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News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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City encourages residents to observe Fix-A-Leak Week

MURPHY (March 11, 2019) As rare as it may sound, residents have the potential of easily getting two benefits from one action simply by being observant and implementing simple, low-cost fixes.

“Taking a few minutes to conduct some very simple checks around the house can make a pretty big impact on saving water and saving money,” says Customer Service Manager Teresa Thompson. “Helping family budgets and eliminating wasted water by fixing leaks should be near the top of everyone’s to-do list.”

Murphy is observing National Fix-A-Leak Week from March 18-22, asking residents to participate by actively seeking out wasteful drips in their homes. Every year, on a national average, leaks inside homes can account for as much as 10,000 gallons of water. That’s almost the amount of water a family normally uses in a month for all purposes. Worse, some studies indicate that up to ten percentage of homes that have undetected or unrepaired leaks waste up to 90 gallons a day.

The most common types of leaks found in the home are worn toilet flappers, dripping faucets, and other leaking valves. 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 easily-corrected household water leaks can save homeowners as much as ten percent on their water bills,” said Thompson. “During Fix-A-Leak Week, we’re encouraging residents to be vigilant about leaks in homes. Of course, we hope it becomes a year-round habit for everyone.”

To check for leaks in homes, homeowners first need to determine whether water is being wasted and then identify the source of the leak.

Here are some tips for finding leaks:

- Before the irrigation season begins, residents should monitor water usage. Generally, if a family of four exceeds 12,000 gallons per month, there may be one or more leaks in the system.
- Water meters can be checked before and after a two-hour period when no water is being used. If the meter changes at all, there is probably a leak somewhere.
- Toilet leaks can be Identified by placing a drop of food coloring in the toilet tank. If any color shows up in the bowl after 10 minutes, a leak is the cause. Toilet should be flushed immediately after the experiment to avoid staining the tank.
- Faucet gaskets and pipe fittings should be checked for any water on the outside of the pipe to check for surface leaks.

“Customers can also sign up for the AquaHawk Alerting system for free, “ added Thompson. “Aquahawk can notify a registered customer when a potential leak is detected. This makes it easy to keep tabs on leaks that may be out of sight.” Signing up is easy and can be completed at <https://murptx.aquahawk.us/>.

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ABOUT MURPHY -- Murphy is a fast-growing community located in Collin County. The population is approximately 20,010, generally characterized as highly educated with a median household income well above the state average. With more than 80 percent of the land developed, the community is dominated by single-family residences. City planners strive to preserve a family-oriented community with a strong sense of place. 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.