

Read any good meters lately?

You want to do your part to help conserve our natural resources. And, you want to save money.

Monitor your water use by reading your meter...help preserve the environment while you save money.

Water meters are not reset between readings. Rather, the number of cubic feet indicated on the meter is cumulative.

To find out how much you've used in any given period, just subtract the reading on your last bill from the current meter reading. The date your meter was read and the current reading are indicated on your monthly bill.

For example, suppose you read your meter today and it indicates 367 units (like the one shown above). Then you refer to your most recent water bill and it says the reading was 360 units on your last read date.

367 units (current)
- 360 units (previous)
7 units used

7 units
x 748 gallons per unit
5,236 gallons used

Multiply the difference by 748 and you'll find that you've used 5,236 gallons of water since the read date indicated on your last bill.



Reading your water meter is simple...and here's how:

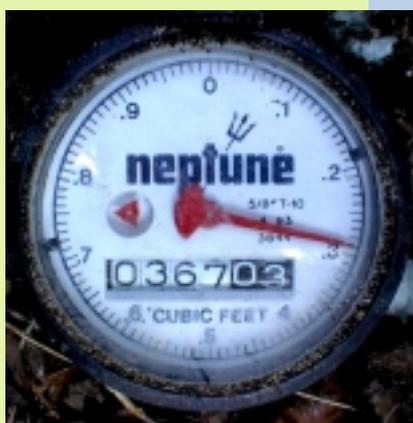
Your water meter is located in the meter box outside your house. To access it, carefully remove the meter box cover.

Your meter most likely resembles the one shown here. The water that flows through this meter is measured in cubic feet.

One hundred cubic feet is equal to one unit or 748 gallons.

Reading your meter is similar to reading the odometer in your car. One time around by the sweep hand (shown here in red) is one cubic foot. One hundred times around by the sweep hand is equal to one hundred cubic feet or one unit.

To read your meter, look for the black numbers on the white background. In this picture, the meter indicates a reading of 367 units.



How much water are you using?

◆ Turn on the sprinkler and watch the sweep hand move for precisely one minute. Make a note of how far the sweep hand moves to the nearest tenth. Multiply that number by 0.748 to calculate the number of gallons used during one minute.

Estimate how long you usually leave the sprinkler running. How many gallons of water are sprinkled on your lawn and garden each time you water? How many each week?

On the meter shown above, the sweep hand is pointing to **3 tenths (.3)**.

If it moves **from .3 to .8**, the sweep hand has moved **5 tenths**.

Multiply **5** by **0.748** to calculate the number of gallons.

◆ Follow the same timing routine when a family member steps into the shower. Check the volume of water consumed in one minute and multiply by the number of minutes normal showers take.

How much water could you save yearly if everyone in your family shortened their showers by just one minute?

Water Used for Household Activities:

Shower	40 gallons/10 minutes
Shower (low-flow)	25 gallons/10 minutes
Bath	20 gallons
Toilet	25 gallons/day/person
Toilet (ultra-low flush)	8 gallons/day/person
Clothes washer	45 gallons/load
Dishwasher	15 gallons/load
Cooking	5 gallons/day
Washing car (with hose running)	150 gallons
Washing car (with shutoff nozzle)	15 gallons
Landscape irrigation	300 gallons/application