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MAY UPDATES

Dear Gentle Readers (Owners/Renters),

The month of May has been flying by. I wish to give a shout out to the staff of Bonavida, continue to do a job well done.

In the month of May there are many celebrations, especially Mother's Day! Hope your day was as special as you all are.

Your neighbor/owner

"Some people make the world special by just being in it." by Kelly Ann Rothaus

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Hurricane Season is June 1 to November 30
Hurricane preparedness is a natural part of living in Florida. Make sure everyone in your household knows what they are supposed to do. Now is a good time to gather supplies.

Have disaster supplies on hand.

- Flashlight and extra batteries
- Portable, battery-operated radio and extra batteries
- First aid kit and manual
- Emergency food and water
- Non-electric can opener
- Essential medicines
- Cash and credit cards
- Sturdy shoes

SUNSCREEN EXPIRATION

Since a vast majority of Florida residents and visitors probably use some form of sunscreen protection, the question arises, does sunscreen products expire over time. Testers have recently revealed that sunscreen lotions do expire usually after three years from date of purchase, depending upon how the product is stored.

Using sunscreens which are old or degraded will not protect the user from the damaging sun rays of South Florida. One should look for an expiration date on the packaging of the sunscreen product. But beware that the US Food and Drug Administration does not require the expiration date be on the label. It is strongly recommended that if your sunscreen is out of date that it not be used and should be thrown out.

Users may test it by applying a sample on your hand. Look for signs of separation of the lotion into watery or dry flaky consistency. If there are signs of mold, change in color or texture, unpleasant odor or white fuzzy or dark spots, throw it away.

The method and place of storage of sunscreen products may hasten its demise. Bottles or plastic containers should not be exposed to the heat of sunlight. They should not be left in hot cars or in beach bags nor near a sunny window since the product will deteriorate more quickly. But a container kept inside a cabinet should be safe for use even if three years old.

When purchasing sunscreen products check for expiration dates and also mark the container with the date of purchase. As a precaution do pretest the product if it is approaching the three-year mark or has been stored exposed to sun light.

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Strawberry Bellini

- 3 cups strawberries, hulled and sliced
- ¼ cup confectioners' sugar
- 1 tablespoon brandy
- 1 ½ cups chilled sparkling wine
- 3 large whole strawberries

Blend hulled strawberries, confectioners' sugar, and brandy in a blender until smooth. Chill in the refrigerator for 10 minutes. Divide the strawberry mixture among three champagne flutes. Pour 1/2 cup sparkling wine into each flute and stir to combine. Garnish each glass with a whole strawberry.

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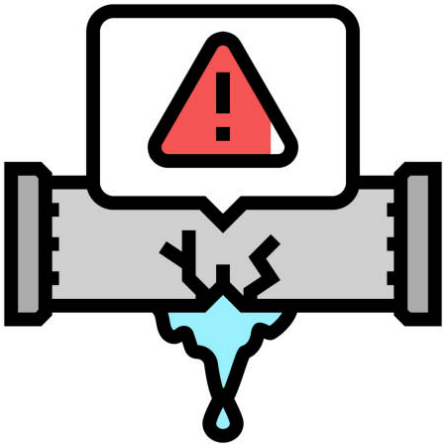
DETECT-A-LEAK WEEK



Detect-a-Leak Week is held annually every May. This is the perfect time to give your home a once over, checking for leaks that may be costing you money! Even a small leak can add up to hundreds of dollars a year, and could damage surrounding fixtures, cabinets, or floors.

One of the biggest culprits is the toilet. You often cannot tell if your toilet is leaking simply by examining it. Place a few drops of food coloring, just enough to slightly color the water, in the main tank. Let it sit for several hours, then check the toilet bowl. If you see the color in the bowl, you have a leaky toilet and it needs to be repaired. Check for dripping faucets, pipes, and connections by examining all plumbing in your home. Use a lightweight cloth to wipe around each connection. If your cloth becomes wet, you have leaky plumbing that needs to be repaired.

Don't forget to stop those leaks that you can control! Turn faucets off all the way. Don't let water run when you brush your teeth. And don't use your toilet as a wastebasket. Instead of throwing items such as tissues in the toilet and flushing, use a small wastebasket in your bathroom instead.

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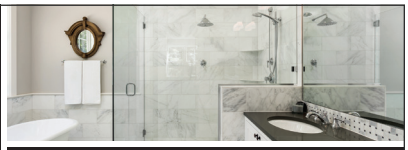

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