

## Leak Detection Brochure DRAFT

**Front Cover:** Feature toilet graphic/concept to coordinate with leak detection dye tabs.

- *Title text:* Find and fix water leaks to save water and money.
- *Maybe add a [leak fact](#)? “A slow steady drip can waste up to 350 gallons in one month.” Or something about how much water a toilet leak wastes.*

### **Back panel:**

Dripping faucets and running toilets are more than a nuisance. They waste water and cost you money. Other water leaks are less noticeable. If your water bill sky-rockets for no apparent reason, chances are you have a leak. Finding and fixing household leaks is typically an easy and inexpensive do-it-yourself project. *Or add the fact here?*

### **How to detect a leak:**

1. **Check your water meter.** Turn off all water inside and outside. Locate your water meter and jot down the figures. Wait 15 to 20 minutes and read it again. Have the numbers changed? If so, there’s a leak somewhere.
2. **Monitor your water bill.** Pay close attention to your month-by-month water consumption. Big increases in your water consumption could point to a silent leak especially in the winter months when outdoor watering needs are low.

Suspect that you have a leak? Use a leak detection dye tablet to check toilet for leaks or perform easy repairs to old fixtures with visible leaks.

### **Inside panels:**

#### **Finding & Fixing Household Leaks:**

Many leaks will show themselves in the form of those annoying drip-drip-drips but others may be silent. If you see large amounts of water flooding your home immediately shut off the water to your home and contact your local water service provider. You may have a burst pipe. If you’re looking for a silent leak, start with toilets. To find a toilet leak:

1. Place a dye tab (or a few drops of food coloring) in the toilet tank.
2. Wait 15 minutes. If colored water appears in the toilet bowl, you have a leak.

#### **Found a Toilet Leak? Here’s what to check:**

1. Check the flush valve ball for wear and replace if damaged.
2. Check to see whether the flush valve ball fits snugly into the flush valve. If not, check for corrosion which you can clean off. Also check the guidewire/chain to ensure it’s not catching on anything and causing a bad fit.
3. Sprinkle baby powder on top of water and watch to see if it’s pulled towards the overflow tube. If so, you’ve found your leak. Gently bend the float arm down to shut off valve before water spills into the tube or try replacing the float valve.
4. Does your toilet run, whistle, or whine after adjusting the float valve ball? If so, you may need to replace the ballcock assembly.

**If your leak is a drip you can see from a shower, sink, or faucet, check for worn washers.**

1. Shut off the water at the nearest or main shutoff valve.
2. Relieve pressure by running faucet until dry then loosen the cap nut and remove the faucet handle and assembly.
3. Unscrew the brass setscrew to remove old washer.
4. Wipe area to clean then replace new washer.
5. Replace setscrew and faucet assembly. Turn faucet handle as far as possible to close it then loosen slightly.
6. Replace cap nut and close faucet before turning water on at shutoff valve.

**Home Schematic:** Also add a shut-off valve to the graphic.

