



Client Information Sheet Dealing With Flushing Toilets

From time to time, persons dealing with perceived paranormal events in their residences or places of business may begin to attribute many unexplained events to be part of their experience and believe they have a paranormal origin. This is not always the case. As a scientific based research association, the PRAB will attempt to recreate or otherwise explain the causes of events.

One such event is a toilet prematurely flushing, seemingly by itself. This can be due to a number of natural, non-paranormal reasons. The most common cause of this is a warped douglas valve seal. When this happens, the toilet's tank will continually leak water into the bowl and the fill sensors are triggered that the toilet bowl is full and needs to be flushed. This is the same principle as when you fill the toilet with buckets of water, you'll find the toilet reaches a certain level then automatically flushes itself.

To check if your toilet is leaking from the tank to the bowl, you should use the food-coloring test. After flushing the toilet, add several drops of food coloring into the toilet bowl tank and wait about 30 minutes. If you see any traces of the food coloring in the toilet bowl water, then you know there is a leak. If the water is clear, there is no leak. However, make certain that there wasn't a leak and that the toilet didn't automatically flush and remove all traces of the water.

If you detect the food coloring in the toilet bowl's water, then you know that the problem is caused by too much water leaking past the flapper and filling the toilet bowl. If this is the case, you will need to have the flapper replaced. The flapper valve is made of rubber and is very inexpensive. If you are uncomfortable replacing this valve yourself, a local plumber will be able to easily take care of the problem.