

HOW TO READ YOUR METER

Step One - Locate Your Meter Box: The meter box is typically rectangular shaped and located somewhere on your property, most often in front of the house. The box and lid may be concrete and metal (as shown below) or plastic.

Step Two – Remove Lid and Clear Dirt/Debris: Use a screwdriver to lift the lid from the box. Be careful when doing so because meter boxes are favorite hiding spots for spiders, snakes, rodents and potentially anything else. The meter box is also very likely to be full of dirt and/or debris, so carefully remove enough dirt to expose the meter face/dial (see below). Once removed, the dirt has a tendency to refill the box relatively quickly. You may find the next day that the box is full of dirt again.



Typical Water Meter Box and Lid



ANALOG

Step Three – Read the Meter: The meter registers water consumption in a similar fashion to your car's odometer. Starting on the far left, the first numbers (typically black on white) represent the units (748 gallons) consumed. The remaining numbers on the right (typically black on white) represent less than one unit of consumption. Your water bill is based on the numbers on the left side of the register (see red circle on image to the left). Simply subtract your current meter reading from the previous (available on your water bill or by calling BWD) to determine the consumption in units. One cubic foot of water = 7.48 gallons and there are 100 cubic feet per unit $100 \times 7.48 = 748 \text{ gal/unit}$.

Step Four – Check for Leaks: On each meter is a triangle shape low flow/leak indicator (see green circle above). The purpose of this feature is to indicate and display if any flow is going through the meter by rotating in a clockwise direction. With everything shut off inside the house, examine the low flow indicator and if it is moving, a leak likely exists and further investigation is warranted to determine the location of the leak. Replace the meter box lid.

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