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# NEWS RELEASE

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## **National ‘Fix a Leak Week’ is March 16-22**

DUBUQUE, Iowa – In recognition of National Fix a Leak Week, the City of Dubuque Utility Billing Department encourages residents to check household fixtures for water leaks. Most leaks are easily fixable and fixing them can save about 10 percent on water bills.

Fix a Leak Week, sponsored by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), is held each March as a time to remind Americans to check for leaks to save valuable water and money. The average household’s leaks can account for more than 10,000 gallons of water wasted every year. Common types of leaks in homes include worn toilet flappers, dripping faucets, and leaking valves.

The City of Dubuque’s DBQ IQ water management “dashboard” provides online access to track water usage data specific to a user’s utility account. The dashboard monitors daily and hourly water consumption in gallons and allows users to compare a particular period of consumption to their average consumption, compare their consumption to other averages, and setup automatic leak or backflow alerts to be sent to them by e-mail. Current City of Dubuque water customers interested in using this tool can register online at [www.cityofdubuque.org/DBQIQ](http://www.cityofdubuque.org/DBQIQ). There is no fee to use this voluntary service and the only requirement is internet access.

The Utility Billing Department offers a water leak repair grant. One grant is available per address during a 12-month period. The water leak repair work has to affect water consumption to receive the grant. The party who pays for the repair will receive the water leak repair grant. To qualify for reimbursement, the water leak repair grant request application

and documentation including all receipts needs to be returned to the Utility Billing office within 60 days of notification of the leak. The amount of reimbursement is 50 percent of the repair work, up to \$100 maximum.

For more details on financial assistance programs, contact the Utility Billing Department at 563-589-4144 or visit [www.cityofdubuque.org/utilitybilling](http://www.cityofdubuque.org/utilitybilling). For tips on detecting and repairing water leaks, visit [www.epa.gov/watersense/our\\_water/howto.html](http://www.epa.gov/watersense/our_water/howto.html).

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