

FIND AND FIX LEAKS

Leaks can waste a lot of water, especially if they are undetected or underground and left for a long time. Leaks on your property are your responsibility. So here's a guide to finding and fixing them quickly, to save water and save you money.

HOW TO CHECK FOR LEAKS ON YOUR PROPERTY

1
STOP

STOP ALL WATER USE.

Close all taps on the property and don't flush toilets.

2
53210423

CHECK AND RECORD YOUR METER READING.

3

WAIT 15 MINUTES AND TAKE ANOTHER READING.

Make sure that nobody has opened a tap or flushed since you first noted the meter reading.

4

IF THERE IS A DIFFERENCE, YOU HAVE A LEAK TO FIX.

If the number on the meter has increased, it means you have a leak and you need to take action as per the City's By-law.

5

CALL A PLUMBER TO HELP FIX THE LEAK.

Unless it's a simple DIY job.

3 SIMPLE TESTS FOR A TOILET LEAK

One leaking toilet wastes between about 2 600 and 13 000 litres per month, depending on the flow rate of the leak. A leaking tap wastes between about 400 and 2 600 litres per month.

1

Listen for water trickling into the toilet bowl.

2

Press a piece of toilet paper against the inside back surface of the bowl. If it gets wet, you probably have a leak.

3

Put 15 drops of food colouring into the toilet cistern. If after 15 minutes the water in the toilet bowl has changed colour, there is a leak.

If you can't afford to call a plumber to fix a serious toilet problem, use the little stopcock/'angle valve' tap at the base of the toilet to keep it turned off between flushes.

LIST OF REGISTERED PLUMBERS IN CAPE TOWN

Visit: www.capetown.gov.za/thinkwater

Note that the City is not responsible for any work done by any plumbers on this list.

DIY GUIDE TO FIXING LEAKS

Visit: www.capetown.gov.za/thinkwater

Report water wastage - Call 0860 103 089 or SMS to 31373 (max 160 characters). Standard charge rates apply.
Or e-mail water@capetown.gov.za with a photo with its date and time (stamp) as evidence.

REPORT BURST PIPES OR LEAKS IN STREETS AND PUBLIC SPACES

SMS 31373, giving the location and contact phone number in a maximum of 160 characters, and send a photo with its date and time (stamp) as evidence. Please note that City staff have to prioritise the largest pipe bursts and leaks first.

THINKWATER
CARE A LITTLE. SAVE A LOT.



CITY OF CAPE TOWN
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