



Be a Leak Detective for

Fix a Leak Week



March 14-20, 2016



“Fix a Leak Week” is the perfect time to make sure bathroom fixtures are not wasting water. Have you done all you can to make sure leaks aren’t happening around you? Dave Godina from the Stanford University Plumbing Shop, a local leak detective, does exactly this. Whenever a leaking faucet, toilet, or showerhead is reported to Stanford’s LBRE Operations Center **723-2281**, Mr. Godina or one of his teammates from the plumbing shop responds to stop the water waste.

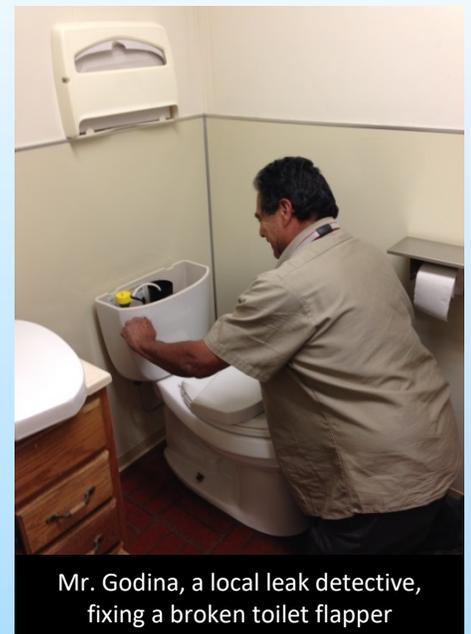
How do you know when a toilet is leaking?? To check if a toilet is leaking, the first thing to do is watch and listen. If you see water running in the bowl, or hear the sound of water running or hissing when it’s not in use, there is a high probability it’s leaking. But sometimes leaking toilets can be sneaky and need a little more investigation. For residential tank toilets, when they are not in use, adding food-grade dye tablets or food coloring in the tank can be helpful when sleuthing out a leak. (However, if a toilet on campus appears to be leaking, please call it in to the LBRE Operations Center and leave it to the professionals!) Once the dye is added, wait five minutes to see if the water in the bowl changes colors. If it does, your toilet is leaking and wasting water. Note: if you add dye to the tank, the next time you flush it, the water will come out colored.



Example of a toilet flapper

The most common toilet leak is due to worn out toilet flappers. However, the good news is that they are inexpensive and easy to replace! Replacing a leaking or worn out flapper will save water and money. Although a toilet leak may seem small, water is running continually and can waste thousands of gallons. Please report any leaks you see, even if they seem small – you can be a leak detective too!

Once the leak was called into the Stanford’s LBRE Operations Center, the water to the toilet was turned off to stop the water waste. Mr. Godina came and got the toilet back in service and operating efficiently and effectively. If you see any leaks on campus, **please call 723-2281.**



Mr. Godina, a local leak detective, fixing a broken toilet flapper