

# Is your bill higher than expected?

Summer months are when Arlington residents use the most water, whether they are filling swimming pools or irrigating lawns. We know some water use can come as a surprise. Here are some common causes of unexpected usage and online resources to help.

**A leaky toilet can** be a sneaky water waster because the “leak” isn’t outwardly visible. But, a running toilet can waste as much as 200 gallons of water a day and that can add up to about 5,500 a month or more.<sup>1</sup> [The EPA’s Fix-A-Leak Week](#) page has tips on how to identify leaks that could be wasting water and increasing your bill, as well as video links that will help you fix a toilet and other household leaks.

**An irrigation system** that is switching on when you don’t expect it to or one that has one or more leaks can add up quickly on your water bill. Just a leak 1/32nd of an inch in diameter (about the thickness of a dime) can waste about 6,300 gallons of water per month.<sup>2</sup> Arlington Water Utilities and Tarrant Regional Water District offer free sprinkler system assessments to homeowners. [Click here to find out how to sign up.](#)

**Water supply line leaks** between the water meter and the home can be hard to detect because they are buried underground. Check your water meter box. If there is water inside that is not from the meter, it may be coming from the water line. Also check your yard for areas where the soil is damp not due to rain or irrigation. [More help is available here.](#)

Worried your water meter may be to blame? Our assistant director recently answered questions about our automated metering infrastructure program for a segment of Ask Arlington. [View it here.](#)

Arlington Water Utilities offers one-time account adjustments to residential customers who meet certain qualification guidelines. Visit [our web page](#) to find out more.



<sup>1</sup> According to the North Texas Municipal Water District website [www.ntmwd.com](http://www.ntmwd.com)

<sup>2</sup> According to <https://www.epa.gov/watersense/fix-leak-week>