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Celebrate National Fix-A-Leak-Week By Saving Water At Home

-- waterSmart encourages residents to fix costly leaks and conserve water--

MARIETTA, Ga. (March 18, 2013) – In observance of national Fix-A-Leak-Week – which will run from March 18-24, 2013 – **waterSmart**, in partnership with the United States Environmental Protection Agency’s WaterSense program – is reminding residents to adopt water-saving habits at home to save money and conserve water.

“waterSmart joins our national partner in encouraging metro Atlanta residents to protect our vital natural resources through leak detection and smart water usage,” says Becky Mixon, program director of waterSmart.

A faucet drip or invisible toilet leak can waste up to 15 gallons of water a day or 105 gallons a week, adding up to more than 5,000 gallons of wasted water a year, according to the American Water Works Association. Fix-A-Leak-Week aims to educate individuals across the U.S. about conserving water by finding and fixing in-home leaks and reducing wasted daily water usage in small ways.

Use the following tips to help check your water meter for leaks and save water at home:

Detect a potential in-home leak:

- Start by turning off all faucets and water-using appliances in your home – including your ice maker
- Take a reading on your water meter
- After two hours, take a second reading
- If the dial has moved, you have a leak

Make sure devices are watertight:

- Check leaky showerheads – they can be fixed by making sure there is a tight connection between the showerhead and the pipe stem and by using pipe tape to secure it
- Check for a leaky toilets – use a dye tablet or a drop of food coloring in the tank. If the color shows in the bowl without flushing, then you have a leak
- Check faucets in the bathroom and kitchen periodically – most often, worn washers are the cause of the dripping faucets

Practice smart water usage:

- Pour unwanted drinking water from your cup or bottle onto a house plant instead of down a drain
- Once cooled, use leftover water used to boil and steam vegetables to water house plants
- Always turn off the water while brushing your teeth and soaping your hands
- Install a low-flow faucet aerator with a flow restrictor to reduce water flow by 25%
- Take a short shower instead of a bath to use less water

For more information about waterSmart and ways you can save water, time and money, visit www.waterSmart.net.

About waterSmart

The waterSmartSM program was initiated by the CCMWA in 2000 to educate their service area residents of all ages about the importance of indoor and outdoor water conservation and to help encourage sustainable, year-round conservation, regardless of climate conditions. The CCMWA is in its eleventh year of providing the waterSmart program to the community. For more information on water conservation and waterSmart, visit www.waterSmart.net.

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