



“Fix a Leak Week” is celebrated March 16-22 to remind Americans to check household fixtures and sprinkler systems for water leaks.
<http://www.epa.gov/watersense>

The Facts on Leaks:

- According to US EPA, an average household's leaks can account for more than 10,000 gallons of water wasted every year, or the amount of water needed to wash 270 loads of laundry.
- Household leaks can waste more than 1 trillion gallons annually nationwide. That's equal to the annual household water use of more than 11 million homes.
- 10% of homes have leaks that waste 90 gallons or more per day.
- Common types of leaks found in the home include worn toilet flappers, dripping faucets, and other leaking valves. All are easily correctable.
- Fixing easily corrected household water leaks can save homeowners about 10% on their water bills.

(continued on reverse)

Save the Dates:

For more information:
(775) 832-1284



Saturday, March 21

**Waste Not & Diamond Peak's
'Go Green Day'**

Diamond Peak Ski Area

11 am – 3 pm

Environmental Expo

E-Waste and Used Ski /Board Recycling

Raffle and Contests

Saturday, April 25

Prescription Drug Round Up Event

Free disposal of expired medicine

10 am - 2 pm

Incline Village Community Hospital

880 Alder Ave, Incline Village NV

(Details announced soon)

May 4 to July 24

Curbside Yard Waste Recycling Collection

Green Waste Program returns

(full details announced soon)

Install your bear box and receive a \$150 Bear Box Rebate !



Tahoe's Black bears are waking up and looking for food. Don't wait any longer to claim your \$150 Bear Box rebate! Vendors are continuing to install the units during the winter. The rebate application form is simple and quick. IVGID's Waste Not team is available to answer your questions (775-832-1284) and assist with location selection.

Download the rebate form and information at:
<http://www.yourtahoepace.com/public-works/waste-not/bear-wildlife-awareness/bear-box-placement>

**ONLINE ACCOUNT
ACCESS IS
NOW AVAILABLE!**



Sign up at
www.ivgidpublicworks.org

ONLINE ACCOUNT ACCESS allows you to:

- Go Paperless with email of statements & the PW News
- Pay by credit card or eCheck (subject to service fee)
- Change your mailing address and phone #'s
- Check your current balance
- View statements and water meter reads

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- Keep your home leak-free by repairing dripping faucets, toilet flappers and showerheads. In most cases, fixture replacement parts don't require a major investment.
- Most common leaks can be eliminated after retrofitting a household with new WaterSense labeled fixtures and other high-efficiency appliances.

Leak Detection:

- A good method to check for leaks is to examine your winter water usage. According to US EPA, it's likely that a family of four has a serious leak problem if its winter water use exceeds 12,000 gallons per month.
- IVGID's water bills now feature a 'potential leak alert' message on the front page of your bill if usage spikes. If you see this message—do not ignore it!
- Call IVGID Utilities at 775-832-1203 to discuss potential issues and concerns.

Outdoors: 70% of most annual water use is irrigation based.

- Irrigation systems should be checked each spring before initial use, and at regular intervals to make sure the system was not damaged by frost or freezing.
- Backflow devices require annual testing.
- To ensure that your in-ground irrigation system is maintained in the best manner, seek out an irrigation specialist with water efficiency training or certification.
- Waste Not offers free landscape water use evaluations between June and October, look for announcement of this service later this spring.

Faucets and Showerheads:

- A leaky faucet that drips at the rate of one drip per second can waste more than 3,000 gallons per year. That's the amount of water needed to take more than 180 showers! Leaky faucets can be fixed by checking faucet washers and gaskets for wear and replacing them if necessary.

Toilets:

- Toilet leaks can be silent! If your toilet is leaking, the cause is often an old, faulty toilet flapper. Over time, this inexpensive rubber part decays, or minerals build up on it. It's usually best to replace the whole rubber flapper—a relatively easy, inexpensive do-it-yourself project that pays for itself in no time.
- The only sure way to find out if you have a toilet leak is to place several drops of food coloring or dye tabs (available free at Public Works) in the toilet tank. If the color shows up in the bowl without flushing, you have a leak.
- If you have an older toilet (pre 2000), replacing the toilet is usually more cost effective than continuing to use it. There are new toilets priced less than \$100; look for a [WaterSense labeled model](#).
- If the average family replaces its older, inefficient toilets with new WaterSense labeled ones, it could save 13,000 gallons per year. Retrofitting the house could save the family thousands of dollars over the lifetime of the toilets.



\$400 Instant Rebate Available for removing your non-EPA certified, pre-1992 wood stove!

Lake Tahoe homeowners are encouraged to take advantage of rebates the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency and partner jurisdictions are offering to help people replace older, heavily polluting wood burning stoves and fireplaces.



Inefficient wood stoves and open fireplaces are a substantial source of air pollution in the Lake Tahoe Basin. Their incomplete combustion of fuels results in elevated emissions of particulate matter, greenhouse gases, carbon monoxide, nitrogen, and other pollutants. Smoke from these old appliances can get trapped near the ground and surface of Lake Tahoe and decrease visibility and water clarity, particularly during atmospheric inversions that occur each winter.

For More Information:

<http://www.trpa.org/rebates-available-for-replacement-of-old-wood-stoves>

Nevada residents in the Lake Tahoe Basin can contact John Handzo at the Business Environmental Program at University of Nevada, Reno, 775-834-3674, jhandzo@unr.edu .

This notice is included as a public service announcement. IVGID does not have a formal role in presenting the event.