

Greetings!



Ohio American Water's

Do-It-Yourself Guide

To Using Water Wisely

You can help save water...



The toilet can be the biggest water user in your house.

- Toilets designed before 1994 average 4 to 7.5 gallons a flush

The most common residential leak issue is the toilet

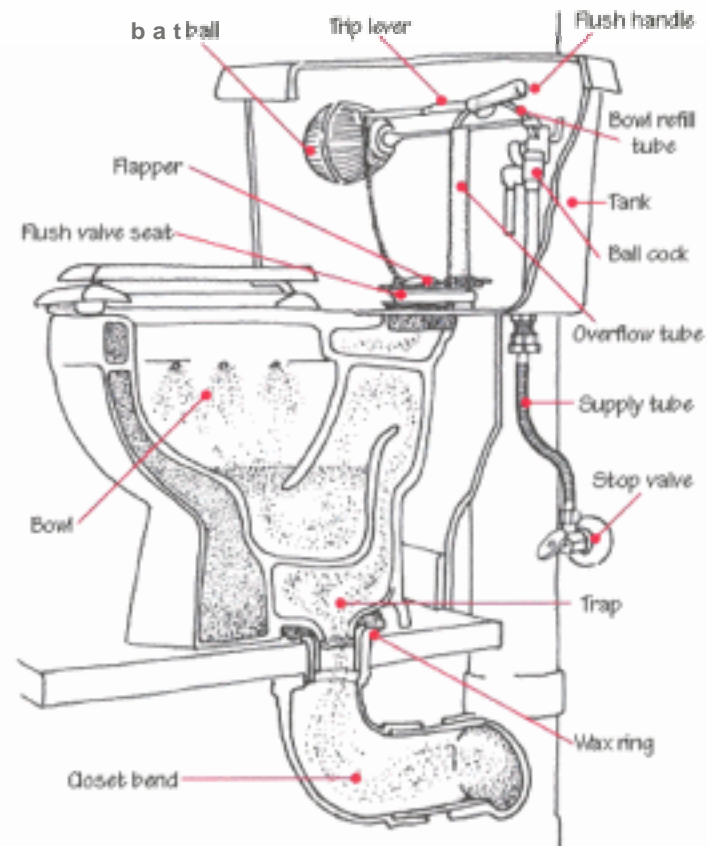


What causes toilet leaks?

■ Leaking drain valves (flapper)

- Deterioration
- Obstruction

■ Float adjustment



Should I purchase a new toilet?



Determine how much water your current toilet uses

- Calculate the gallons used per flush of your existing toilet
- Estimate your daily number of flushes
- Multiply the gallons per flush by the flushes per day by the days per month; this will be the amount of water used for flushing

Determine the cost of the water used with a low flush toilet

- Substitute 3 gallons per flush in the above calculation
- Subtract this amount from the first amount; this is your savings



Things you can do to save water...



■ Take shorter showers

- 7 to 10 minutes will do
- You can save 1,000 to 2,000 gallons a month!

Water saving
showerheads help

■ Take baths



Things You can do to save water...



Turn faucets tight after each use

A steady drip can waste as much as 350 gallons a month

Don't let water run while brushing your teeth or shaving



Save water...in the Kitchen



Turn faucets tight after each use

Run only full loads in the dishwasher

- Before washing dishes by hand or in the dishwasher, scrape them don't rinse first. Saves 200-500 gallons a month



Save water...in the Kitchen

- Keep drinking water bottle in the fridge instead of running the faucet until cold

Rinse fruits and vegetables in a basin rather than under running water

Use the refrigerator to defrost frozen items over night or the microwave



Save water...in the laundry

- Washing machines use 30-50 gallons of water a load
- Adjust the water level to fit the load
- The major cost in washing clothes is the cost of hot water. Wash and rinse with cold water when you can.



Landscaping tips to conserve water



■ Mulch around plants

- maintains moisture in root zone
- eliminates competition for moisture with weeds



Utilize drought resistant trees, shrubs, perennials and annuals

- <http://ohioline.osu.edu/hyg-fact/1000/1643.html>

Use drip irrigation systems for flower beds instead of sprinklers

■ Mow grass higher



Save water...outside the house



- Wash your car using a bucket of water and a quick hose rinse

Drive the car over the lawn before rinsing so the rinse water can water the lawn.

Water the lawn only when it needs it. Don't water on windy days

Sweep driveways, patios, and sidewalks with a broom instead of using the hose



Cover your Pool



Reduce water loss due to evaporation

Helps to maintain chlorine levels



How much water can I be losing from evaporation?



