



City of Berea



Water Leaks & How to Detect Them

- 1) Turn off all fixtures and make sure that no appliances that use water are running.
- 2) Check the water meter for water flow activity. If the red arrow flow indicator is rotating, it means there is a leak somewhere in the house. Some meters have a low flow indicator next to the needle or right on the needle. They will be turning if there is a leak.
- 3) Check the faucets of sinks and bathtubs. Water usually leaks from the spout and is easily detectable. But it also may be leaking from on and off handles or loose fittings. Tighten loose fittings about a quarter of a turn if you observe a leak. Leaking fittings often are caused by the rubber washer being loose or deteriorated. Replacing the rubber washer is an easy fix if that's the source of the leak.
- 4) Check the toilet by placing a few drops of food coloring in the tank and waiting about 10 minutes. If the coloring shows up in the bowl, the toilet is leaking past the flapper, so the flapper should be replaced. Leaks involving the flush valves are not as easily detected because you cannot hear it. When the toilet tank is full, remove the tank covering and check for water flowing into the overflow tube. If this is happening, you have a faulty valve. There are water leak devices on the market to help detect a leak before you lose too much water and money from your leaking toilet. Just call your local plumber and ask what product is best for you.
- 5) Check the water supply lines on appliances that use water. Sometimes a leaking appliance is obvious, leaving a puddle of water on the floor in front of the appliance. Other times the leak is small and stays hidden under the appliance where you may not see it. If you find wetness, bulges or deterioration in the supply line, you know you have a leak.

There are certain situations that can cause your flow indicator needle to turn when all fixtures are turned off, such as an ice maker, humidifier (maybe the valve is stuck) or sprinkler system (shut off valve and check meter) , so please keep these in mind. If your house is on a slab, you may have a line that is leaking under the house. Ultimately, a professional plumber may need to be hired to troubleshoot hard-to-detect problems.

Important Phone Numbers for the City of Berea

Call Water Billing (440) 891-3308:

To have water turned off/on
Questions on water bills
To schedule a final read
Questions on water service

Call Service Garage (440) 826-5853:

Water breaks
Hydrant leaks

Call Water Plant (440) 234-5652:

If water is discolored
Questions on backflow devices
Any water quality issues
Low pressure

Revised 8/21/13