

You have a leak. How do you find it.

You can turn off the house shut off valve if your home has one. (This is not the one at the meter). If the meter is still turning that lets you know the break is between the meter and the shut off valve to the house. If the meter is not turning then the leak is either in the pipes to the home or the sprinkler system.

Checking the home (shut off valve must be open to allow water into the home)

Toilets: Put a drop of food coloring in the back of the tank. Do not flush the toilet. If the water in the toilet bowl changes color within 10 minutes then there is a leak.

You can also turn off the valve to the toilet and check if the meter stops moving.

Bathtubs: Check the spout for dripping water.

Sinks: Check the faucet for drips. If the leak is slow you may not see the drip but you may notice the sink basin is wet.

Dishwasher: Water accumulation on the floor near the unit.

Refrigerator ice maker: Excessive accumulation of ice in the freezer and/or a puddle under the refrigerator.

Hot water tank: The pressure valve release could be stuck. The valve is most often found near the top of the tank and is usually a large brass fitting threaded to the tank. If it is not working properly, water will be leaking from it, dripping down the side of the tank, and accumulating on the floor.

Washing machine: Dripping from the intake hose or water on the floor.

Water Softener: A leak could be caused if your water softener is not recycling properly. The cycling process, regulated by a timer, often occurs between 1am and 4am. You're likely to have a leak in this unit if you hear the sound of constantly running water.

Outside the home:

Hose bibs: Make sure all of them are securely off and not dripping.

Sprinkler System: During the winter make sure the back flow device was properly winterized. During the summer run the system and check for broken sprinkler heads, soft muddy spots where there is no sprinkler head, and lack of normal water pressure.

Fountains/ Ponds: Low water levels. If you notice you are filling the item with water more often or hear the auto fill constantly coming on this could be a sign of a leak. Be sure to clean all the roots, debris, and rocks away from the auto fill valve. Check the fountain or pond liner for holes or cracks.