

Water Line Repair Checklist

If you suspect, there may be a problem with your water line – or any part of your plumbing – it pays to know what to do. Here's a handy checklist to keep in your kitchen drawer, walking you through the steps to take if you suspect a leak. If at any point you feel sure there's a problem or even just have doubts, pick up the phone and call a plumber.

In the meantime, when you suspect a leak:

1. Go outside and walk around the yard, testing lawns and garden beds for soft or damp spots that aren't a result of rain or watering. (You can tell because they're unnaturally wet compared to the rest of the yard.)
2. Look for spots in the lawn or garden which are greener or healthier than others, which can also indicate that a water line has broken in the area outside the house.
3. If you do find a soft spot, don't stop there. Make sure there are no others around the house either, which could indicate a problem that's larger in scope.
4. Smell around the house and inside it. If you detect any strange sulfur scents, that could mean a sewer line has broken. If you don't want the rats to move to town, **pick up the phone fast!**
5. Turn on the faucets inside and check them. Do they run normally?
6. Inspect the floors, cabinets under sinks, bases of toilets and other areas near pipes. Does everything look normal?
7. Turn outside faucets on and then back off to see if they all work normally. Do they have the same water pressure as always?
8. Look for trickles of water on the driveway or patio, or running through the yard, that shouldn't be there.
9. Check for soft spots on bricks or paving stones.

If you see any warning signs, it's time to for help. This is doubly true if you've also noticed a difference on your water bill. Either way, pick up the phone and get help today.