



Fix A Leak Week 2026

March 16-22, 2026

EPA Fix A Leak Week

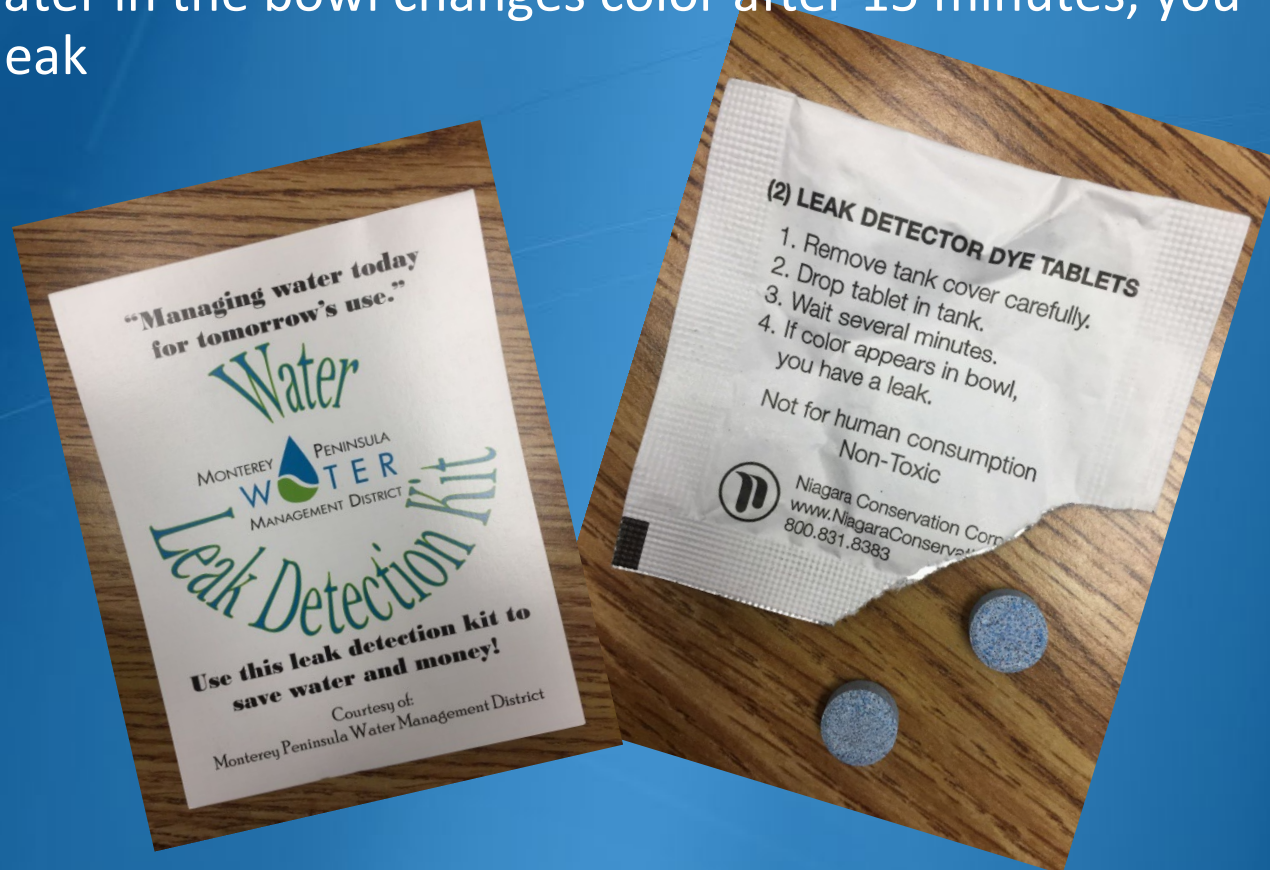
- Are you ready to chase down leaks? Household leaks can waste nearly 1 trillion gallons of water annually nationwide, so each year we hunt down the drips during Fix a Leak Week.
- Mark your calendars for the EPA's annual Fix a Leak Week, March 16 through 22, 2026—but remember that you can find and fix leaks inside and outside your home to save valuable water and money all year long.

Find and Fix Leaks

- To check for leaks in your home, you first need to determine whether you're wasting water
 - Then identify the source of the leak
- Check your water meter before and after a two-hour period when no water is being used
 - If the meter changes at all, you probably have a leak

FREE Toilet Leak Detection Kit

- Pick up a FREE toilet leak detection kit from the Water Management District at 5 Harris Court, Bldg. G., Monterey
 - Or put a few drops of food coloring in the toilet tank
- If the water in the bowl changes color after 15 minutes, you have a leak



Toilet Flappers

- Old or worn-out toilet flappers (e.g., valve seal) leak
- Flappers are inexpensive rubber parts that can build up minerals or decay over time
- Replacing them can be a quick and easy fix
- Bring the old flapper for comparison to make sure you buy a new flapper that fits your toilet model
 - Check the manufacturer's website for the appropriate replacement part number
 - Or use a universal flapper available at the Water District
- **Don't forget to apply for a Rebate if you buy one!**

Faucets

- Old and worn faucet washers and gaskets frequently cause leaks in faucets
- Many tutorials are available online for how to fix a wide variety of faucets
- The Do-It-Yourself Network has a handy reference on faucet repairs
- YouTube has numerous video tutorials on how to fix a dripping faucet

Showerheads

- Some leaky showerheads can be fixed by making sure there is a tight connection between the showerhead and the pipe stem and by using pipe tape to secure it
- Pipe tape, also called Teflon tape, is available at most hardware stores, is easy to apply, and can help tame unruly leaks
- For more complicated valve leaks in showers that drip when not in use, contact an experienced handyman or licensed plumber

Outdoors

- If you have an in-ground irrigation system, check it each spring before use to make sure it wasn't damaged
 - Or hire an irrigation professional certified by a WaterSense labeled program to inspect it for you
- Also 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

Leaks Still Running?

- If you have leaks and you find these solutions aren't enough to stop them, it might be time to replace your leaking fixtures
- Look for the WaterSense label when considering a new toilet, faucet, or showerhead
- Take advantage of Rebates from the Monterey Peninsula Rebate Program (831-658-5601)
 - Applications at www.MontereyWaterInfo.org





Be a
Leak Detective
for



Fix a Leak Week

For more information visit:

www.MontereyWaterInfo.org

www.epa.gov/watersense/fix-leak-week

