

Residential Indoor Self-Audit

You can easily perform a self-audit of your home by checking for leaks, and identifying opportunities to save water. You will need to visually check all water sources in your house looking for obvious problems such as a dripping faucet or moisture under the sinks.

Bathrooms

-Check each **toilet** in your house.

Look around the back of the toilet for leaks on the supply line. Next, put a few drops of food coloring in the tank and wait **at least 15 minutes** to see if the color appears in the bowl.

- Check supply lines under the **sink** for leaks.
 - o Look at each line for weak spots such as bulges in the hose.
 - o Watch the faucet for a minute for drips.
 - o Turn on the faucets to check for leaks while they are in operation.
- Check the **bathtub/shower** faucet for visual leaks.
 - o Operate the faucet to make sure it functions properly.
 - o With a tub, divert water to the showerhead to check for leaks there, too. When the water is diverted to the showerhead, the water flow should stop from the tub faucet.
 - o -It is difficult to **check the exact flow** from your aerators and showerheads without the proper "flow bag". If the showerhead and aerators have been around for a while, it might be time for a change. Low-flow showerheads and aerators are available at any hardware store and are usually easy to install.

-Before you finish the audit of your bathroom, look at the **toilet** again. If colored water is in the bowl, you have a leaking flapper valve. Flapper valves are available at any hardware store, and are easy to install. **Be sure the one you purchase is the correct one for your toilet. An incorrect one will leak even more!!!**

- Toilets
- Tub faucet
- Shower
- Sink Faucet

Kitchen

Check all water sources for leaks following the instructions above.

- Sink Faucets

- Dishwasher
- Garbage disposal
- Ice maker

Laundry

Check all water sources for leaks.

- Supply lines to washer
- Supply lines to sinks (if appropriate)

If you have additional water sources in your house, make sure to thoroughly check these too using the same procedures.

Fix all the leaks as soon as you can.