



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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Inland Empire Utilities Agency Encourages Residents to Fix All Leaks

Fix a Leak Week: March 18-24, 2019

Inland Empire, California— Inland Empire Utilities Agency (IEUA/Agency) is promoting Fix a Leak Week, March 18-24, in partnership with the Environmental Protection Agency's 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.

Household leaks can waste more than one trillion gallons of water annually nationwide—water that can be used in over 11 million homes. Ten percent of homes waste 90 gallons or more per day due to water leaks. Common household leaks include worn toilet flappers, dripping faucets and other leaking valves. Most leaks only require hardware, a few tools and are easy to fix, and can save homeowners about 10 percent on their water bills. 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.
- 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. If color appears in the bowl within 15 minutes without flushing, you have a leak.
- 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.
- If the toilet handle sticks in the flush position, water runs constantly. Replace or adjust the handle to avoid running.
- A family of four who replaces their older, inefficient toilets with efficient ones, could save approximately 13,000 gallons of water per year.

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.
- 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 qualifying water saving rebates and water saving tips, visit www.ieua.org. Follow IEUA on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram @IEUAWater during Fix a Leak Week for more water saving tips.

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 875,000 people through its member agencies which include Chino, Chino Hills, Cucamonga Valley Water District, Fontana, Fontana Water Company, Montclair, Monte Vista Water District, Ontario, and Upland. www.ieua.org

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