

## **In-Home Leaks lose gallons of water daily, says EPA**

(Washington, AP) -- While much of the nation continues to suffer a drought, each of the nation's nearly 69 million owner-occupied homes is losing an average of 25 gallons of water a day through leaky pipes, toilets, appliances and lawn sprinklers, the Environmental Protection Agency says.

"Nationally, an average of 14 percent of the water we buy is lost through leaks without ever using it. That's like paying a 14 percent sales tax on something you don't get to use," EPA Administrator Christie Whitman said Thursday.

The EPA calculated that water lost to leaks in homes totals 1.72 billion gallons daily nationwide, roughly the amount consumed daily by New York City and Chicago combined.

A typical family has an \$820 water and sewer bill and spends another \$230 to heat the water, the agency says.

### **One Drip at a Time**

*How much water am I losing from that dripping faucet?*

#### **One Drip per second**

1 minute loss	1/12 ounce
1 hour loss	6 ounces
1 day loss	1 gallon & 1 pint
1 week loss	8 gallons
1 month loss	34 gallons

#### **Two Drips per second**

1 minute loss	1/3 ounce
1 hour loss	20 ounces
1 day loss	3 2/3 gallons
1 week loss	26 gallons
1 month loss	100 gallons

#### **Drops Breaking to Stream**

1 minute loss	2 ounces
1 hour loss	1 gallon
1 day loss	24 gallons
1 week loss	175 gallons
1 month loss	700 gallons

#### **1/16" Stream - ●**

1 minute loss	7 1/2 ounces
1 hour loss	3 1/2 gallons
1 day loss	64 gallons
1 week loss	575 gallons
1 month loss	2500 gallons

#### **1/8" Stream - ●**

1 minute loss	23 ounces
1 hour loss	11 gallon
1 day loss	260 gallons
1 week loss	1800 gallons
1 month loss	7800 gallons

#### **3/16" Stream - ●**

1 minute loss	39 ounces
1 hour loss	18 gallons
1 day loss	425 gallons
1 week loss	3000 gallons
1 month loss	12,750 gallons