



water saver

LEAK DETECTION CHECKLIST

Water Meter

- 1. Make sure no water is being used in the house. Turn off all faucets, shower, washer, etc.
- 2. Check to see if the small water meter dial is moving by watching the meter for 3–5 minutes. If it does not move, chances are you have no leaks.
- 3. Check for slow leaks by reading the meter at night and again in the morning when you have not used water overnight. If the meter shows usage, you have a leak. If you have a water softener, check on a night when you are not recharging.

Toilet

- 1. Look at the toilet bowl after the tank has stopped filling. If water is still running into the bowl, or if you can hear it running, your toilet is leaking. Most toilet leaks happen at the overflow pipe of the plunger ball inside the tank.
 - **Overflow Pipe** – Take off the tank lid and flush. The water level should be 1/2 inch or so below the pipe. If it flows over the edge, you are losing water and need to adjust your float level.
 - **Plunger Ball or Flapper Valve** – Your toilet could also have a silent leak. To check, drop a little food coloring in the tank. Do not flush and wait for about 10 minutes. If the food coloring appears in the bowl, you have a silent leak, and can probably be repaired with parts from your hardware store.
- 2. If your toilet is leaking and you cannot get it repaired right away, shut it off at the valve when you are not using it.

Outdoors and Elsewhere

- 1. Check all faucets, shower heads and outside spigots for drips. **A slow drip loses 12–20 gallons per day.**
- 2. Check for standing water on your basement floor, especially around the water heater, washer, water softener or water meter.

If you need help, call

269.966.3366

Battle Creek Area Clean Water Partnership

Battle Creek Department of Public Works

