

WATER WORKS

NEWS YOU CAN USE AROUND YOUR HOME

Summer 2010

Is Your Home Leaking Money this Summer?

See How You Can Find Out!

Did you know that an American home can waste, on average, more than 10,000 gallons of water every year due to running toilets, dripping faucets, and other household leaks? It's true, and as a result, more than 1 trillion gallons of water leak from homes in each year.

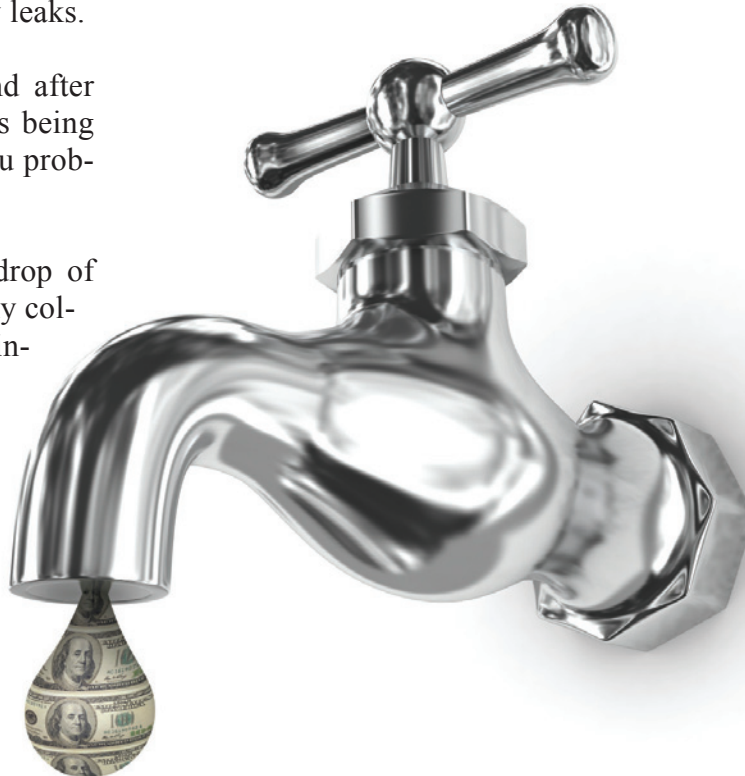
The summer months contribute significantly to that number because of the increased use of outdoor water. The flow of those sprinklers and hoses are difficult to manage. This drags on both your pocketbook and the community's resources. Here are some easy ways to find out if your home may have costly leaks.

- Check your water meter before and after a two-hour period when no water is being used. If the meter changes at all, you probably have a leak.
- Identify toilet leaks by placing a drop of food coloring in the toilet tank. If any color shows up in the bowl after 15 minutes, you have a leak. (Be sure to flush immediately after the experiment to avoid staining the tank.)
- Examine faucet gaskets and pipe fittings for any water on the outside of the pipe to check for surface leaks.

To make it even easier for you to discover leaks, why not have the

professionals do it for you? We'd like to offer you a safety inspection. If you call us at 719-266-8609 and mention this newsletter, you can have one for FREE!

During a safety inspection, one of our friendly and skilled plumbers will carefully examine your pipes, toilets, fixtures, and more to make sure not a penny of your hard earned money is going down the drain. If there are leaks that are costing you money, we'll come up with a plan on the spot and share the best options with you for resolving the problem.



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Cheap and Easy Ways to Maintain Your Home

Tips and Tricks for Your Plumbing System!

As your plumber of choice, we enjoy working with you to make sure your home's plumbing system is working efficiently and comfortably throughout your home. To show you our appreciation, we wanted to share these easy cost-saving and maintenance tips that you don't have to be a plumber to use.

Showerheads – Weak or changing water pressure usually points to a mineral build-up in the showerhead. Clean the outlet holes with a pin or unscrew the faceplate and soak it overnight in vinegar. Scrub it clean before replacing it on the showerhead.

Scalding Tap Water - Thousands of people are scalded by tap water every year. The Gas Appliance Manufacturers Association recommends that the full-on hot water temperature at the faucet be set between 120° and 125° F.

Garbage Disposal - Use cold water when the disposal is operating. You can clean your disposal by grinding ice cubes. When you disposal needs a little freshening, just

grind some lemon peels. Of course, you should read your maintenance manual.

Moisture in the Home – Make sure that vents (with a ventilating fan) are installed in your kitchen and baths. These rooms can produce a lot of moisture. Ventilating fans are great but will be of no use if they are not turned on! So make sure that you use them!

Mildew – You can help to avoid mildew problems with these preventative actions. Ventilate basements or run dehumidifiers to dry the air, walls and furnishings. Don't hang wet clothes in your closets. Keep your showers and tubs clean of soap-scum so that they dry quicker. Air-out your bathroom cabinets and kitchen sink cabinet often.

Pipe Insulation – Insulate those pipes now, before it gets cold! When temperatures are at or below freezing, running a steady drop of hot and cold water from your faucets may keep your pipes from freezing. If your pipes are not insulated,

they can freeze even with a small flow of water. So, insulate those pipes! But beware; insulated pipes can freeze when there is no water movement to keep the pipes warm.

Roots – Roots can be a big problem. They grow like crazy during the warm summer months. They grow right into the joints of the pipes. A little “root-x” flushed down the toilet can reduce the growth of roots in your pipes. It needs to sit in the pipes overnight, so do it before bed.

One way we would like to help you with your summer maintenance is to offer you a full water heater flush and rejuvenation. Over time, the naturally occurring minerals in water settle in your tank, shrinking your hot water reserve and making the heater less efficient.

