

UNUSUALLY HIGH WATER BILL? THERE COULD BE A NUMBER OF REASONS...



HIGH WATER BILL?



CALL A PROFESSIONAL!

Water consumers are responsible for all charges based on the volume of water passing through their water meter. The Town of Bashaw is **not** responsible for any water consumed, wasted, or lost that was incurred through the property owner's water meter.

Make sure you establish a regular check and maintenance procedure for the water fixtures in your home - this could include faucets, toilets, water heaters, outside taps, water main valves, fridges with water connections, washing machines, dishwashers, and other.

If you have concerns about any possible leaks, please contact a service professional for assistance. The Town of Bashaw does not provide in-home plumbing services to detect or correct any possible leaks.



If you have questions about your metre or your utility bill, please contact us.



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WHY IS MY WATER CONSUMPTION SO HIGH?

Did you receive a high water bill? If you did, it could have been caused by a number of different factors. To narrow it down, check the dates of service your bill covers. Now, consider any changes in your water usage habits during that time. Some common changes include: additional house guests, filling a swimming pool, additional landscape watering, washing cars, or more laundry. If nothing was different during that time period, you might have a leak.

COMMON WATER LEAKS

- Leaky toilet
- Flow-through furnace-mounted humidifier
- Water softener system
- Outdoor water taps

WHY SLOW DRIPS MATTER

Slow drips of water can add up quickly. A toilet that “keeps running” or a sink that drips after it’s turned off can waste thousands of gallons of water a year. If the drip is hot water, you are also paying for wasted energy. Fix leaks as soon as you find them, because they are costing you money.

SIGNS OF A LEAKY TOILET

- If you have to jiggle the handle to make a toilet stop running.
- Any sounds coming from a toilet when it is not in use.
- If you have to hold the handle down to allow the tank to empty.
- If you see water running over the top of the overflow tube.
- If you can see water trickling down the inside of the toilet bowl long after it’s been flushed.
- If water drips out of the fill tube into the overflow pipe.
- If a toilet turns the water on for 15 seconds or so without the handle being touched.

CHECKING THE TOILET

Common toilet leaks can be the most costly because they represent the greatest water usage in the home. A leaky toilet can waste over 200 gallons of water per day! Left unfixed, it can waste over 73,000 gallons of water per year. Most toilet flush tanks work in the same way: the tank contains two valves (a flush valve and a refill valve). You can check for leaks in both valves by simply putting a couple drops of dark food colouring in the tank. Do this when the tank is fully refilled after a flush. Do not use the toilet; after 20 minutes have passed, check the bowl. If the coloured water has moved into the bowl, there is a leak. At this point, you should contact a professional for a solution.



OUTDOOR WATER TAP

Occasionally, large water bills can occur from accidental or unauthorized use of your outdoor tap. Be sure to turn off all water hoses and sprinklers after use to avoid leaving a running hose. When not in use, close off the indoor shut-off valve to prevent such accidents.

FAUCET LEAKS

Whether in the kitchen, bathtub, or shower, a leaky faucet can waste more than 20 gallons of water per day. Leaky faucets are usually caused by worn washers or O rings. Water lost due to a delay in repair can be more costly than purchasing replacement parts. Check your faucets, and if necessary, hire a professional to help fix leaks.

HUMIDIFIERS AND WATER SOFTENERS

For info on humidifiers and water softeners, visit townofbashaw.com/municipal-services/watersewergarbage/