

SMJ Plumbing Shares Common Warning Signs of Plumbing Problems

Slidell plumbing expert Stephen Jordan explains common warning signs that may indicate developing plumbing problems.

SLIDELL, LA, UNITED STATES, August 11, 2026 /EINPresswire.com/ -- Stephen Jordan, CEO and founder of [SMJ Plumbing](#) in Slidell, Louisiana, explains how changes in [water pressure](#), drainage, plumbing sounds, and water usage can signal developing issues.

SLIDELL, La. — August 11, 2026 — Plumbing problems do not always begin with a burst pipe or a flooded room. Many residential plumbing issues develop gradually, producing small changes that can be easy to overlook. Slow drains, unexplained increases in water usage, unusual plumbing noises, low water pressure, and visible moisture can all indicate a developing problem.

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Stephen Jordan, CEO and founder of SMJ Plumbing in Slidell, Louisiana, has observed how seemingly minor plumbing symptoms can develop into more significant concerns when left unaddressed.

“Plumbing has a funny way of giving a little warning before a big problem shows up,” said Jordan. “A dripping faucet or slow drain might not seem like a big deal today, but those little signs can sometimes point to something going on behind the scenes. Paying attention to those changes can

make a difference.”



Our SMJ Logo

An unexpected increase in water usage is one warning sign that can indicate a hidden leak. When household habits remain consistent while water consumption increases, water may be escaping from a damaged pipe, fixture, water line, or other plumbing component. Leaks can occur beneath floors, behind walls, under cabinets, or underground, making them difficult to identify without a visible puddle or obvious source.

Slow drains are another common indication of a plumbing issue. A single slow sink may involve a localized blockage, while multiple slow fixtures can indicate a restriction farther into the drainage system. Gurgling drains, bubbling toilets, or water appearing in an unexpected fixture can also accompany developing drainage problems.

Changes in water pressure may provide another clue. Mineral deposits, aging plumbing materials, partially closed valves, leaks, and issues with incoming water service can affect water flow. Older galvanized pipes can be particularly susceptible to internal corrosion and buildup, which may gradually restrict water movement through the plumbing system.

Unusual noises can also provide useful information. Banging, knocking, rattling, whistling, and gurgling sounds may have different causes depending on where the sound originates. A toilet that continues running after a flush or repeatedly refills without being used can also indicate a worn or malfunctioning component.

Visible moisture represents another warning sign. Water stains on ceilings or walls, damp areas beneath sinks, peeling paint, warped flooring, bubbling surfaces, and persistent musty odors may indicate an active or previous leak. Prolonged moisture exposure can damage building materials and create conditions that contribute to additional property concerns.

Water heaters can produce warning signs before a complete loss of hot water occurs. Rumbling or popping sounds may develop as sediment accumulates inside a tank. Fluctuating temperatures, rusty-colored water, moisture around the unit, or reduced hot-water availability can also indicate conditions requiring inspection.

Outdoor plumbing should not be overlooked. A leaking outdoor spigot can waste water and create persistent moisture around the foundation or exterior of a home. Wet areas in a yard, unusually green patches of grass, standing water, or unexplained ground changes can also indicate underground plumbing or drainage concerns.

Weather conditions can add another layer of stress to residential plumbing systems. Heavy rainfall can overwhelm drainage systems, while periods of extreme heat can increase water consumption and place additional demands on outdoor plumbing. Storms can also introduce debris, flooding, and other conditions capable of affecting drains, sewer lines, and exterior plumbing components.

“Most homeowners do not spend much time thinking about the plumbing system until something stops working,” Jordan said. “That is understandable. Plumbing is supposed to work in the background. The important thing is noticing when something changes. Strange sounds, unusual smells, slow drains, water stains, or changes in water pressure are all worth paying attention to.”

Routine observation can help identify changes before a plumbing problem becomes an emergency. Areas such as under-sink cabinets, around toilets, near water heaters, washing machine connections, outdoor faucets, and exposed piping can be periodically checked for moisture, corrosion, or other visible changes.

The age of a home can also be an important factor. Plumbing systems experience wear from daily use, water quality, environmental conditions, and age. Older homes may contain galvanized piping or other materials that can become more susceptible to corrosion and deterioration over time.

Recognizing a warning sign does not automatically mean a major repair is necessary. Determining the cause while symptoms are still developing can provide an opportunity to address a plumbing concern before additional damage occurs.

For residents throughout Slidell and surrounding communities, awareness of common plumbing warning signs can be useful for maintaining residential properties. Small changes in water usage, drainage, pressure, sound, or moisture may provide important clues about conditions occurring within a home's plumbing system.

About SMJ Plumbing

SMJ Plumbing is a plumbing company based in Slidell, Louisiana, founded by Stephen Jordan. The company serves residential and commercial properties throughout the surrounding area and provides plumbing services related to repairs, maintenance, water heaters, drain systems, piping, leak detection, new construction, and other plumbing needs.

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