



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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**Inland Empire Utilities Agency
Provides Tips for Fix a Leak Week**

Chino, California – The Inland Empire Utilities Agency (IEUA) is promoting Fix a Leak Week, March 17-23, in partnership with the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) WaterSense® program. Fix a Leak Week is celebrated in March of each year as a time to remind community members to check their household fixtures and irrigation systems for leaks. IEUA in honor of Fix a Leak Week will be giving away leak detection kits to the local community Monday, March 17 through Friday, March 21 at IEUA's headquarters located at 6075 Kimball Avenue, Chino, CA 91708 while supplies last.

Average household's leaks can account for more than 10,000 gallons of water wasted every year- the amount of water needed to wash 270 loads of laundry. Common fixes include replacing or repairing dripping faucets, running toilets, and leaky showerheads. The following tips are provided by the Inland Empire Utilities Agency to encourage the community to fix leaks:

INDOOR TIPS:

- Leaky faucets can be fixed by checking faucet washers and gaskets for wear and replacing them if necessary. If you are replacing a faucet, check for the WaterSense® label.
- Leaky showerheads can be fixed by ensuring a tight connection using pipe tape and a wrench.
- Silent toilet leaks can be found by putting a few drops of food coloring into the tank and seeing if color appears in the bowl before you flush.
- If your toilet is leaking, the cause is often an old, faulty toilet flapper. Over time, this inexpensive rubber part decays, or minerals build up on it. It's usually best to replace the whole rubber flapper- a relatively easy, inexpensive do-it-yourself project that pays for itself in no time.
- If the toilet handle sticks in the flush position, water runs constantly. Replace or adjust the handle.
- Twist and tighten hose and pipe connections. To save water without a noticeable difference in flow in your bathroom, twist on a WaterSense® labeled faucet aerator or showerhead.
- Replace fixtures if necessary. Look for the WaterSense® label when replacing plumbing fixtures, which are independently certified to use 20 percent less water and perform as well as or better than standard models.

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OUTDOOR TIPS:

- An irrigation system should be checked each spring before use to make sure it was not damaged by frost or freezing.
- Check for broken sprinklers.
- To ensure that your in-ground irrigation system is not leaking water, consult with a WaterSense® irrigation partner who has passed a certification program focused on water efficiency.
- Check your garden hose for leaks at its connection to the spigot. If it leaks while you run your hose, replace the nylon or rubber hose washer and ensure a tight connection to the spigot using pipe tape and a wrench.

For more information on classes and tips on Fix a Leak Week, visit www.ieua.org.

The Inland Empire Utilities Agency covers 242-square miles, distributes imported water, provides industrial/municipal wastewater collection and treatment services, and other related utility services to more than 830,000 people. The Agency's service area includes the Cities of Chino, Chino Hills, Fontana, Montclair, Ontario and Upland, as well as the Cucamonga Valley Water District, Monte Vista Water District, and Fontana Water Company.

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