



## **WATER AND SEWER DIVISIONS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC UTILITIES**

Town of Wallingford  
377 South Cherry Street  
Wallingford, Connecticut 06492  
Telephone: 203-949-2660

### **Checking Your Water System and Toilet for Leaks**

#### **Checking Your Water System for Leaks**

1. Locate the water meter at your premises.
2. Read the water meter first at night, after the day's water use has ended, and again the next morning before any water is used.
3. Subtract the first (evening) reading from the second (morning) reading to calculate how much, if any, water leaked overnight.
4. If there is a difference in the water meter readings, locate the leak(s) by checking toilets, faucets, shower heads, garden hoses, irrigation systems, and pipe connections for leaks.

#### **Checking Your Toilet for Silent Leaks**

1. Carefully remove the toilet tank lid and drop a little food coloring, or **non-toxic dye tablets available from the Wallingford Water Division**, in the tank. **DO NOT FLUSH.**
2. Wait 10 – 20 minutes.
3. If the food coloring appears in the toilet bowl, your toilet has a silent toilet leak.
  - ✓ The leak is most likely located in or around the flapper valve or plunger balls at the bottom of the tank, or a float that does not shut the water off. These leaks are easy to fix with parts from your local hardware or home improvement store.
- As an alternative, shut the valve off to the toilet and see if the water level in the tank goes down after 10 – 30 minutes.

Depending on the water pressure at your premises, a running toilet can typically leak up to 1/4 gallon of water per minute, which adds up to 360 gallons per day.

*If you are having difficulty locating a leaking fixture(s),  
the Wallingford Water and Sewer Divisions can assist.*

Please contact the Water and Sewer Divisions Business Office at 203-949-2660 between the hours of 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Monday through Friday should you have any questions or require additional information. Thank you.