



Public Service Commission of West Virginia

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Public Service Commission Brings Water Conservation Program to Elementary Students

This week, the Public Service Commission will present a water conservation program to third and fourth grade students as part of the annual "Fix a Leak Week." Commission representatives will visit elementary schools in Wheeling and Huntington.

The Commission's Fix a Leak Week interactive demonstration instructs students in ways they can save water and help their families save on their water bills. Following the presentation, the students will be sworn in as "Leak Detectives" and deputized to look for leaks and report them to the adults in their homes.

"Water conservation is an increasingly critical issue for our society. The average household's leaks can account for more than 10,000 gallons of water wasted every year, that's enough to flush a low-flow toilet more than 6,000 times. The small cost of fixing these leaks is paid for quickly by the money individuals will save on their water bills," said Public Service Commission Chairman Mike Albert. Fix a Leak Week is an opportunity to encourage families to be vigilant in checking household plumbing fixtures and outdoor irrigation systems for leaks. To help save water, the Commission offers the following tips:

- Check for leaks. Look for dripping faucets, showerheads, sprinklers and other fixtures. Also check for toilets for 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 outside irrigation systems and faucets.
- Twist and tighten hose and pipe connections. To save water without a noticeable difference in flow in your bathroom, twist on a WaterSense labeled faucet aerator.
- Replace fixtures if necessary. Look for WaterSense labeled models, which are independently certified to use 20% less water and perform as well as or better than standard models.

For more information, log on to the Public Service Commission website at www.psc.state.wv.us and click on EPA WaterSense.

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