Fix a Leak Week 2013 Reminds Homeowners to Check forLeaks Inside and Out

More than 1 trillion gallons of water are lost annually nationwide due to easy-to-fix leaks both inside and outside American homes. EPA has declared March 18 through 24, 2013, the fifth annual Fix a Leak Week—a time to find and fix leaks to stop wasting water. Fixing household leaks not only saves water, but it can also reduce water bills by an average of 10 percent. WaterSense partners are joining the effort by reminding Americans to check, twist, and replace fixtures in their bathrooms, kitchens, and even outdoors to ensure they aren’t wasting this precious resource.

**Check**

To determine if you’re wasting water, start by examining your winter water bills. If a family of four is using more than 12,000 gallons per month, you may have a leak. You can also check your water meter before and after a two-hour period when no water is being used. If the meter changes at all, you probably have a leak.

In the kitchen, check the pipe fittings underneath your sink for any water on the outside of the pipe. Track down silent toilet leaks by placing a drop of food coloring in the tank at the back of your toilet. If any color shows up in the bowl after 10 minutes, you have a leak, which might be easily fixed by replacing the rubber flapper in the tank. Don’t forget to flush after conducting this test! Another easy-to-check bathroom leak is the showerhead; turn on the water and check for drips where the showerhead meets the pipe stem.

Outside, turn on your hose and check for dripping water where it connects to the spigot. While you’re at it, make a mental note to check your in-ground sprinkler system this spring to make sure it’s not damaged from any winter frost or freezing.

**Twist**

Once you’ve identified the source of a leak, you can stop the drops yourself by tightening connections or applying pipe tape to ensure they are tightly sealed. If your showerhead drips when it is not in use, you might have a more complicated valve leak, which a licensed plumber can help you fix.

For additional savings, twist a WaterSense labeled aerator onto each bathroom faucet to save water without noticing a difference in flow. Faucet aerators cost a few dollars or less and can save a household more than 500 gallons each year—equivalent to the amount water used to shower 180 times!
DATES TO REMEMBER

March
7 Planning Commission meeting
10 Daylight Savings Time
   (Turn clocks ahead)
11 Town Board meeting
17 St. Patrick’s Day
29 Good Friday
   (Town Hall closed)

April
4 Planning Commission meeting
8 Town Board meeting
9 Election Day
16 Annual Township meeting
22 Town Board meeting

All meeting start at 7 p.m. unless otherwise noted.

CORTLAND TOWN OFFICIALS

Mayor
Robert K. Seyller
Office (815)756-9041
Home (815)758-0649
Mayor@cortlandil.org

Clerk
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TRUSTEES
Sandra Barzso (847)224-4351
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Susan Dockus (815)758-4306
Chuck Lanning (815)739-1673
Mike Siewierski (815)754-5815
Brad Stone (815)756-1025

You may reach any Trustee by email by using their first initial and last name @cortlandil.org. For information regarding articles for this newsletter you may email the Deputy Clerk at deputyclerk@cortlandil.org.

Election Day is April 9, 2013
The Town of Cortland has one opening for Mayor with three candidates: Robert Seyller, Russ Stokes, and Charles Lanning; three openings for Trustees with four candidates: Michael Siewierski, Sandra Barzso, Doug Corson, and Benjamin Haier; one opening for Town Clerk with one candidate: Cheryl (Cookie) Aldis.

Hydrant Flushing April 15-19
The Town’s Water/Wastewater Department will begin hydrant flushing during the week of April 15 thru 19. Signs will be posted when the hydrant flushing process is set to begin. Hydrant flushing is necessary to flush the water mains in order to remove sediment and to exercise the fire hydrants throughout the town to keep them operational and in good working order for emergencies.

Just a Reminder
While this winter has been comparatively mild, Spring is approaching, and more and more residents will likely be outside. Please be mindful of where you park your vehicles in the driveway. It is unlawful to obstruct a public sidewalk with your parked car. Moms and dads pushing strollers and our senior residents appreciate your consideration. And if you want to walk Fido, keep in mind that dogs must be leashed when they’re not in their yard, and you have to clean up after your dog.
CORTLAND COMMUNITY LIBRARY NEWS
Hours: Monday-Thursday 9-9
      Friday & Saturday 9-5
Website: www.cortlandlibrary.com

Cortland Community Library will be closed Friday, March 8, for DeKalb County
-wide library staff training.

