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Leaky taps wasting 1.6bn litres of water



Leaky taps are wasting 1.6 billion litres of water every year, new research has discovered.

Carried out by RatedPeople.com it found 40% of homeowners claimed their property suffered extensive damage before they realised the severity of problems caused by a seemingly minor leak.

The online tradesmen recommendation service also found homeowners are waiting an average of six months to fix a leak in their homes with many waiting over a year.

And 15 per cent of homeowners admitted to ignoring a leak in the hope that it would resolve itself.

The most common types of damage to property that homeowners have experienced as a result of leaks include ceiling damage (33 per cent), damp smells and marks (18 per cent) and damage to walls (17 per cent)

The research also found that seven in every 100 properties will end up suffering from flooding as a result of an untreated leak.

RatedPeople.com also asked its tradesmen about Britain's drainage dilemmas with plumbers claiming in a third of cases homeowners who try to resolve the problem themselves actually make the situation worse.

They commented that 31 per cent of the plumbing call-outs they attend can be traced back to an unfixed leak, and in 19 per cent of cases to a leaky tap.

Chief marketing officer at RatedPeople.com Tariq Dag Khan said: "We tend to view leaky taps and pipes as an irritation; however, something that starts small can quickly escalate to a very serious and damaging problem for your property.

"The amount of water damage affecting British homes is staggering, and represents a serious financial and environmental problem, but it seems that Brits are overlooking the importance of getting professional help to fix these issues."