

# PLUGIN

**BRYAN TEXAS UTILITIES NEWS** 

to learn more about these events.

#### **HOLIDAY CLOSURES:**

Thanksgiving Holiday Thursday, November 25 Friday, November 26

#### **BILL PAYMENT**

Kiosk locations accepting credit cards, cash and checks:

#### **HEB**

1609 N. Texas Ave.

#### **HEB**

725 E. Villa Maria

#### **BTU Drive-Through**

205 E. 28th St. Open 24 hours

Bring your BTU account number, BTU bill, keycard or reminder letter.

Payments can be made 24 hours a day via the "e-payment" option by calling 979.821.5700. Account number and credit card required.

#### www.btutilities.com

979.821.5700

#### **Primary Address:**

205 E. 28th St., Bryan, TX 77803

#### **Mailing Address:**

PO Box 8000, Bryan, TX 77805





## Check Your Home for Leaks

Systems that operate under pressure are prone to leaks over time. In your home, the two major systems that use pressure to operate are the plumbing and Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning (HVAC) systems. It is important to constantly monitor both of these systems for leaks, as they can waste resources, and if left unchecked, can damage your home.

#### **PLUMBING**

Water Leaks The best way to check for a water leak is to monitor your home's water meter. Turn off all faucets and make sure ice makers and washers are off, then record the numbers on your home's water meter. Keep the water in the house off for at least an hour, then go back and check the numbers on the meter. If the numbers have changed, there is a leak.

If you detect a leak, turn the shut-off valve that controls the water flowing into your home. This is usually located in a garage, basement, or utility room. Record the meter numbers again, then check back in an hour. If the numbers have changed, the leak is in the buried water pipe between the meter and the house. If the numbers have not changed, the water leak is inside your home. Turn the water back on and check all faucets and toilets for drips. If you cannot find the leak yourself, or if the leak is between the meter and the house, call a plumber for help. For more information on residential leak detection, go to **epa.gov/watersense/fix-leak-week**.



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#### **HEATING, VENTILATION, & AIR CONDITIONING**

Air Duct Leaks According to the U.S. Department of Energy and the EPA, the typical home has 20% duct leakage, and older homes can have duct leakages of 30% to 50%. Large duct leaks can also cause air pressure imbalances, which will cause your HVAC system to work harder and use more energy to heat or cool your home.

While professional HVAC technicians can more accurately test for leaks, homeowners have some available methods to identify duct leakages. With your HVAC system running, visually inspect all ductwork that is easily and safely accessible. Look for connections that may be loose or tears in the ductwork. You can also feel for air escaping, or carry a smoking incense stick along the ductwork and watch for areas where the smoke is disrupted, as this will indicate where air pressure is escaping. You may be able to patch several of these leaks yourself using duct sealant or metal tape. For larger or difficult to access leaks, call a professional to perform a more permanent repair.

### CONSERVATION TIPS

#### **Energy Conservation Tip:**

**Don't spend a bundle to keep those holiday lights on.** Use LED holiday lights! They are at least 75% more efficient and last up to 25 times longer than traditional incandescent lights.





#### **Water Conservation Tip:**

Save water, energy, detergent, and money. Run the dishwasher only when full.