

Safety Sense

Water, Water, Everywhere



We all know that water is essential to life. It makes up the majority of our body weight and plays a key role in keeping our bodies functioning and healthy. It supports our ecosystem providing habitats for aquatic life and nutrients for plants and animals. However, it can wreak havoc in our homes when there's a leak or a pipe bursts.

According to the Insurance Information Institute, about 1 in 60 homeowners files a water damage claim every year, accounting for 20% of all homeowner insurance claims. And these costs expand beyond personal residences when dealing with multi-family dwellings, home rentals and new construction. Imagine if you were living in a condo and the property above yours had a pipe burst while your neighbor was away. Your neighbor's water leak is now your problem too.

The good news is that 93% of water leaks can be identified. Here are a few things you can do to help minimize your water leak risks:

- Well-placed water leak detectors that are connected to a water shutoff valve can help prevent catastrophic water damage. There are countless water leak detection devices on the market today for both home and commercial use.
- Use water sensors in or around a condensation pan to help identify any water damage threat in a seldom used space like an attic or cellar. These sensors can also detect malfunctioning dehumidifiers, sump pumps, washing machine and dishwasher overflow issues, and even an overflowing toilet.
- In your home or your business, regularly conduct routine inspections of plumbing, HVAC systems, and water heaters to catch potential issues early and make sure you maintain these systems by replacing old plumbing, keeping drains clear and labeling valves for emergencies.
- Everyone should track water usage. If your home or business has a spike in water usage it could mean you have a leak. Paragon Alarm Systems offers water leak detection systems that can become part of your Paragon monitoring.

Water leaks are sneaky – you usually won't notice one until the damage is already done. Take steps today to help protect yourself from potentially expensive damage to your home and belongings.

