

DO YOU WANT TO BE WATER SMART?

This guide will help you perform a simple water efficiency check around your home. By finding and fixing leaks and making sure your appliances are water-efficient, you can reduce water waste, save on bills, and protect our community's water supply.

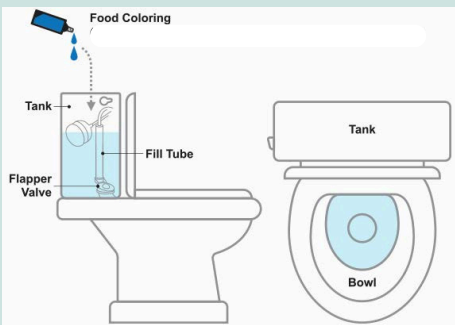
Helpful Tools

Food coloring: For detecting toilet leaks.

Bucket: For measuring shower head flow rate.

Wrench and washers: For faucet repairs.

Plumber's tape: For minor leak repairs.



WANT MORE HELP?

EMAIL US

WaterResources@Cityofloveland.org

LET'S SAVE WATER TOGETHER!

Every drop counts, and by completing your water assessment, you're contributing to a more water efficient community.

Thank you for doing your part!

lovgov.org/utilities



INDOOR WATER ASSESSMENT GUIDE

A step-by-step guide to identifying and improving water efficiency in your home

Provided by the City of
Loveland Water
Resources

KITCHEN



Faucet Leaks:

- **What to Do:** Check for drips from the kitchen sink faucet by listening for a continuous sound of water or visually inspecting for droplets.
- **Fix It:** Replace washers or seals as needed.

BATHROOM



Toilet Leak Test:

- **What to Do:** Add a few drops of food coloring or dye tabs to the toilet tank. Wait 10 minutes without flushing. If color appears in the bowl, you have a leak.
- **Fix It:** Replace the flapper or call a plumber if needed.

Shower Head Check:

- **What to Do:** Place a 1-gallon bucket under the shower head. Turn the water on fully for 10 seconds. If the bucket has more than 2 cups of water, the shower head is inefficient.
- **Fix It:** Install a low-flow shower head (less than 2 gallons per minute). **Tip:** Shorten your showers to save even more water!

WHOLE HOUSE HUMIDIFIER



Inspect for Leaks:

- **What to Do:** Look for signs of moisture or water pooling around the humidifier unit, especially near the float valve and refill system. A broken float or refill valve can cause continuous water flow, wasting over 200 gallons per day or 6,000 gallons per month.
- **Fix It:** If you notice leaks, inspect the float and refill valve for damage. Replace faulty components or contact a professional for repairs.

Check the Drainage System:

- **What to Do:** Some humidifiers continuously drain water to flush out minerals, which can lead to excessive water waste. Check if your unit has a standing drain and whether it runs constantly.
- **Fix It:** If the unit drains excessively, consider upgrading to a model that recirculates water or adjusting settings to minimize unnecessary drainage.

Adjust Humidity Settings:

- **What to Do:** Running a humidifier at too high a setting wastes water and can cause mold or condensation issues. Indoor humidity should stay between 30-50% for optimal comfort and efficiency.
- **Fix It:** Adjust the humidifier settings based on seasonal needs and use a hygrometer to monitor indoor humidity levels.



WATER HEATER

Check the Temperature:

- **What to Do:** Ensure your water heater is set to 120°F (49°C). Anything higher wastes energy and water, and could scald you.
- **Fix It:** Adjust the thermostat on your water heater if it's set too high.

Inspect for Leaks:

- **What to Do:** Look around the base of the water heater for any signs of moisture, puddles, or rust. Check the pressure relief valve and the pipes leading to the water heater.
- **Fix It:** If you find a leak, you may need to replace the pressure relief valve or call a plumber for repairs.

Check the Relief Valve and Discharge Tube:

- **What to Do:** Test the pressure relief valve by lifting the lever slightly to allow a little water to discharge. Make sure the discharge tube is connected properly and directs water to a safe location.
- **Fix It:** If no water discharges, or if the relief valve is stuck, it may need to be replaced. Ensure the tube is securely attached and directs water away from the heater.

Consider Upgrading:

- **What to Do:** If your water heater is more than 10 years old, consider replacing it with a more efficient model like a tankless or ENERGY STAR-certified unit.

