



Metropolitan Water Reclamation District *of* Greater Chicago

Press Release

Allison Fore

Public and Intergovernmental Affairs Officer

312.751.6633

public.affairs@mwrdd.org

100 East Erie Street, Chicago, Illinois 60611

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Learn how to check for leaks during Fix a Leak Week

MWRD, U.S. EPA offer water conservation tips March 17 – March 23

The Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago (MWRD) has joined the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) and other water partners in promoting Fix a Leak Week March 17 through March 23, 2014.

The week is intended to remind homeowners, renters and landlords to look at household fixtures and irrigation systems to check for leaks. The MWRD will be issuing reminders each day this week to prompt Cook County residents to check and fix any leaks around their property.

There are three good methods for checking for household leaks:

- Examine your water use. It's likely that a family of four has a serious leak problem if its winter water use exceeds 12,000 gallons per month;
- Check your water meter before and after a two-hour period when no water is being used. If the meter does not read exactly the same, you probably have a leak.
- One way to find out if you have a toilet leak is to place a drop of food coloring in the toilet tank. If the color shows up in the bowl within 15 minutes without flushing, you have a leak. Make sure to flush immediately after this experiment to avoid staining the tank.

More information about the MWRD can be found at www.mwrdd.org or by following the MWRD at www.facebook.com/metropolitanwaterreclamationdistrict and www.twitter.com/mwrddgc.

More information about Fix a Leak Week can be found at www.epa.gov/watersense/our_water/fix_a_leak.html.

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Our Water Environment: Take it personally.

Established in 1889, the MWRD (www.mwrdd.org) is an award-winning, special purpose government agency responsible for wastewater treatment and stormwater management in Cook County, Illinois.