



For Immediate Release

## Fix Leaks to Save Water and Money During National Fix a Leak Week

Waukesha, Wi – March 2023, Waukesha Water Utility encourages customers to check for leaks during this year's national Fix a Leak Week. "Leaks can cost families a lot of money," said Mary Adelmeyer, Customer Service Coordinator. "Toilet leaks tend to be invisible and are one of the most common leaks."

When toilets leak, hundreds of gallons of water a day can be wasted without the homeowner's knowledge. To identify silent toilet leaks, the Utility recommends doing a dye test - put 8-10 drops of food coloring into the tank and wait 20 minutes. If color appears in the bowl before flushing, there is a leak. Below is a diagram on how to do the dye test.



While testing your toilet for leaks, Adelmeyer suggests checking the age of your toilet. Replacing toilets installed 1993 or earlier, with a WaterSense-labeled toilet can save homeowners approximately 13,000 gallons of water per year and \$200 on water and wastewater bills. If you live in the city of Waukesha, you may also qualify for a \$100 toilet rebate and a \$25 shower head rebate.

In addition to testing the toilet for leaks, check for dripping faucets, showerheads, irrigation systems, spigots, and other fixtures. These types of leaks are often easy to fix, requiring only a few tools and hardware that can pay for themselves in water savings. Also, if you have persistent leaks, you may want to check the water pressure coming into your property. If the pressure is 80 psi or greater, you should consider installing a pressure reducing valve. This may help prevent future leaks.

For more information about the toilet rebate, or finding and fixing leaks, visit the utility's conservation page at [www.waukesha-water.com](http://www.waukesha-water.com).