“Fix a Leak Week” is the perfect time to highlight some of the unusual experiences that concur on campus, not only on weekdays but on weekends too. While the most common leak repairs are on conventional equipment such as toilets, sinks, and irrigation, there are many other anomalies that Stanford Leak Detectives need to be prepared to face.

For example, after a calm and peaceful Sunday morning, Stanford’s Leak Detective, Ken Wittkop, was called to action after a medical emergency caused a person to accidently roll their car over and hit a fire hydrant on campus. Most important—the driver survived. However, the hydrant began spewing water at volumes as great as 2,000 gallons per minute! Luckily, Mr. Wittkop was on the scene within 5 minutes from receiving the call and was able to turn off the water line within minutes after that.

Leak Detectives are able to think quick on their feet and know how to react in times of panic. Even if you are not the person who is stopping the leak in its tracks, you too can be a Leak Detective by calling the leak into Stanford’s LBRE Operations Center at 723-2281.

While a geyzering fire hydrant is a very significant leak (and thankfully not very common), making sure small leaks get reported is also important. If the leak goes unreported, it can waste thousands of gallons per day! Reporting the leak to the LBRE Operations Center is the first step in getting the leak stopped and repaired.