- 10 feet in diameter – 1" = 49 gallons
- 12 feet in diameter – 1" = 70 gallons
- 15 feet in diameter – 1" = 110 gallons



10 feet X 20 feet

– 1" = 125 gallons

It pays to cover your pool!



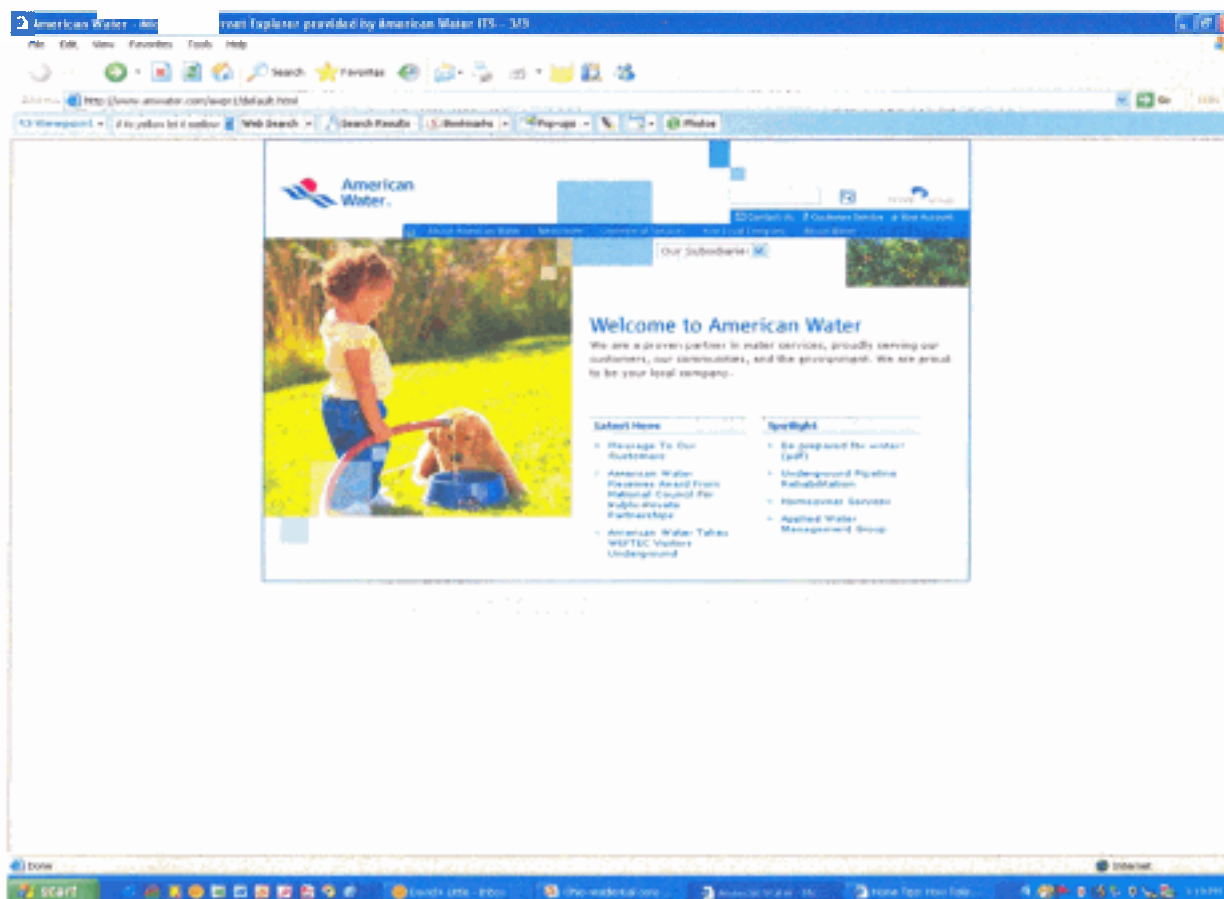
And don't forget!



Stop Those Drips!



Additional conservation information can be found at the Ohio American website:



For more information check out these web sites!



American Water Works Association

<http://www.awwa.org/Advocacy/learn/conserve/>

Ohio Environmental Protection Agency

<http://www.epa.gov/owm/water-efficiency/index.htm>

Office of Consumers' Counsel

<http://www.pickocc.org/crc/>

Public Utilities Commission of Ohio

<http://www.puco.ohio.gov/PUCO/Utilities/OneStop.cfm?OneStopKeyword=WW>

Thank you!



Ohio
American Water®

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