

MEMORANDUM

To: All SMTD personnel.
From: Thomas Folkers
Date: August 11, 2000
Subject: Water usage at the SMTD

On Wednesday, August the 9, John Ratje informed me that we used over 12,000 gallons of water for the week of July 25th through August 1st. Our normal weekly usage is about 1300 gallons. Apparently there was a open faucet or a stuck toilet sometime during that week. That rate works out to 1.2 gallons a minute. Just about what a free running toilet would use. The following week's consumption was back to normal.

We need to be more cautious when it comes to these kind of expensive consumable at the site. Water on Mt. Graham costs us \$0.28 per gallon. The water bill for that week alone will be \$3,360, approximately \$3,000 more then our normal weekly rate. That's money we can ill afford to lose.

From this day on I expect all personnel on site to be on the lookout for these types of problems. If you happen upon a stuck toilet don't just wiggle the handle and forget it. Report it to me, the site mechanic and the site supervisor. Place a tag on it to warn the next person. Follow up and see to it that something gets done.

Site supervisors need to make a conscious effort to check each unoccupied dorm room, including the three outside, once a day, making sure there is no running water. Ask the people in the occupied rooms to check for you or allow you to inspect the rooms yourself.

This is the only way we are going to get a handle on these outrageous water bills. If we don't, we can forget about any new vehicles or other expensive items.

/tf



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