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News Release

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Weeklong City campaign targets water leaks in homes

MURPHY (March 9, 2018) There's perhaps no better example of something 'hiding in plain sight' than water leaks in and around the home, wasting water and money right under our noses.

"For many of us, a high water bill is the first clue," says Murphy Customer Service Manager Teresa Thompson. "Even then, we may not think of a water leak as the culprit."

March 19 through 25 is national Fix a Leak Week, sponsored by the Environmental Protection Agency and endorsed by the City of Murphy.

Leaks in and around the home are insidiously sneaky, existing just outside our level of awareness. A toilet that fills its tank even when not flushed, or a shower head that doesn't quite stop dripping, or an outdoor spigot that always seems to have a small pool of water underneath it are all signs of leaks that require attention.

"An average household's leaks can account for as much as 10,000 gallons of water wasted every year," said Thompson. "Significantly, up to ten percent of homes have leaks that waste as much as 90 gallons daily."

Water waste from worn toilet flappers, dripping faucets, and other leaking valves can add up quickly and expensively. Even so, these types of leaks are often easy to fix, requiring only a few tools and hardware that can pay for themselves in water savings.

"Fixing these easily-corrected leaks can save homeowners about 10 percent on their water bills," she said. "Making it a priority during Fix a Leak Week can reap all kinds of benefits."

Fixing leaks, while urgently important, is only one of the many ways to save water. Others include: watering yards thoroughly, but only as needed, usually no more than one inch a week; using drip irrigation for plants and gardens, and watering early in the morning to minimize evaporation; and collecting rainwater for landscape use.

Other ways include: installing aerators, which cut the amount of water used by each faucet; installing water-efficient plumbing fixtures to reduce water consumption; replacing older toilets with water-efficient models; washing only full loads of laundry; and investing in Energy Star-qualified appliances.

"Water is a precious resource that we cannot manufacture or renew," said Thompson. "Using it wisely by not wasting it is our only option for insuring a lasting supply."

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ABOUT MURPHY -- Murphy is a fast-growing community located in Collin County. The population is approximately 19,330, generally characterized as highly educated with a median household income above the state average. With more than 70 percent of the land developed, the community is dominated by single-family residences. City planners strive to preserve a country feel while exhibiting an aggressive economic development stance. Money Magazine has dubbed Murphy as the 27th Best Place to Live in America for small cities, and D Magazine placed Murphy as the fifth best suburb in the 2014 list, where it has consistently ranked in the top 10.