

Did you know that your water softener could be causing lower water pressure? It could also cause higher water usage. You may ask, how can it do both?

A water softener can malfunction and go into a cycle that causes it to constantly draw water through the softener, rather than only when water is being used elsewhere in the home. This causes the water pressure in the rest of the house to drop due to the amount of water being drawn by the water softener. This extra water that is pulled through is wasted and goes into the sewer lines. It also causes higher usage because it is constantly drawing water through the water meter, even though that water isn't needed anywhere in the home.

The water softener can also cause lower pressure because when not properly maintained, the lines on the softener can become clogged. Since all water to the home flows through the water softener, this blockage prevents the full flow of water throughout the rest of the lines to the residence. Also, the debris that clogs the lines of the softener can sometimes break free to flow through the lines to sink faucets and shower heads, where it gets stuck in the filter on the faucet or shower head.

If you believe this could be happening with your water softener, there is a way to prevent these issues. On your water softener, there will be a button or valve to switch the water softener to bypass mode. This will cause the water to only be pulled through the softener, rather than the softener trying to draw water constantly.

Below are some examples of common bypass valves, and a few articles that help to describe how to bypass your water softener.





Push to  
Bypass