



Contact Us

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**We have personnel on call 24 hours a day, 7 days a week to meet your emergency needs.
After hours call will be dispatched by our answering service.**

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Union Williams

Public Service District



HOME AND SERVICE LINE WATER LEAK DETECTION

Leaks can happen at any time. Properly caring for your pipes is the best way to prevent leaks, however, if you do get one there are a number of steps you can take to both find it and fix it quickly.

How can I confirm if I have a leak?

The easiest way to determine if you have a leak is to shut off the water using appliances, faucets and outside watering tools (do not shut off the main water line into your home), and then check to see if the flow indicator on your water meter has completely stopped moving. If you’re sure no water is being used inside or outside the home, and the indicator continues to move, you’ve probably got a leak somewhere.

You can narrow your leak down further by turning the main valve off coming into your home and rechecking the flow indicator on your water meter. If the flow indicator has stopped moving your leak is most likely located within your home. If the flow indicator is continuing to move your leak is more likely to be outside your home between the meter and the shutoff valve going into your home.



Determining the leaking culprit

Inside leaks

To test whether a toilet has a leak, you can purchase toilet tank leak detector tablets, but it’s simpler just to place a few drops of food coloring in the holding tank. Wait several hours (checking hourly), and if any

coloring appears in the toilet bowl, you’ve got a leak. (Do not flush the toilet during this test.)

Check all faucets to see if they are dripping – be sure to check under the sink as well!

Outside Leaks

Check your lawn. If you find wet spots or pools of water you may have a leak in that area, either in the service line or an irrigation system. Brown spots and boggy spots can help pinpoint problems.

Be sure to check outside faucets too.

Turning off your water

Knowing how and where to shut off your home’s main water supply is very important. Whether there’s a water emergency, a leak in your home, or you just want to solve a simple plumbing problem, you may need to completely turn off your home’s water supply.

Find the spot where water enters the home, and you will find the shutoff valve nearby (providing one has been installed). Keep in mind that even though you’ve now shut the mainline supply, there’s still water in the water pipes within your home, so it’s important to drain all the faucets until the water stops running.

If you have an outside leak or are without a shut off valve you will need to contact your local water department to have your water shut off at the meter. It is recommended that you have a shutoff valve installed in your home while the water is off.

How to repair a leak

It is recommended that you contact a local plumber if you do not have plumbing experience. You may check

with your local hardware store for instructions on repairing small leaks such as toilets.

| | Time | Quantity |
|--|----------|-------------------|
| | | |
| One drop per second | 1 minute | 1/12 ounce |
| | 1 hour | 6 ounces |
| | 1 day | 1 gallon & 1 pint |
| | 1 month | 34 gallons |
| | | |
| Two drops per second | 1 minute | 1/3 ounce |
| | 1 hour | 20 ounces |
| | 1 day | 3 2/3 gallons |
| | 1 month | 100 gallons |
| | | |
| Drops breaking into a stream (trickle) | 1 minute | 2 ounces |
| | 1 hour | 1 gallon |
| | 1 day | 24 gallons |
| | 1 month | 700 gallons |
| | | |
| 16th of an inch stream | 1 minute | 7 1/2 ounces |
| | 1 hour | 3 1/2 gallons |
| | 1 day | 64 gallons |
| | 1 month | 2500 gallons |
| | | |
| 8th of an inch street | 1 minute | 23 ounces |
| | 1 hour | 11 gallons |
| | 1 day | 260 gallons |
| | 1 month | 7800 gallons |
| | | |
| Quarter inch | 1 minute | 83 ounces |
| | 1 hour | 39 gallons |
| | 1 day | 925 gallons |
| | 1 month | 27,250 gallons |