear.

If your tank held a significant amount of sediment, make a plan to drain your hot water tank on a regular basis – maybe twice a year. Although this maintenance takes time and effort, it can extend the life of your hot water heater by many years.

These are just general guidelines for maintaining a water heater. We recommend that you refer to your manufacturer's guidelines for maintenance or contact a qualified plumber for more help.

Save Water with Your Pool This Summer



Summer is here and soaring temperatures make a dip in the backyard pool very appealing! There are ways to beat the heat and save water too:

Use a pool cover. This can reduce water evaporation by 30-50%. Pools can lose about 1-3 inches of water per week in the summer time.

Do not overfill your pool. This helps to keep water from being splashed out of the pool when it's being used.

Backwash pool filters only when necessary. Try to reuse water when appropriate for landscape watering.

Check the pool pump. Water should not leak from the pool pump. Replace seals and rings when required.

Check the pool auto-fill. Make sure that the auto-fill valve is shutting down all the way. This can be similar to a leaky toilet and although the water may not flow enough to overfill the pool, you will definitely see it on your bill.

did you know? HPUD provides a one-time "pool credit" adjustment annually? For more information, call our Customer Service Department at 865-922-7547.

Commissioners Approve 2017 Summer Savings Program

At the May 2017 Board meeting, the HPUD Board of Commissioners once again approved a summer savings program for residential customers' sewer bills. The program establishes a cap on sewer rates based on the average of the metered consumption of the previous 12-month calendar usage. Any usage above the individual's sewer cap will not be billed for sewer, but water will continue to be billed at the current rate.

This sewer savings program helps customers that use more water outside in the summer months for gardens, lawns, filling pools, washing cars, etc. Typically water used outdoors does not enter the sewer system for processing and treatment, so the program offers the customer some savings.

Another way for a customer to save on outside water use is to have a secondary water (irrigation) meter installed for \$400.00. This is a "water only" meter and no sewer charges will be applied to this usage. If you have any questions, please call (865) 922-7547.

EDUCATION OUTREACH Serving Our Community

At Hallsdale-Powell Utility District, we believe community involvement and education are critical to what we do. We participate in numerous community events throughout the year. By being involved in our community we can listen to concerns, answer questions, and help people understand the issues surrounding water in their community.

We also participate in numerous programs for school age children across the District. We talk to students about everything from water pollution to water conservation. We believe that helping students understand water quality issues is key to protecting our waterways in the future.



HPUD's water mascot "Tappy" working with Pre-k students



For more information about our community and youth education programs, see our [educational outreach page](#) on our website at www.hpud.org.

How to Perform a Leak Test

STEP 1
Remove the tank lid.



STEP 2
Place 10 drops food coloring* inside tank.
* red or green works best.



STEP 3
Replace lid, do not flush until morning.



STEP 4
Check the next morning. If the color shows up in the bowl, you have a leak.

