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Iowa Utilities Board partners in water conservation

IUB joins NARUC and EPA to promote 'Fix-a-Leak' Week

(Des Moines) – As spring approaches, water usage typically increases, and the Iowa Utilities Board (IUB) is partnering with the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to promote water efficiency and conservation through the [EPA's WaterSense® program](#).

Known as “Fix-a-Leak” Week, March 16-22, 2015, this nationwide program helps consumers make smart choices that save water, energy, and money. In the United States, the average American family uses more than 300 gallons of water per day at home and approximately 70 percent of this use occurs indoors, according to the EPA.

The IUB asks all Iowans to check their home plumbing fixtures and irrigation systems for leaks. Fixing even minor leaks will reduce utility bills and help maximize valuable water resources. When replacing plumbing fixtures, look to purchase [WaterSense labeled products](#) for optimal water efficiency and performance, and [use this simple calculator](#) to estimate how much water, energy, and money you can save by installing WaterSense labeled products.

Other water-saving solutions:

- Water lawns less often. Less frequent soakings help turf roots grow deeper.
- Water only gardens and lawns, NOT streets and sidewalks.
- Use a broom instead of a hose to clean sidewalks, driveways, garages, or patios.
- Mitigate water hose leaks by tightening the connection at the spigot, replacing the nylon or rubber hose washer, or purchase a new hose, if necessary.
- Use a bucket and sponge, instead of a hose to wash vehicles, bikes, or other items.
- Run dishwashers and clothes washers only with full loads, using the water-saver cycle.
- Turn off water while brushing teeth or washing dishes in the sink.
- Keep water in the refrigerator rather than running faucets until water gets colder.

More information on how to find and fix water leaks, or locate water efficient products and services, is available at www.epa.gov/watersense.

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The Iowa Utilities Board regulates utilities to ensure that reasonably priced, reliable, environmentally responsible, and safe utility services are available to all Iowans.

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