



Residential Water Conservation Program

The Village of Deerfield's Sustainability Commission wants to help residents conserve water. A simple way to save money and conserve water is to check for leaking toilets in your home. Toilets are by far the main source of water use in the home, accounting for nearly 30 percent of an average home's indoor water consumption, according to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

If your toilet has a leak, you could be wasting about 200 gallons (or approximately \$2.00) of water every day. That would be equivalent to flushing your toilet more than 50 times for no reason.

Do-it-yourself:

Try this simple experiment to check for leaking toilets:

- Place a few drops of food coloring in the toilet tank.
- Wait 15 minutes; if the color shows up in the bowl without flushing, you have a leak!
- Make sure to flush immediately after this experiment to avoid staining the tank.

If your toilet is leaking, the cause is often an old or faulty toilet flapper. Over time this inexpensive rubber part decays or minerals build up on it. It's usually best to replace the whole rubber flapper – a relatively easy, inexpensive do-it-yourself project that pays for itself in no time.

Or call a plumber:

The Sustainability Commission recognizes that not all homeowners are able to complete do-it-yourself projects. For that reason, the Sustainability Commission has partnered with local area plumbers to provide residents with a standardized dye-testing of their home's toilets.

All participating plumbers have agreed to provide a standardized dye-testing of your home's toilets for the quoted price below:

- Dye-testing of up to 4 toilets: \$79.00
- Dye-testing of 5 or more toilets: \$99.00

**Any remedial work will be quoted by the plumber separately.*

Fun Fact

Did you know that even though 75% of the earth is covered in water, only 1 % of the Earth's water is available for drinking?

Water Saving Tip

You could save 14,000 gallons of water per year by installing 1.6 gpf (or less) toilets in your home.

Quick Tip

Don't get stuck playing "find the shut-off valve" when a pipe bursts: Know where your home's main shut-off valve is located.

Participating Plumbers:

To date, three local area plumbers have agreed to participate in a standardized toilet dye-testing assessment program for Deerfield residents. Participating plumbers include:

- **BMW Plumbing**
847.948.8484
440 Lake Cook Road, Deerfield, IL 60015
www.bmwplumbing.net
- **Pasquesi Plumbing**
847.433.3426
3218 Skokie Valley Road, Highland Park, IL 60035
www.pasquesiplumbing.com
- **Ravinia Plumbing**
847.432.5561
1580 Old Skokie Road, Highland Park, IL 60035
www.raviniaplumbing.com

Additional Information:

The toilet dye-testing program is designed to provide residents with assistance to determine if their toilet is leaking.

- Interested residents should contact participating plumbers directly.
- Participating plumbers will visit your home and provide an assessment of your home's toilets.
- After the plumber has identified any potential leaks, residents may choose any plumber they like to repair their toilet.

This program is offered year-round and residents may be contacted by the Village to solicit feedback regarding this assessment program.

If you have any questions, please contact Andrew Lichterman, Assistant to the Village Manager at 847.719.7403 or email: alichterman@deerfield.il.us



EPA's WaterSense Program

If you need to replace your entire toilet look for the WaterSense label. If the average family replaces its older, inefficient toilets with new WaterSense labeled ones, it could save 14,000 gallons of water per year. Retrofitting the house could save the family nearly \$2,400 in water and wastewater bills over the lifetime of the toilets.

WaterSense, a partnership program sponsored by the EPA, seeks to protect the future of our nation's water supply by offering people a simple way to use less water with water-efficient products, new homes, and services. Since the program's inception in 2006, WaterSense has helped consumers save 487 billion gallons of water and \$8.9 billion in water and energy bills.

For more information, visit www.epa.gov/watersense

