

# Did *you* KNOW?

Leaky toilets, even though they are usually silent, can waste more water than any other fixture in the home – up to several hundred gallons per day.

## Your toilet may be wasting water

If your home was built before 1992, your toilets may use as much as 5 times more water than newer toilets. All toilets manufactured after 1992, must comply with the Energy Policy and Conservation Act and use no more than 1.6 gallons per flush.

If you don't know how old your toilet is, and it's not labeled as 1.6 gpf (gallons per flush), you can measure how much it uses.

Follow these steps:

1. Shut off water valve to the toilet tank
2. Mark the water level inside the tank
3. Flush the toilet.
4. Refill the tank to the mark you made in step 2, using a container and measuring the amount it takes. This is how much water is used to flush your toilet.

If your toilet uses more than 1.6 gallons per flush, you could save 50–75% by installing a new toilet.

### **IMPORTANT!**

*Once you are finished open the water valve again.*

## Check your toilet for leaks

Leaky toilets, even though they are usually silent, can waste more water than any other fixture in the home – up to several hundred gallons per day.

Check for toilet leaks by putting a little food coloring in the tank. Wait 30 minutes. **DO NOT FLUSH THE TOILET.** If the water in the bowl changes color, you have a leak. Leaky toilets often can be fixed by adjusting the float arm or plunger ball.

### MORE QUESTIONS?

Our website is packed with helpful information! Visit [www.bjwsa.org](http://www.bjwsa.org)