



Irrigation Systems



To check your irrigation system for leaks, start by turning off the irrigation main shutoff valve. This is usually located where the main service to the home splits to the landscape. After you have turned this off, return to your water meter to check the flow-indicator. If the flow indicator has stopped moving, your sprinkler system is the problem.

Turn the irrigation main shutoff valve back on and inspect each irrigation control valve that serves your sprinkler system. Look for leaks or moisture; listen or feel for water flowing through the pipe which could indicate a bad irrigation control valve. Many times moisture and continuous water flow found at the lowest sprinkler head are sign of a bad irrigation control valve.

Repair kits and replacement parts are available at most home improvements stores.

Main Service Line

First, you need to find your water shutoff valve. This is usually in your front yard near a hose bib, in your garage, or in line with your water softener unit. Shut off the valve, cutting off all water to your home.

Go in the house and turn on a faucet to make sure the water is off. Check the flow-indicator triangle at the water meter.

If the flow-indicator is moving, the leak is between the shutoff valve and the water meter on your property. If you are not able to locate the leak, you may want to contact a professional plumber to locate and fix the leak.

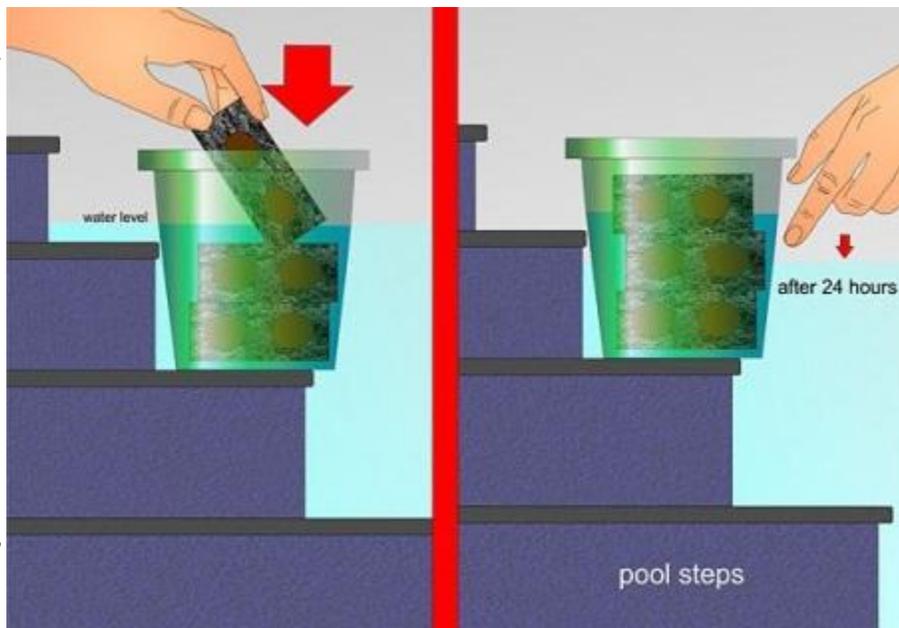


Swimming Pool and Spa

Some pools and spas may have an automatic pool fill valve allowing water to fill when the level is low. Similar to a toilet float these pool fill valves are a common leak culprit. To determine if a leak is present visually inspect the float and arm and determine if the water continues to fill even after the water level in the pool is at its normal height. If the float does not rise and stop water flow this may indicate a leak.



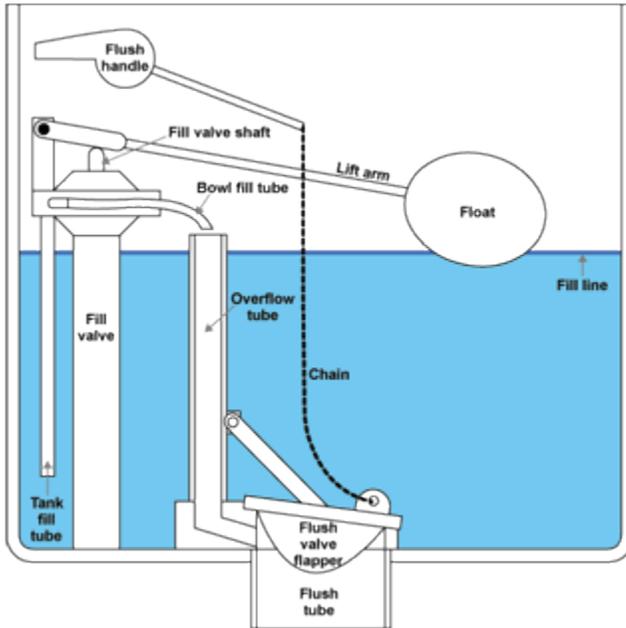
First turn off the automatic fill valve and place a bucket on a step where the bucket rim is at least a few inches above the water line. Then place a heavy weight in the bucket and add water until the water level inside the bucket is equal to the water level in the pool. Leave the bucket and pool undisturbed for several hot days, and then compare the water level in the bucket to the water level in the pool. If the water level in the bucket is noticeably higher than the water level in the pool, you may be losing water to



a leak. If this is the case, contact a pool leak detection specialist for further assistance.

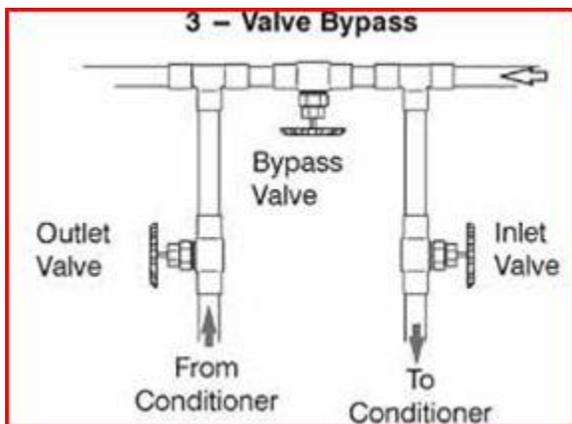
Toilets

The most common household leak offender is a toilet. A leaking toilet can waste 200 gallons of water or more every day. Toilet leaks are typically caused by an old or worn out toilet flapper (sometimes called a valve seal).



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Water Softener



Most water softeners have a bypass valve that will allow water to bypass the softener. Turn this valve, so water is not flowing through the softener. Return to the water meter and check the flow-indicator. If the flow-indicator is no longer moving, you have isolated the leak to your water softener.

You can also check for leaking swamp coolers, water-cooled air conditioners, ice machines, and reverse osmosis units by turning the bypass valve on each of these and then checking the flow-indicator at the water meter.