



Reading Your Water Meter

By reading your water meter you can:

- ◆ Check your home for invisible or slow leaks,
- ◆ Track your daily usage,
- ◆ Determine how much water is used for a specific purpose, like watering the lawn,
- ◆ Avoid receiving a surprisingly high water bill.

Locating your water meter

The meter is generally located near the curb in front of your home, housed in a concrete box. Carefully remove the lid with a tool like a screwdriver and set it aside to expose the meter.

How to read a water meter

Reading a water meter is similar to reading a car odometer. The meter measures volume of water in **cubic feet**. There are two common types of meters in the service area:

1. Meter A registers down to the 0.01 cubic feet, shown on the first digit on the right. The second digit on the right represents 0.10 cubic feet, the third digit represents 1 cubic foot, and so forth.
2. On meter B, the first digit on the right registers 1 cubic foot, the second digit 10 cubic feet, and so forth.

- ◆ One cubic foot equals **7.48 gallons** of water.

Your water bill is figured in 100 cubic foot increments, known as billing units or “CCF”. Each billing unit is equal to 748 gallons.

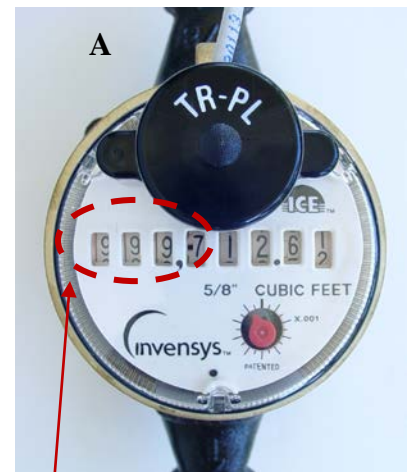
To check for leaks

1. Start by firmly turning off all water using appliances and fixtures inside and outside the house.
2. Next, go outside and record the meter reading (all the digits).
3. Wait 15 minutes and check the meter reading again. If the reading is unchanged **and** the red dial or sweep hand are not moving, your house is water tight.

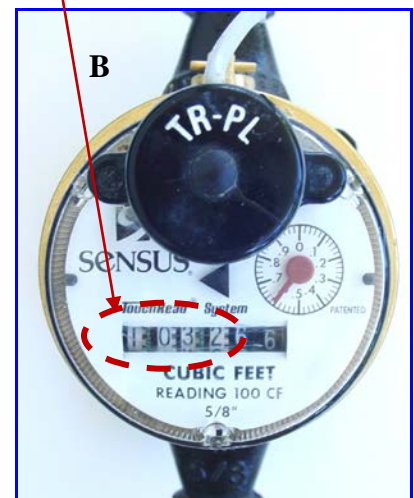
If the meter, the red dial (meter A), or the red sweep hand (meter B) have moved, you have a leak to hunt down.

- ◆ A common cause is a leaking toilet.

Two common types of water meters in the SCMU service area:



These digits are used for billing purposes.



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