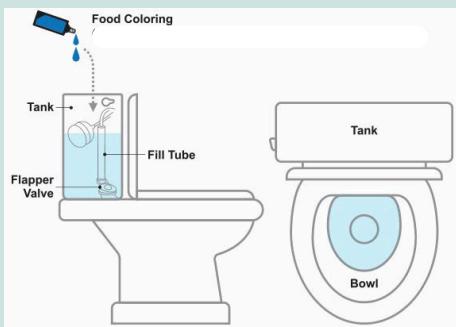


## DO YOU WANT TO BE WATER SMART?

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](http://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.