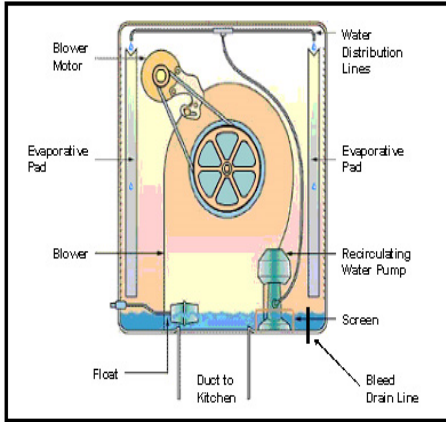


## Have You Checked Your Evaporative Cooler?

While evaporative cooling is one of the most energy-efficient methods of cooling a home in the summer months, it is also a major summertime residential water user. To minimize waste, make

sure the water level in the water pan is below the top of the overflow pipe. If the level is too high, bend the float valve arm downward (similar to adjusting the float ball in a toilet tank). Also, check the water lines leading to the cooler for leaks. Tighten loose connections. As the season changes, be sure to turn off the water supply and drain the lines before the first freeze occurs.



## Finding and Fixing Outdoor Leaks

If a hose bib or outdoor faucet leaks, and a good hand-tightening won't fix it, replace the old washer. Look for wet spots in the landscape to help



locate broken pipes and leaky or broken sprinkler heads. Buy replacement parts and fix them. Inspect water lines, sprinklers, emitters, and other compo-

nents for possible leaks every month. Installing a drip system is efficient and directs the water exactly where it is needed. Spraying or using a sprinkler system, throws the water out into the air where it is quickly evaporated. Be sure to check irrigation timers on a monthly basis to reset for the season and ensure efficient operation. Plant Native in your yard. You may pick up a list of low water use plants at our office.



**Water Department**

**303A N Beeline Highway  
Payson, AZ 85541**

**Contact:  
Customer Service  
Phone: 1-928-474-5424x4  
Fax: 1-928-472-2556  
E-mail: [water@paysonaz.gov](mailto:water@paysonaz.gov)**

**TOWN OF PAYSON  
WATER  
DEPARTMENT**

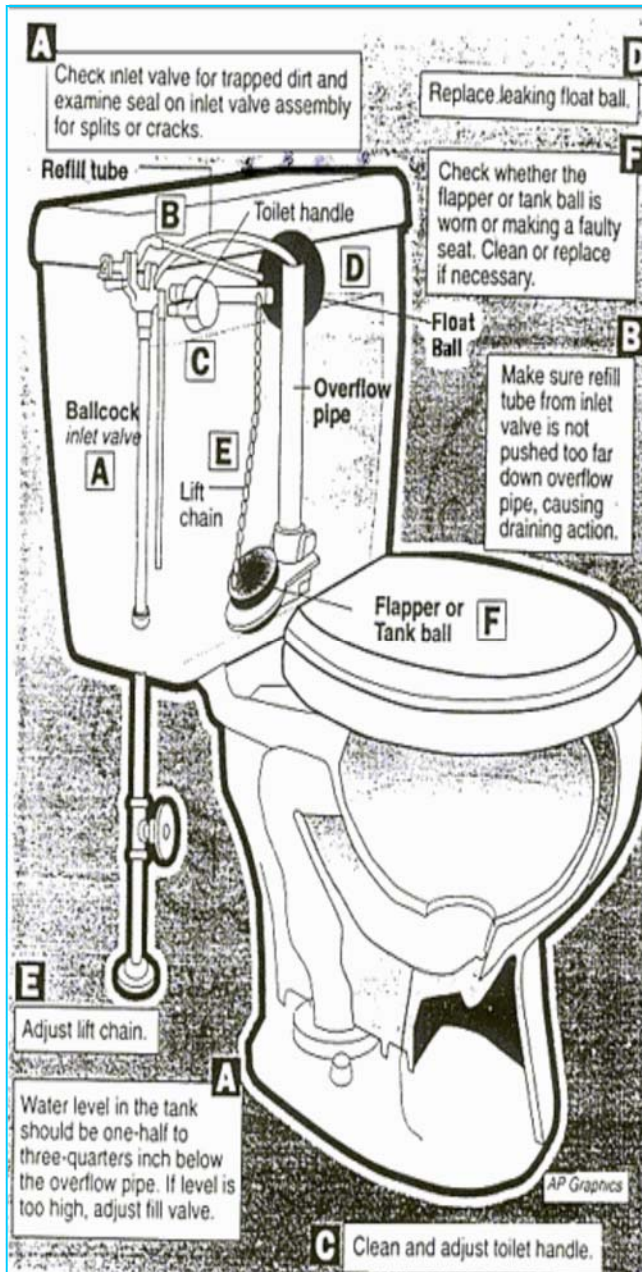
**STOP  
WATER LEAKS NOW**

**PLEASE CONSERVE  
WATER - EVERY  
DROP COUNTS!**

## FIND LEAKY PIPES INDOORS AND OUT

Size of Opening:	Gallons wasted per month:
1/16"	25,000
1/8"	99,000
3/16"	222,000
1/4"	394,000

(at 60 lbs. of water pressure)



## How to Read Your Water Meter



Do you have a water leak? Leaky pipes and drips when undetected waste thousands of gallons of water and result in higher monthly water bills. Dripping faucets and running toilets are pretty easy to detect. Underground leaks are invisible but can literally wash away the structural integrity of your home. Read your water meter to find out if you have a "hidden" water leak.

### 5 steps to detecting a water leak

- 1) Locate your water meter (contact our office if you need assistance)
- 2) Turn off all indoor and outdoor water-using devices including the evaporative cooler, water softeners and icemaker.
- 3) Record the read from your water meter.
- 4) Wait 30 minutes, then read and record the meter again.
- 5) If you have different reading, you have a leak!



**Don't forget to check the connections on your hot water tank.**

## The #1 Culprit of High Water Use, The Toilet

If your water meter test indicates a possible leak, begin your search with the toilet. A leaking toilet can waste thousands of gallons of water. To check yours, put 10-15 drops of food dye into the tank. After 5-10 minutes, check the bowl for color. If there is color in your bowl, your toilet is leaking. The most likely culprit...the "flapper".

The flapper (tank ball) is what keeps water in the tank from flowing into the bowl. Make sure the flapper fits properly on the valve seat. It should fall straight onto the valve seat. A "worn" flapper won't seal properly. To replace the flapper, turn off the valve and flush the toilet to drain the tank. Clean the seal and follow the instruction that comes with the new flapper. Now run the dye test again. Approximately 90% of the leaks found are due to the toilet flapper. Tablet type cleaning products placed in tank can shorten the life of the flapper considerably.

## Faucets and Showerheads

### Replace old and worn out washers

Before you tune out the sound of that dripping faucet, consider this:



60 drops per minute =  
192 gallons per month =  
2,304 gallons per year

90 drops per minute =  
310 gallons per month =  
3,720 gallons per year

120 drops per minute =  
429 gallons per =  
5,148 gallons per year

Standard stem faucets with separate handles for hot and cold water use flat washers with a hole in the middle for a washer screw. Replacing the washer is easy and requires the use of a wrench, screwdriver and a new washer. This simple check could save thousands of gallons of water and lost dollars out of your monthly utility budget.

### Does your shower head drip?



Do you have a low-flow 2.5 gpm shower head?

Even a low-flow showerhead can waste water if it drips. A leaky showerhead might be caused by an old washer in the faucet handle and may need replacing. Plumbing and hardware stores sell replacement parts. For difficult plumbing projects, you may want to call and contract with a licensed plumber.