

Seek the Leak!



DON'T POUR YOUR MONEY DOWN THE DRAIN

A costly oversight - leaking toilets are the most common cause of high water bills. Toilet leaks waste a lot of water and cost you up to \$100 per month, which equals a costly oversight and waste of a precious resource.

People tend to repair dripping faucets because the leak is visible. However, it's easy to overlook a leaking toilet. There are many signs a toilet is leaking. Some of the obvious are if you have to jiggle the handle to make a toilet stop running, if there are any sounds coming from a toilet that is not being used, and if you have to hold the handle down to allow the tank to empty. This can also mean the chain or strap is too long and doesn't lift the flapper or ball high enough to float on its own.

Testing for a toilet leak can be as easy as placing a dye strip or food coloring in the toilet tank. After placing the dye strip or food coloring in the tank, wait 15-20 minutes and check the water in the toilet bowl. If the water is clear, then no leaks have been detected. If the water in the toilet bowl turns blue or even has a tinge of color, then your toilet has a leak in the tank. The repair may be a very simple one to fix. Check out www.doityourself.com for instructions to repair your leaky toilet or you can contact a licensed plumber.

West Kern Water District would like its customers to participate in conservation by checking for toilet leaks. To detect a leaking toilet, use a dye strip, which is available at the District office at no cost to consumers. There are a number of ways to save water and they all start with you. Every drop counts!