



# Leaks





## SPOTTING WATER LEAKS

**Large water leaks are easy to spot when they create puddles. However, small leaks may waste a lot more water than you imagine.**

For example, toilets may slowly leak water without anyone realizing it. Here is a simple test to determine if a toilet is leaking water.


**1** Place a few drops of food coloring in the water tank

**3** Take a look at the toilet bowl. If there is colored water in it, you have a slow leak.


**2** Wait 5 minutes

### Did you know?

Repairing a leaky toilet prevents up to **6,000 gallons** of water from going down the drain each month!

 Other places to look for drips and leaks:

- ◆ Kitchen sink
- ◆ Bathroom faucets
- ◆ Outside water spigots
- ◆ Sprinkler system



## Free Indoor Conservation Kits

MSWD customers can request a free indoor conservation kit. The Kit includes many items to help you find leaks and be water-wise in your home. Simply send an email to conservation [at] mswd.org and include your mailing address and we will send one to you!

## Leak Detection Resources

Mission Springs Water District has compiled a list of leak detection companies in the valley that offer our customers 20% off leak detection services. Leak detection companies use a variety of techniques, including specialized listening devices, to help them pinpoint a leak – even if it is underneath a slab. Leak detection and repair is essential if a leak is suspected.

### American Leak Detection

20% off leak detection

Mention code: MSWD01

760-320-8273

### Mr. Rooter

20% off leak detection

760-779-0190

## You can also check for leaks at home yourself!

If you'd like to check for leaks on your own before calling in a pro, there are a few easy ways to do that. Most of our meters are located in a rectangular concrete meter box at the curb or sidewalk in front of a customer's home or business. To use your water meter as a leak detector, just follow these steps:

- Ensure no water is running either inside or outside of your home.
- Lift the lid off of the meter box (a screwdriver inserted into the small square hole in the meter box lid will work as a “handle”).
- Once the meter box lid has been removed, lift the round cap up from the face of the meter.
- Check the ProCoder dial (see diagram at left). If the red hand is moving and you know there is no water running in your home or outside, you may have a leak on your property.



## Toilet Leak Test

Leaky toilets can waste up to 600 gallons of water a month! Many times you will not hear or see a toilet leak. One way to find a leak is by using food dye or food coloring and following these simple steps:

**Step 1:** Remove the tank lid.

**Step 2:** Place several drops of food dye into the tank. DO NOT flush the toilet. Wait approx. 5 minutes.

**Step 3:** Check the water in the bowl for color. If the bowl has color, then the toilet has a leak.

Repeat all steps for any additional toilets.

## Pool Leak Test

**Step 1:** Bring the pool water to normal level. Fill a 5-gallon bucket with pool water to about two-thirds from the top.

**Step 2:** Place the bucket on the first or second step of the pool. Ensure the bucket is immersed in the pool at least five inches.

**Step 3:** Mark the water level inside the bucket.

**Step 4:** Shut off the pump and auto fill and mark the pool water level on the outside of the bucket.

**Step 5:** Resume normal pool pump operation.

**Step 6:** After 24 hours, compare the two water levels. If the pool water (outside mark) goes down more than the bucket's water level, there is probably a leak. If levels are the same, only evaporation has occurred.

