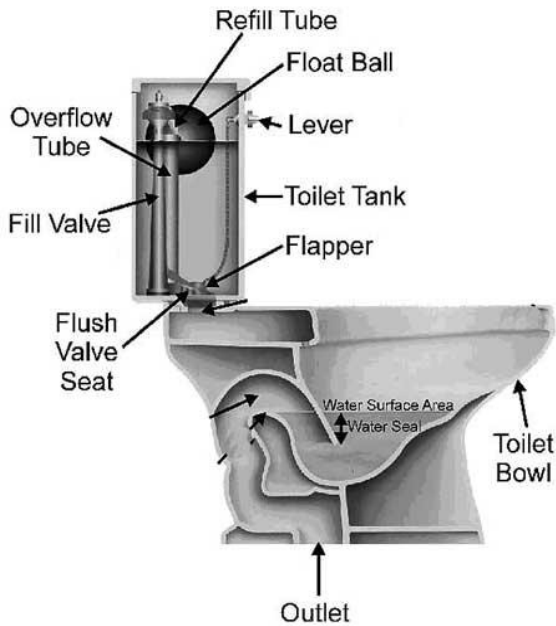


C.



### A "LITTLE" LEAK

After reading the meters for this past year's use, it was noticed that one subscriber had used far more water this year than last. In fact, 100,000 gallons more. A check of the meter showed it to be clicking out the gallons in spite of the owners assurance that no water was being used at the time. We use a mechanical meter and it cannot turn unless water is flowing through it. After checking for frozen pipes, leaks and running outside hoses, a check was made of the toilets. Both were found to have defective/worn "flapper" valves and were indeed leaking badly.

The offending part of the toilet (labeled Flapper in the diagram) tends to wear out over the years and no longer makes a tight seal. The result is a slow leaking of water, going directly down the drain. Given the slow nature of a leak such as this you would seldom see or hear the water running.

### WHAT A "LITTLE" LEAK COSTS

At \$2.50 for each 1,000 gallons above the minimum, this leaking toilet wasted \$250. This is on top of the subscribers regular water bill.

So how can I tell if my toilet is leaking??? The test is simple and inexpensive. Purchase food coloring at any local grocery store. Remove the cover from the tank at the back of your toilet and add 12 drops of food coloring in the tank. DO NOT FLUSH THE TOILET. Wait 60 minutes and see if the water in the toilet bowl has changed to the color of the food coloring. If the water in the bowl changes color without having flushed the toilet, you have a leak. If the water in the bowl remains clear after 60 minutes, then quite likely you have no problem with your toilet, at this time. You can now flush the toilet a couple of times to eliminate the coloring.

### LEAK DETECTION

Check to see if your meter has a "leak detector" on it. A leak detector is very useful in problem solving if you suspect a leak in your home or business. When you are sure that no water is being used, check the red dial (leak detector). The leak detector dial should not be turning. The slightest movement means that water is being registered by the meter. A meter can not turn without water flowing through it.

Start with the toilet. Turn the toilet valve off, then check the red leak detector dial on your meter. Continue isolating areas until you have narrowed the leak down.

To avoid receiving a high water bill caused by an undetected leak, we suggest you check your meter leak detector regularly.



Leak Detector