

# HINTS FOR HOMEOWNERS

## “Oh My God, The Basement’s Flooded!”

(NAPSA)—Have you ever experienced a water heater failure? Have you ever had to clean one up? If you have, you know it’s not something you ever want to have happen again.

Unnoticed, a leaking water heater can silently spill hundreds and even thousands of gallons of water on the floor of a basement, throughout a second floor, a garage or even an apartment—and ruin everything in reaching distance of its water. And water heaters seem to fail at the most inconvenient of times—in the middle of the night or when the owners are away for the weekend or on vacation.

Homeowner Pat Chmura, of Smithfield, R.I., knows all about what water heaters can do when they fail. Four years ago, she had the unpleasant experience of a burst water heater. The leak wasn’t discovered until the family noticed they had no hot water. The resulting mess was something she hasn’t forgotten.

Last year she had a new water heater and Jacuzzi installed on the second floor of her home, and when her plumber recommended installing a Water and Gas Supply (WAGS) valve along with the water heater to prevent the flooding that can come with a leak, she readily agreed.

She’s glad she did because her new water heater failed within six months. That’s unusual but it can happen. But this time there was no flood, no damaged floor, ceiling or household items. Why? Because the WAGS valve did exactly what it had been installed to do: sense the water accumulating in a drip pan below the water heater and shut off the water supply to it.



**A single valve can help prevent water heater leaks.**

That’s how the WAGS valve works. It comes with a spring-loaded piston that activates when the water in the drip pan reaches  $\frac{3}{4}$ ” in depth. In doing so, it immediately closes off the flow of water to the tank. In the case of gas-fired water heaters, the valve shuts off the gas line too.

“Every household should have a WAGS valve on its water heater,” says Chmura. “You’re doing yourself one big favor.”

The WAGS valve is the only product of its kind on the market that shuts off both the water and gas feeds in the event of a water leak. Plumbers nationwide can install it on a new water heater, or retrofit a valve to an existing water heater. It installs quickly and easily in both cases.

To learn more about WAGS valves and the peace of mind they provide, visit [www.wagsvalve.com](http://www.wagsvalve.com). To find the nearest registered installer, call Taco, Inc., the manufacturer of the WAGS valve, at 1-877-GET-WAGS.