Is Your Toilet Leaking?

Leaky toilets waste a lot of water! You may not even know yours is leaking. Here’s how you can find out:

- Put a few drops of food coloring or a dye tablet into the tank. Wait about 10 to 15 minutes. Don’t flush. If the coloring appears in the bowl, you have a leaky toilet. (Flush a few times after this test, so the coloring doesn’t stain the bowl.)

- BWSC meters have a small red triangle that will only move if water is flowing through the meter. To check for leaks, make sure no one in the building is using water. If the red triangle is moving, you likely have a leak and should check all toilets and faucets.

MARCH INTO ACTION: Find and fix leaks in your home.
A toilet is the single biggest water user in your home. Flushing older toilets accounts for about 38% of the water used in your home. If your toilet continues to run after flushing, here’s how to fix it:

1. Jiggle the handle. Sometimes, that’s all it takes.
2. Clean or replace the flush valve (“flapper”) or the valve seat. These parts are inexpensive and easy to install.
3. Call a plumber for more complex repairs or buy a new, low-flow toilet. You will reduce your home water consumption by 25%.