

# LET US ALL REDUCE OUR WATER CONSUMPTION

## FIND AND FIX LEAKS

Leaks can waste a lot of water, especially if they are undetected or underground and left for a long time. Leaks on your property are your responsibility. So here is a guide to finding and fixing them quickly, to save water and save you money.

### HOW TO CHECK FOR LEAKS ON YOUR PROPERTY



#### CUT ALL WATER USE

Close all taps on the property and don't flush toilets.



#### CHECK AND RECORD

Check and record your meter reading.



#### WAIT 15 MINUTES AND TAKE ANOTHER READING

Make sure that nobody has opened a tap or flushed since you first noted the meter reading.



#### IF THERE IS A DIFFERENCE, YOU HAVE A LEAK TO FIX

If the number on the meter has increased, it means you have a leak and you need to take action as per the City's By-law.



#### CALL A PLUMBER TO HELP FIX THE LEAK

Unless it's a simple DIY job.

### 3 SIMPLE TESTS FOR A TOILET LEAK

One leaking toilet wastes between 2 600 and 13 000 litres per month, depending on the flow rate of the leak. A leaking tap wastes between 400 and 2 600 litres per month.



Listen for water trickling into the toilet bowl.



Press a piece of toilet paper against the inside back surface of the bowl. If it gets wet, you probably have a leak.



Put 15 drops of food colouring into the toilet cistern. If after 15 minutes the water in the toilet bowl has changed colour, there is a leak.

If you can't afford to call a plumber to fix a serious toilet problem, use the little stopcock/angle valve tap at the base of the toilet to keep it turned off between flushes.

**REPORT BUST PIPES OR LEAKS IN STREETS AND PUBLIC SPACES TO YOUR LOCAL MUNICIPALITY**

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# TOP WAYS TO SAVE WATER



## WATER RE-USE

Use water from baths, washing machines and other safe sources to flush the toilets.



## MONITOR YOUR METER

Leaks around the home can waste hundreds of litres per day. If your meter is running while all taps are closed, then there's a leak.



## KEEP SHOWERS SHORT

Spend a maximum 2 minutes per shower. Turn off the water while you soap/lather your body.



## BATH WITH LESS WATER

Take a shallow bath or switch to having a quick 90 seconds shower by opening and closing the tap between wetting, soaping and rinsing.



## DON'T LEAVE TAPS RUNNING

Turn off tap when, brushing teeth, washing hair, shaving, or washing dishes.



## FULL LOADS ONLY

Only do the washing when you have enough items for a full load, for the washing machine.



## REPORT AND FIX LEAKS

Report leaks outside your yard or on the streets to your local municipality. Fix all leaks inside your yard.



## ENCOURAGE WATER SAVING

Encourage friends and family to contribute their own water saving ideas.



## REDUCE WATER CONSUMPTION

Fit low-flow showerheads and aerators to all taps in the home.



## SAVING WATER SHOULDN'T MAKE YOU SICK

It's still important to wash you hands after using the toilet. Turn the tap off while you soap up.

## NUMBERS YOU SHOULD KNOW

What you can do with 50 litres per day



2 LITRES OF DRINKING WATER



2 LITRES FOR COOKING



2 LITRES FOR DAILY HYGIENE



15 LITRES FOR A 90 SEC SHOWER



15 LITRES FOR DISHES & LAUNDRY



14 LITRES FOR TWO FLUSHES

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