STEM, the NIU science, technology, engineering, and mathematics group, will
present exciting programs for students K-12, at Cortland Library this spring.
Check the Cortland Library Facebook page or the websites,
(www.cortlandlibrary.com or www.niu.edu/stem) for dates and times of pro-
grams.

Don’t forget to vote on April 9, 2013. Four people are running for three openings
on the Cortland Community Library Board. The candidates are Mary Ben-
son, Ryan Hilligoss, Marie Kornischuck , and Victoria Haier.

Want to borrow “free” eBooks? Click on the OMNI link on the Cortland Library
website (www.cortlandlibrary.com) and use your Cortland Library card number
for access to downloads. Choose the appropriate format to match your device.

Plan to visit Cortland Community Library during National Library Week, April
14-20, 2013. There are always surprises in store at Cortland Library.
“Communities Matter @ your library.”

Weekly Programs
Mondays  4:30 p.m.  Writer’s Group/3rd grade and up.  Sign up required.
Tuesdays  7:00 p.m.  Story Time with Miss Terri.
Wednesdays  10:00 a.m.  Preschool Story Time.
      7:00 p.m.  Crochet Class.  Sign up required.
Thursdays  10:00 a.m.  Preschool Story Time.
      4:15 p.m.  First Grade & Up Story & Craft.  Sign up required.

Did you know: Cortland Library owns over 3,600 DVDs and circulates

Breakfast with The Bunny
To be held Saturday, March 23, 9 a.m. until 12 p.m. The sug-
gested donation is $10.00 per family for a picture with the Bunny and a French toast
and sausage breakfast. Eggs filled with treats will be handed out to children. If you
have any questions, please call Mike at 630-878-9060.

Electric Aggregation
Remember to check your ComEd bill to make sure you are enrolled
and are receiving the benefit of reduced rates. This is a sample
of proof of your enrollment in the program, please check your bill
for verification. If you are not enrolled, call First Energy at
866-636-3749. Have your account number, address, and phone number ready, and ask to
be enrolled in Cortland’s Municipal Aggregation Program.

Cortland Elementary PTA Info
and Events
Upcoming Dates

March
6th  Market Day pick-up 4:30 – 5:30pm  (Orders due 3/2)
11th  PTA Meeting 6:30pm
13th  Reading Night & Book Fair
20th  Food Night at Applebee’s
      Flyer needed

April
5th  Fun Fair 6:00 – 8:30pm
8th  PTA Meeting 6:30pm
10th  Market Day pick-up 4:30 – 5:30pm  (Orders due 4/6)
17th  Food Night at Applebee’s
      Flyer needed
17th  Spring Pictures

ComEd
An Eastern Company

Electric Usage

Electric Supply Services - First Energy Solutions

Retail Delivery Service - Res Single

$35.91

First Energy Solutions

Please refer to your supplier contract for details.
Hello,

The worst of winter should be behind us. This winter wasn’t even that bad, but I think we are all ready for it to be over and are looking forward to spring flowers popping up all over Town.

I have asked the Clerk’s Office to add what we call the “Town Board packet” to the agenda that is posted on the Town’s website, cortlandil.org. We always try to have it available online before 4:30 p.m. on the Friday before Town Board meetings. The packet contains all the materials the Town Board uses to prepare for discuss/or approval at the meeting.

As you know April 9 is Election Day. Residents will be voting for a Mayor, 3 Trustees, and a Clerk. There are 3 candidates for Mayor, 4 for Trustee, and 1 for Clerk. I would like to use this last newsletter of my second term by saying it has been an honor and a privilege to serve this community as your Mayor. I appreciate all the people in Cortland and would like to thank everyone, especially the citizens and staff who give their all everyday in contributing to help improve our Town and keep it moving in a positive direction. If you have questions or concerns regarding any Town business, please call me at 815-756-9041 or email me at Mayor@cortlandil.org

The PBS show called “Ask This Old House” was in Cortland back in October 2012 filming an episode on how to insulate your duct work to make your furnace more efficient. If you type the web address into your web browser you can watch the show. The grain elevator piece was also filmed in Cortland.


I wish you and your family a happy and healthy year.

Thank you,

Mayor Bob Seyller