

# How Can You Lower Your Water Bill?

## High-Efficiency Toilets



Toilets are the biggest water-user in most homes so replacing toilets made before 1994 with high-efficiency ones will save

you money on utility bills. The Saving Water Partnership is offering a rebate if you replace your old inefficient toilet. Look for toilets bearing the WaterSense label which have been independently tested to ensure they meet rigorous standards for both performance and efficiency. To find out more, call **206-684-SAVE (7283)** or visit [www.savingwater.org](http://www.savingwater.org).

## Showerheads & Faucet Aerators



Installing a water-saving showerhead that uses less than 2.5 gallons per minute (gpm) and a bathroom faucet aerator with a flow

rate of 1.0 gpm will save both water and energy.

## Conserve in the Garden



Many of us love to garden but choosing drought-tolerant plants, building rich soil and watering wisely can reduce your

water bill while giving you a beautiful garden.

Learn how at [www.savingwater.org](http://www.savingwater.org).



# you have a leak

## WHAT NOW?

### Saving Water Partners

The Saving Water Partnership is a group of local utilities that fund water conservation programs in Seattle and King County.

City of Bothell  
Cedar River Water and Sewer District  
Coal Creek Utility District  
City of Duval  
Highline Water District  
Water District 119  
Water District 125  
Water District 20  
Water District 45  
Water District 49  
Water District 90  
City of Mercer Island  
Northshore Utility District  
Olympic View Water & Sewer District  
Seattle Public Utilities  
Shoreline Water District  
Soos Creek Water and Sewer District  
Woodinville Water District



**Saving Water Partnership**

Seattle and Participating Local Water Utilities

[www.savingwater.org](http://www.savingwater.org)



Your water bill is higher than usual due to a leak inside your home, plumbing system or sprinkler system.



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Customers are responsible for repairing leaks in pipes and fixtures on their property and for water and sewer charges resulting from leaks. In some instances, adjustments may be available for underground leaks between the street and the foundation of your house or building.



## How Do I Fix the Leak?

Most household leaks occur in toilets, but other fixtures such as shower-heads, indoor and outdoor faucets, ice-making machines and water heaters can also leak. Sprinkler systems are also susceptible to leaks.

## How much water does a leak waste?

Leak Source	Leak Size	Approximate Gallons/Day	Approximate Gallons/Month	Approximate CCF*/Month
Leaking showerhead	10 drips/minute	1.4	43	0.05 CCF
Leaking faucet	1 drip/second	9	259	0.3 CCF
In-ground irrigation	1/32" in diameter	210	6,300	8 CCF
Running toilet	1 gallon/minute	1,440	43,200	58 CCF
Overflow tube in toilet tank	1/4" in diameter	7,200	216,600	290 CCF
A garden hose left running	1/2" in diameter	17,280	518,400	693 CCF

\*1 CCF (hundred cubic feet) equals 748 gallons. These examples are provided as a guide only.

### Do it Yourself

Saving Water Partnership has a number of resources to help you fix leaks yourself, including brochures, tips and step-by-step videos that will guide you through the repair process. Visit [www.savingwater.org](http://www.savingwater.org) or call **206-684-SAVE (7283)** to learn more. Underground water line repair or replacement must be inspected *before* covering your work. Call your utility to schedule an inspection. No permit is necessary as long as the work is done on your private property, not in the public right-of-way or on a neighbor's property.

### Hire a Plumber

If you don't feel comfortable fixing a leak yourself, hire a licensed plumber or talk to an expert at a plumbing supply store.

