

CAUTIOUS TALE ON WATER LEAKS

The mission of the Nipomo Community Services District is to provide its customers with reliable, quality, and cost-effective services now and in the future.

Do you have an undetected leak on your property? The District reads water meters once every two months for billing purposes. If a leak develops on the customer side of the meter and goes undetected until the next regular meter read, large amounts of water could be consumed by the customer leading to large water bills.

How 'large' is large? In the past year I have seen 5 or more water bills in excess of \$2,000. In all cases the culprit was an undetected leak and in nearly all cases the customer was unbelieving that so much water could have been consumed on their property otherwise undetected.



Most of these extreme cases involved landscape irrigation systems - including lateral lines to remote hose connections. On this sand dune we affectionately call 'The Mesa', water infiltrates very quickly and even large leaks can go undetected. Many smaller leaks or simply over-watering occur routinely in many homes.

Another tough-to-detect leak can occur within water softener equipment when flushing of the system occurs excessively or continuously.

A customer's best defense against a major water leak and a devastating water bill is knowledge. If you have an irrigation system or water softener, make sure someone in the home is familiar with the operation and is checking and making seasonal adjustments.

Tune into your typical household water use so you know if and when the use is up unexpectedly. Reading the meter is easy and a weekly read will quickly tell you if a leak has developed in your system. The District has helpful information on how to read your meter. Visit us online or stop by the office.

Water is precious and money is hard earned – let's do all we can to save all we can.

What have YOU DONE to conserve? If you have cut your water use, we want to hear from you! Additionally, if you have converted your landscape to native, drought-tolerant plants, we want to hear from you. You may be featured in upcoming District communications. Contact the District at info@ncsd.ca.gov.

Until next time...

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