

DEPARTMENT OF WATER SUPPLY • COUNTY OF HAWAI'I

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NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

<u>Water Supply Offers Free Leak Detection</u> <u>Tablets During Fix a Leak Week March 18-22</u>

HAWAI'I ISLAND – The Department of Water Supply (DWS), County of Hawai'i, is celebrating the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) annual Fix a Leak Week, March 18-22, by helping water customers save valuable water and money.

DWS will distribute **FREE toilet tank leak detection tablets**, while supplies last, during normal business hours at its offices in Hilo, Kona, and Waimea starting Monday, March 18. Toilet leak detection tablets offer a quick and easy way to check for leaking toilets, which can waste up to 200 gallons of water every day, needlessly wasting our precious resource and increasing customers' water bills. Toilet leaks are often caused by a worn-out toilet flapper that easily can go undetected. Replacing worn out flappers is an affordable way to reduce water waste.

According to the EPA, "The average household's leaks can account for nearly 10,000 gallons of water wasted every year and ten percent of homes have leaks that waste 90 gallons or more per day."

To determine if other household water leaks are occurring, DWS customers should check their water meter after turning off all faucets, spigots, and household appliances that use water such as dishwashers. If the meter is still moving, a leak may be present. Customers should also examine their water bill for spikes in water usage that could indicate an undetected leak.

For additional leak detection and water conservation tips, please call (808) 961-8060 or visit the Department of Water Supply website, <u>www.hawaiidws.org</u>, or the Environmental Protection Agency website, <u>www.epa.gov/watersense/fix-leak-week</u>.

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