

# DIY Outdoor Leak Check

The sooner you find leaks, the more water and money you save.

## LOOK



- Check for puddled water or stained pavement.
- Inspect all faucets and hose spigots for leaks.
- Check the irrigation system for damaged parts & leaks.
- Inspect irrigation for broken, misaligned or clogged heads.
- Using a water pressure gauge, measure at the hose spigot for high pressure.
- Check the irrigation controller (and any sensors you have).
- Inspect pool equipment and water level.

## REPAIR



- Fix leaking or damaged lines, pipes, and connections.
- Replace broken sprinklers or nozzles, missing drop emitters.
- Replace mismatched nozzles or drip emitters.
- Fix pool autofill devices stuck in the 'on' position.

## CORRECT



- Adjust sprinkler alignment to avoid irrigating the pavement.
- Install a pressure regulator if pressure is high (above 60 psi); prevents sprinkler misting and leaking drip emitters.
- Program the irrigation controller for time of year – or upgrade to a smart controller.
- Review watering days and run times.

For weather-based controller and irrigation nozzle incentives, visit [www.dwa.org/save](http://www.dwa.org/save)

For a helpful watering guide, visit [www.dwa.org/guide](http://www.dwa.org/guide)

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# DIY Indoor Leak Check

Use this checklist to help identify and fix leaks.

## LOOK & LISTEN



- Inspect for dripping faucets and running toilets.
- Check for wet, warped, or discoloration stains on ceilings, floors, walls and underneath kitchen and bathroom sinks.
- Turn off all water and listen for running water.

## INVESTIGATE



- Use your water meter to check for leaks.
- Make sure no water is running inside or outside (sprinklers, showers, washer, etc.).
- Locate the water meter (rectangular concrete box at the curb or sidewalk).
- Lift the rectangular lid of the meter box, lift the round cap from the face of the meter.
- Check the small triangular or star-shaped dial. If it's moving you may have a leak.

## LEAKING TOILETS



- Remove the tank lid.
- Place several drops of food coloring into the tank.
- Do not flush the toilet. Wait 5-10 minutes.
- Check the water in the bowl for color. If color is in the bowl the toilet has a leak.
- Check for a worn seal or flapper. Replace if needed. This is a common cause of toilet leaks and an easy fix.

## LEAKING FAUCETS



- Check for a worn rubber washer under the handle.
- This is usually the problem.
- Check your local home improvement store for parts.

## REPAIR



- Contact a plumber or contractor to make necessary repairs.
- If you cannot find a leak but still believe you have one, you can call a leak detector.

For leak detection savings coupons, visit  
[www.dwa.org/coupons](http://www.dwa.org/coupons).

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