



# Connected

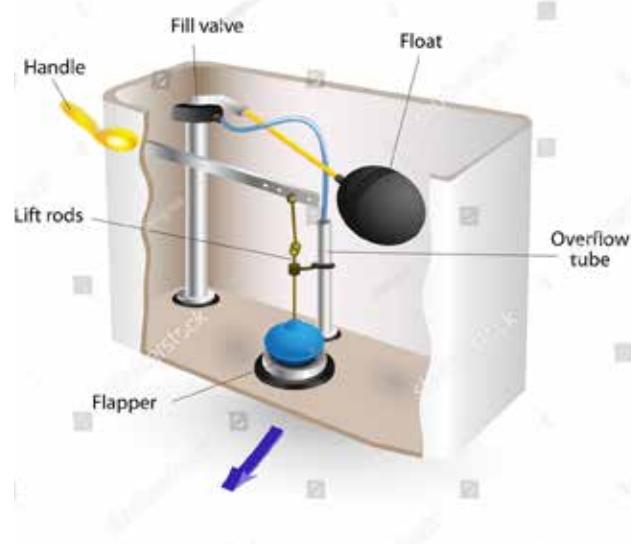
## How to Detect a Silent Leak

A silent leak may be the cause of a gradually increasing water bill. Your toilet tank holds water until you flush it. Once your toilet is flushed, the flapper at the base of your toilet tank lifts and water flows from the tank into the bowl, replenishing the water supply. The flapper should form a watertight seal on the flush valve. Over time, the flapper can deteriorate, the seal can fail, and water can slowly leak into your toilet bowl, which can result in higher water bills.

By performing a simple leak test periodically, you can detect and fix this problem before it escalates. A leak test can be performed by placing a few drops of food coloring into the toilet tank. Wait for 10 to 15 minutes. Then, check the toilet bowl to see if any food coloring has entered the toilet bowl. If you see coloring — you have a leak.

For more water conservation tips or information on how to perform a household water audit, visit [www.mariettaga.gov/539/Conserve-Protect](http://www.mariettaga.gov/539/Conserve-Protect).

### FLUSHING MECHANISM



## Take Time to Prepare for Colder Temperatures

Fall is the perfect time to finish any home maintenance projects as well as prepare for colder weather. Here are a few easy ways you can prepare your home for winter:

- 1) Check your home's heating and air conditioning system. Change your filter and consider having your system inspected by a reputable HVAC company.

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- 2) Caulk around windows and doors. Inspect the trim around your windows and doors and look for any cracks. If you see cracks, scrape away any bad caulk and apply fresh. Using a caulk gun will ensure you fill any gaps and get a clean line.
- 3) Once the leaves are off the trees, take time to clean your gutters. Clogged gutters can lead to roof rot and foundation problems.

- 4) Test your smoke and carbon monoxide detectors. Fireplaces, space heaters and blasting furnaces can all increase the potential for a home fire. Check your smoke detectors to make

sure they are working and have good batteries. If your home is not equipped with carbon monoxide detectors, consider installing some.

- 5) Perform a quick energy audit. We offer all the tools you need to perform an energy audit on your entire home, space heaters, heat pump and more. Visit [www.mariettaga.gov/767/Residential-Energy-Calculator](http://www.mariettaga.gov/767/Residential-Energy-Calculator) to learn more. 

**Residential Energy Calculator**

Our [energy advisor](#) is an online application that provides answers to your energy questions. By entering basic information about your home, the calculator easily estimates your energy bills and potential savings. In just a few clicks, you can see the savings to your energy bill by making home improvements or adjusting your thermostat.



**Virtual Energy Assessment**  
from the comfort of your home!  
Helping you live well & save.

## Paying Your Utility Bill with Cash Couldn't be Easier!



The CheckOut by PayGo cash bill-payment option allows you to pay a portion of or all your utility bill anytime you shop. You can pay your entire bill once a month or a portion of your bill every week. It's up to you! Current participating retail stores include Walmart, CVS Pharmacies, Family Dollar, Dollar General and Walgreens.

Visit [www.mpwcheckout.com](http://www.mpwcheckout.com) for more information and instructions. You will need your account number to log in. A convenience fee of \$1.95 will be added to each cash payment. 

## Calendar

### Thursday, December 2

Christmas Tree Lighting & Santa on the Square

4 - 8 p.m.

Glover Park in Marietta Square

#### Schedule of Events:

4 - 8 p.m. Local Choir Performances

4 - 6 p.m. Santa Letter Writing Stations (Stations will close and letters will be delivered when Santa arrives at the Square)

5 - 8 p.m. Mystery Photo Opportunity

5:15 p.m. Festival of Trees (Visit <https://www.winterwonderlandmarietta.com/santa-2> for more information on Santa's Location throughout the season)

6 p.m. Santa's Arrival/Tree Lighting Ceremony. For more information, call (770) 794-5606.

For a complete list of City of Marietta events, please visit [www.mariettaga.gov](http://www.mariettaga.gov) and click on Calendar of Events.

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