

WATER WORKS

Hallsdale-Powell Utility District Customer Newsletter

Spring 2022



Fix A Leak Week

The average household's leaks can account for nearly 10,000 gallons of water wasted every year and ten percent of homes have leaks that waste 90 gallons or more per day. Hunt down the drips during EPA's annual **Fix a Leak Week, March 14 through 20, 2022**, but remember that you can find and fix leaks inside and outside your home to save valuable water and money all year long.

Common types of leaks found in the home are worn toilet flappers, dripping faucets, and other leaking valves. These types of leaks are often easy to fix, requiring only a few tools and hardware that can pay for themselves in water savings. Fixing easily corrected household water leaks can save homeowners about 10 percent on their water bills.

How To Check For Leaks

To check for leaks in your home, you first need to determine whether you're wasting water and then identify the source of the leak. Here are some tips for finding leaks:

TAKE A LOOK AT YOUR WATER USAGE during a colder month, such as January or February. Typically, the usage should be lower in a colder month unless you are letting water drip to prevent pipes from freezing.

CHECK YOUR WATER METER before and after a two-hour period when no water is being used. If the meter changes, you may have a leak.

IDENTIFY TOILET LEAKS by placing a few drops of food coloring in the toilet tank. If any color shows up in the bowl after a few hours or possibly overnight, you have a leak. (Be sure to flush immediately after the experiment to avoid staining the tank.)

EXAMINE FAUCET GASKETS AND PIPE FITTINGS for any water on the outside of the pipe to check for surface leaks.

CHECK YOUR YARD FOR WET AREAS or areas where the grass may be growing better, especially during the summer months.



Tennessee 811
Know what's below.

Call before you dig.

April is Safe Digging Month

National Safe Digging Month serves as a reminder to all people who excavate or dig to call 811, at least 72 hours before digging, to have the approximate location of the utility lines marked. This process helps prevent injuries, property damage, and inconvenient utility outages.

As part of National Safe Digging Month, the Tennessee Public Utility Commission encourages homeowners to take the following steps when planning a digging project this spring:

- Always call 811 a few days before digging, regardless of the depth or familiarity with the property.
- Plan ahead. Call on Monday or Tuesday for work planned for an upcoming weekend, providing ample time for the approximate location of lines to be marked.
- Confirm that all lines have been marked.
- Consider moving the location of your project if it is near utility line markings.
- If a contractor has been hired, confirm that the contractor has called 811. Don't allow work to begin if the lines aren't marked.
- Visit www.tenn811.com for complete info.

HOW TO PERFORM A TOILET LEAK TEST

STEP 1

Remove the tank lid



STEP 2

Place 10 drops food coloring* inside tank

* Red or green work best



STEP 3

Replace lid, do not flush till morning



STEP 4

Check the next morning. If the food coloring shows up, you have a leak





IN THE WORKS: PROJECT UPDATES

The Beaver Creek Interceptor Improvement Project is designed to address infiltration and inflow issues within the collection system while adding capacity with a new 48-inch diameter interceptor. Phase 1 begins at the Beaver Creek wastewater treatment plant and continues to Powell Presbyterian Church where Phase 2 begins and continues to Morton View Lane.

Phase 1: 81% Complete

Approximately 2,500 Linear Feet 48-Inch Sewer Pipe



Manhole Install



Sewer Pipe Install

Phase 2: 79% Complete

Approximately 17,000 Linear Feet 48-Inch Sewer Pipe



Manhole Install



Bore Under Railroad

HPUD Calendar

BOARD MEETINGS

April 11th 3:30 pm

May 9th 1:30 pm

June 13th 6:00 pm

OFFICE CLOSURE

Friday, April 15th
in observance of
Good Friday

Monday, May 30th
in observance of
Memorial Day

Spruce Up Your Sprinkler

Did you know a broken sprinkler head can waste upwards of 25,000 gallons of water in six months. Before you ramp up your watering, check your irrigation system to ensure no water is being wasted.

- **Inspect for Breaks and Leaks**
- **Connect Sprinklers, Pipes, and Valves**
- **Direct Sprinklers for Best Water Coverage**
- **Select a WaterSense Labeled Irrigation Controller**



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 overflow 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.