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News Release

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Durham Water Management Promotes “Fix a Leak Week” *Annual Event Helps Save Customers Water and Money*

DURHAM, N.C. – More than one trillion gallons of water are wasted from leaks in American households each year. That's equal to the annual household water use of more than 11 million homes.

Sponsored by EPA's WaterSense® program, Fix a Leak Week is March 19-25, 2018, and the City of Durham Department of Water Management is promoting finding and fixing residential leaks in Durham.

“Leaks can waste more than 10,000 gallons of water in an average home every year—the same amount of water it takes to wash 270 loads of laundry,” said James Lim, the City's Water Efficiency and Conservation Program Manager. “As a WaterSense partner, we are encouraging consumers to find and fix leaks to save water here in Durham.”

Water Management is hosting a number of opportunities throughout March for the public to learn more about Fix a Leak Week. Just by stopping by, customers will receive DIY advice on detecting and repairing minor leaks and tips on making water-efficient behavior an everyday practice. Water Management staff will also have information on the department's ongoing toilet rebate program for Durham homeowners.

Staff will be available at the following events and locations:

- March 10 – Durham Farmers' Market, 10 a.m. to noon (501 Foster St.)
- March 20 – Triangle Land Conservancy's Wild Ideas, 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. (112 Broadway St.)
- March 21 – Tomato Jake's Pizzeria Trivia Night, 8 p.m. to 10 p.m. (8202 Renaissance Pkwy.)
- March 22 – Pour Taproom, 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. (202 N. Corcoran St.)
- March 24 – Lowe's Home Improvement, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. (4402 Fayetteville Rd.)

Like and follow @DurhamWater on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#) for updates on all event opportunities.

To save water, energy, and lower bills, customers should *check, twist, and replace*:

- *Check* for leaks. Look for dripping faucets, showerheads, sprinklers, and other fixtures. Check for toilets with silent leaks by putting a few drops of food coloring into the tank, waiting 10 minutes, and seeing if color appears in the bowl before you flush. Don't forget to check irrigation systems

and spigots, too.

- *Twist* and tighten hose and pipe connections. Twist on a WaterSense labeled faucet aerator and you'll save water and still have enough water for brushing teeth and washing hands.
- *Replace* the fixture if necessary. WaterSense labeled models are independently certified to use 20-percent less water and perform as well as or better than standard models. These items are included in the Water Efficiency Kits available at Durham City Hall for only \$3.

In many cases, replacement parts pay for themselves quickly and can be installed by handy do-it-yourselfers or local plumbing professionals. Irrigation professionals certified through a WaterSense labeled program can also check your systems for leaks. Visit www.epa.gov/watersense to find WaterSense labeled products or an auditor in your area, and browse simple DIY how-to videos on Water Management's YouTube page at www.youtube.com/user/DurhamSavesWaterNow.

For more information about the events or additional conservation tips, City residents should call (919) 560-4381, email savewater@durhamnc.gov, or visit www.DurhamSavesWater.org.

About Water Management

The Department of Water Management is responsible for the operation and maintenance of Durham's water supply, water treatment and water reclamation (wastewater treatment) facilities, collection and distribution systems (including meter reading), and customer billing services. The department has a wide variety of support divisions and programs to maintain the existing infrastructure that provide these integral services, and strives to be a responsible steward of the City's physical assets. For information, visit <http://durhamnc.gov/944/> and follow @DurhamWater on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#).

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