

# TODD CREEK VILLAGE

METROPOLITAN DISTRICT

*Proud to be your area water provider*



## Is There a Leak in Your Irrigation System?

A leak, even a very small one, can account for a very substantial increase in irrigation water usage and cost. As an example, let's say a system runs every other day, for a total of 60 minutes per day, and uses approximately 7,200 gallons of water per month\*. If this system had an extremely small leak in a zone valve it could result in the system leaking a quarter of a gallon per minute. For context, that's just enough water to change a faucet from an intermittent drip into a thin stream. Over a month's time, this seemingly small leak could actually equate to an additional 10,800 gallons of water usage. In other words, even a small leak of this nature can more than double your irrigation water usage and impact your water bill. Larger leaks that equal one to two gallons per minute can amount to more than 86,000 gallons in a month.

Does your irrigation system have a leak, and how would you know if it did? Look for these common signs of leaks:

- ◆ **Water saturating the grass between sprinklers.** This generally indicates a steady leak coming from an underground pipe.
- ◆ **Water sprays/geysers.** These are usually an indication of broken or missing spray heads.
- ◆ **Water spraying between sprinkler heads.** This could mean there is a cracked lateral line.
- ◆ **Water leaking consistently from sprinkler heads while the system is off.** This is most likely an indication of a faulty or broken zone valve.



Leaks, even the smallest ones, in an irrigation system should never be ignored. If you think you may have a leak, it's important to contact someone knowledgeable about non-potable systems—a sprinkler maintenance or landscaping company, or a plumber—to inspect and repair any problems responsible for the leak(s).

**Maintenance Note:** Did you know that non-potable irrigation systems require special sprinkler heads. They are easily identified by a purple cap or top on the sprinkler head. If you do not have these special heads, you will most likely find yourself having to clean your sprinkler heads on a regular basis.

*\*Example scenario, actual usage varies by system*

**Transparency Notice: Board meetings are held the second Thursday of each month at 2:00 pm via Zoom. The public is always welcome and encouraged to attend.**



TODD CREEK  
METROPOLITAN DISTRICT  
VILLAGE

10450 E. 159th Ct. • Brighton, CO 80602  
303-637-0344 • [ToddCreekVillage.org](http://ToddCreekVillage.org)