Mention this newsletter and we'll give you \$25 off a flush and rejuvenation. For more hot water and a lower energy bill, call us today at 719-266-8609 to set up an appointment.

Time Is Ticking! *Lower Your Utility Bills and Have Uncle Sam Help Pay for It!*

Summer seems to bring with it a flurry of activity, and it's easy for one day to blend into the next. However, if you're like many homeowners, life stands still when you open those dreaded summer utility bills. Upon glancing at them, your eyes bulge and blood rushes to your head.

One of the biggest contributors to that mighty large utility bill is your water heater! If your water heater is more than 12 years old, there's a good chance that it's wasting far more energy than is necessary. Even worse, it's functioning improperly.

For signs of a water heater running in-

efficiently, you may notice that it takes forever for the water to heat. You may also notice that when you're using hot water, it seems to constantly run out. Also, after you run a shower, it seems to take hours before any signs of hot water can be found again.

Thankfully, you don't have to pay bloated utility bills for an inefficient water heater any longer. There is a stimulus package that includes funds for ho-



meowners. Specifically, it included money for people looking to make their residence more energy efficient. The federal government is offering you tax credits up to \$1,500 when you have a high-efficiency water heater installed!

There's no better time to invest in your home with a new water heater! But you must hurry! This program only lasts until the end of the year! Then, those dollars are gone! The federal government is giving you money to save money, and a high-efficiency water heater can reduce your monthly utility costs! For more information on this energy credit, give us a call at Powers Plumbing at 719-266-8609



ANGEL BERRY TRIFLE

Nothing says “summer” like fresh berries. Go to your garden or local farmers market and pick up your favorites. Then try this simple, refreshing dessert and take in the bounty of the season.

- 1 prepared angelfood cake, cubed
- 1 pint of strawberries
- 1 pint of raspberries
- 1 pint of blackberries
- 1 (5 oz) package instant vanilla pudding mix
- 1/2 cup milk
- 1 (14 oz) can sweetened condensed milk
- 1 container frozen whipped topping—thawed

In a medium bowl, combine pudding mix, milk, condensed milk and 1 cup of whipped topping, stir well.

Place 1/2 cubed cake pieces in bottom of large glass trifle bowl.

Top with a layer of half the strawberries, raspberries and blackberries over the cake.

Then pour 1/2 of pudding mixture over berries.

Add a layer of whipped topping.

Repeat and top with garnish of berries and a sprig of mint if desired.

PLUMBING WORD SEARCH

Can You Find Them All?

The first person who returns this word search completed correctly will receive a \$25 gift card to Panera Bread.

All people who return the word search will receive a coupon for 10% any future work!

Just mail the completed search to:

powersplumbing@hotmail.com

I	E	L	P	Q	O	H	C	N	E	R	W
J	E	P	I	P	N	R	E	T	A	W	
C	H	H	M	W	W	Q	Z	N	A	Z	T
U	C	R	D	I	L	D	I	H	N	I	F
A	L	P	S	O	T	T	C	I	K	C	L
C	X	U	H	N	K	E	B	O	J	G	Y
A	N	M	I	A	U	L	V	K	G	S	A
C	Q	A	O	G	T	I	T	J	V	I	H
E	R	O	U	J	Q	O	X	D	B	N	E
D	C	L	O	G	J	T	K	V	R	K	K
K	T	I	Y	G	L	C	M	R	Z	J	C
R	T	H	Q	O	X	W	G	A	U	C	U

WORD LIST:

PIPE
WATER
DRAIN
SINK
TOILET
WRENCH
CLOG
TANK



What's Going Down?



*From the Desk
of Jeff Spilker*

We Value Your Time as Much as You!

If you're like most people in our society, life is flying by! Today, typically both adults in the household are working full-time jobs, and those jobs usually demand more time than full-time hours. You also are likely to have two kids who when not at school, are involved in several sports or maybe plays or scouts. Then, there are other commitments. Maybe you're active at your church? Maybe you volunteer?

Bottom line, your life is hectic. That's largely why people today value their free time more than anything else. When you get a breather from the fast pace, that's what you want to do—take a breath and relax! So, obviously, the last thing you want to deal with is a plumbing problem!

Unfortunately, plumbing problems pop up at the worst possible times. However, at Powers Plumbing, we try and make the problem as pain-free as possible. We do that by working around your schedule and always being available. What do I mean? Let me explain...

Imagine a toilet backing up, and suddenly, you have water all over your floor. It's a giant mess, and you simply cannot get it unclogged. You flip through the phone book looking for a plumber. Sadly, most numbers direct you to a voicemail. But not at Powers Plumbing. At

Powers Plumbing, we answer our phone with a live person 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year. So, when you have an emergency, we're right there for you.

Better yet, our plumbers are available around the clock, too! If you have a problem in the wee hours of the morning, you can call us, and we can have someone to your door in no time. And know that all of our appointment times are guaranteed. So, if we say you'll have someone at your home in an hour, that's when our professional plumber will be there.

At Powers Plumbing, we know that every second of your day is valuable. That's why we wouldn't imagine wasting it. We want you to be able to get back to your normal schedule as soon as possible. So, the next time you experience an unexpected plumbing problem, give us a call at 719-266-8609. And feel free to let your friends and family know about us and our commitment to service! I'm sure they'd love to know about a company that would work around their day!

Thanks for reading, and have a great day!

Jeff Spilker



719-266-8609

Powers Plumbing
Colorado Springs, CO 80918

Product Showcase



DrainMaid by BioSmart™ is the most advanced microbial drain, septic, and grease trap treatment available. It is comprised of naturally occurring strains of live, vegetative bacterial cultures with an exceptional appetite for organic matter. The most cost effective and safe manner to restore slow running drains and keep them that way.