# DETECTING RESIDENTIAL WATER LEAKS

JANUARY 20, 2018

NIPOMO CSD JON S. SEITZ BOARD ROOM



WATER SAVERS
SPRINKLER SERVICE



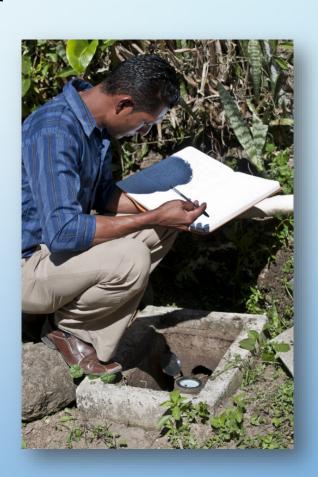
### INTRODUCTION

DENNIS BRYAN, WATER SAVERS



#### TODAY'S AGENDA

- LEAK DETECTION
  - CHECKING MOVEMENT OF METER
  - ISOLATING BUILDING SUPPLY AND IRRIGATION
  - CHECKING VALVES
  - AUDITING YOUR LANDSCAPED AREAS
  - LISTENING FOR LEAKS
- MINIMIZING WATER USE
  - WORKING WITH IRRIGATION CONTROLLERS
- Q&A





#### CHECKING MOVEMENT OF METER

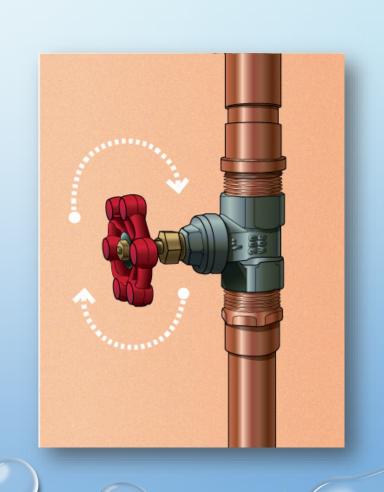
- METERS HAVE A SMALL 'TELL-TALE' TRIANGLE ON THE METER FACE THAT WILL MOVE IF THE SLIGHTEST OF FLOW IS PRESENT
- TURN ALL YOUR WATER-USING APPLIANCES AND VALVES
   OFF
- IF THIS TRIANGLE IS STILL MOVING, ALL YOUR WATER IS NOT OFF AND YOU HAVE A LEAK



#### ISOLATING BUILDING SUPPLY AND IRRIGATION

- THE PURPOSE OF THE ISOLATION METHOD IS TO ISOLATE DIFFERENT SECTIONS OF THE PLUMBING IN AND AROUND YOUR HOME
- THIS IS OFTEN THE QUICKEST WAY TO LOCATE ONGOING,
   HARD-TO-FIND LEAKS
- YOU WILL TURN WATER SUPPLY VALVES "OFF" TO PREVENT WATER FROM FLOWING INTO WATER SUPPLY PIPES

SOURCE: SMARTHOMEWATERGUIDE.ORG





#### CHECKING VALVES

- THE MOST COMMON LEAKS FOUND AROUND THE HOME OCCUR IN THE IRRIGATION SYSTEM
- A TYPICAL IRRIGATION SYSTEM CONSISTS OF A BACKFLOW PREVENTION DEVICE, VALVES, UNDERGROUND PIPES, EMITTERS AND/OR SPRINKLER HEADS AND AN IRRIGATION CONTROLLER
- INSPECT IRRIGATION VALVES FOR SIGNS OF LEAKS,
   SUCH AS MUD OR STANDING WATER, IN THE
   IRRIGATION VALVE BOX

SOURCE: SMARTHOMEWATERGUIDE.ORG





- VISUALLY INSPECT EQUIPMENT AND PROPERTY INCLUDING DRIP EMITTERS, SPRINKLER HEADS, AND BUBBLERS
- CHECK SPRINKLER HEADS WHEN THEY ARE NOT RUNNING

SOURCE: SMARTHOMEWATERGUIDE.ORG



Broken sprinkler head



Missing drip emitter



#### LISTENING FOR LEAKS

- FIND IRRIGATION LEAKS BY LISTENING FOR THE SOUNDS OF WATER
- ISOLATE A LEAKING VALVE BY USING AN INEXPENSIVE AUTOMOTIVE STETHOSCOPE



#### WORKING WITH IRRIGATION CONTROLLERS

HOW TO READ YOUR IRRIGATION TIMER TO CHECK FOR EXCESSIVE RUN TIME



## Q&A



#### LEAK DETECTION RESOURCES



- WATER SAVERS SPRINKLER SERVICE
  - (805) 345-9413
  - WATERSAVERS.US



- AMERICAN LEAK DETECTION OF SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY
  - (805) 266-7231
  - WWW.AMERICANLEAKDETECTION.COM



- NIPOMO CSD, "TRACKING WATER USE WITH WATER METERS"
  - WWW.NCSD.CA.GOV/RESOURCES/SAVE-WATER-SAVE-MONEY