

# SAVE WATER, SAVE MONEY!

Did you know that more than 1 trillion gallons of water leak from U.S. homes each year due to running toilets, dripping faucets, and other household leaks? CCWS would like to highlight **WaterSense Fix-A-Leak Week, March 18-24, 2013.**

Take a few minutes this month to:

**CHECK** for leaks

**TWIST** and tighten pipe connections

**REPLACE** the fixture if necessary

The following tips can help you to be more water-wise by checking for leaks in your home:

- ◆ Walk through your house and listen for running toilets and look for drippy faucets.
- ◆ Check faucets in the bathroom and kitchen periodically. Most often, worn washers are the cause of the dripping faucets.
- ◆ Broken sprinkler heads or damaged underground pipes are common sources of sprinkler system leaks. Watch your system run at least once per month to spot problems early.
- ◆ Check toilets for leaks often. The most common causes of a leaking toilet are float device set too high, causing water to run into the overflow tube or a warped/cracked flapper. To check for leaky toilets, use one of our dye tablets or a drop of food coloring in the tank. If the color shows in the bowl without flushing, then you have a leak.
- ◆ Check leaky showerheads. They can be fixed by making sure there is a tight connection between the showerhead and the pipe stem and by using pipe tape to secure it.
- ◆ If you're unsure whether you have a water leak, read your water meter before and after a two-hour period when no water is being used. If the meter changes, you probably have a leak.
- ◆ After you've already determined you have leaks and you find these tips aren't enough to stop them, it might be time to replace your leaking fixtures. Consult with a plumbing professional, and look for the WaterSense label if you are considering a new toilet or faucet, you could increase your home's water efficiency.

