

CITY OF PORT ORCHARD**TREASURER'S OFFICE****216 Prospect Street****Port Orchard, WA 98366****Telephone (360) 876-4407****Fax No. (360) 895-9029****WATER LEAKS**

Water leaks are costly and wasteful. The City does not check on private property for water leaks. Here is a list of several things you can check if you suspect you have a water leak.

1. Always start checking with your toilets. Toilets cause most of the leaks in your home. If your toilet runs on after you flush it, you should get it repaired immediately. Every time your toilet runs it is like leaving on the faucet and letting water run down the drain. Toilets can also have silent leaks. To determine if your toilet does, put food coloring in the tank at the back of the toilet. If the color shows up in the bowl without you flushing, it means that the water is leaking around the bottom flap in the tank. Both of these problems are reasonably cheap to repair if you fix them yourself and will save you money on your water bill.
2. If your toilets are not the problem, you should check around your home for dripping faucets, pipes and leaks around your hot water tank.
3. To check to see if you have a leak in the underground line between the house and the meter, you first need to find the main cut off as the water line comes into your house. Cut the water off at the cut off valve, go out and look at the dial on your water meter. Call us (360) 876-4407 if you do not know where your meter is, we can have the public works staff assist you in finding it. If the dial on the water meter is moving (watch it for at least 10 minutes), it means there is water running through the meter. If the water is running through the meter and the water valve is shut off, this indicates there is a leak in the line.
4. If you did not find a leak in the underground line, try turning the main valve back on and watch the meter again. If the meter moves this means that water is running in the house somewhere. If no one is using water, this can indicate you have a leak in the house.