



The Public Service Commission State of South Carolina

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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The Public Service Commission of South Carolina and Office of Regulatory Staff Promote EPA's "Fix a Leak Week" March 20th Through 26th, 2017

As part of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA's) ongoing We're for Water campaign, this year's Fix a Leak Week encourages Americans to help put a stop to the more than 1 trillion gallons of water wasted from household leaks each year.

Sponsored by EPA's WaterSense[®] program, Fix a Leak Week is March 20 through 26, 2017. In support of We're for Water, the Public Service Commission of South Carolina ("PSC" or "Commission") and Office of Regulatory Staff ("ORS") are promoting finding and fixing residential leaks in South Carolina.

"Leaks can account for more than 10,000 gallons of water in an average home every year—the amount of water it takes to wash 270 loads of laundry," said Swain Whitfield, Chairman of the PSC. "As a WaterSense partner, we are encouraging consumers to find and fix leaks to save water in our community."

To help save water for future generations, the Commission and ORS are asking consumers to check, twist, and replace:

- **Check for leaks.** Look for dripping faucets, showerheads, sprinklers, and other fixtures. Also 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.** To save water without a noticeable difference in flow in your bathroom, twist on a WaterSense labeled faucet aerator.
- **Replace the fixture if necessary.** Look for WaterSense labeled models, which are independently certified to use 20 percent less water and perform as well as or better than standard models.

In many cases, fixture 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.

For more information on Fix a Leak Week, visit www.epa.gov/watersense.

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WaterSense, a partnership program sponsored by EPA, seeks to protect the future of our nation's water supply by offering people a simple way to use less water with water-efficient products, new homes, and services. Since the program's inception in 2006, WaterSense has helped consumers save more than 1 trillion of gallons of water and billions in water and energy bills. For more information, visit www.epa.gov/watersense.