

Sunnyslope County Water District

READING YOUR WATER METER

Your water meter can tell you how much water you are using during a given time period, and can help you monitor the amount of water you use indoors and outdoors on a daily basis. It can also help you figure out how much water each appliance uses, and whether there is a leak inside or outside the house. But first, you'll need to learn to read it.

When and how is my meter read?

Sunnyslope County Water District reads meters on a monthly cycle, which is the basis for your water bills. District personnel read every meter every month.

The District has recently completed installing “state of the art” radio read meters. These meters transmit your meter reading to a remote reading device. (If your meter is the new radio read type, there will be a black disk on top of your meter box lid. Care must be taken when removing the lid not to damage the wire connected to the water meter. Any damage to this device will be the responsibility of the property owner.)

How can I check my water usage?

It is important that you know how to read your meter to understand how much water you are using or to find out if you have a “hidden leak”.

You will most likely find your meter in front of your home or business, in the ground, surrounded by a concrete box and covered with a concrete lid.

To read your meter, carefully open the metal meter-reading lid. To know how much water you use, read all the numbers on the face of the water meter including any stationary numbers. Remove the two right digits then subtract the current reading you just took from the last reading on your most current water bill. This will give you the total water used in 100 cubic feet since your meter was last read. The bill you receive charges for every 100 cubic foot increment. To convert the usage to gallons multiply by 748.

How do I check for a small leak?

You can also measure smaller amounts of water used to detect a leak. First, make sure all faucets and water-using appliances in and around your home are turned off. Even a small drip will be detected by your water meter. Depending on the meter manufacturer, the meter will have a sweep hand or a small dial. If any movement on the meter dials is observed, water is flowing through the meter indicating a leak. Check for moisture or wet spots under sinks, around toilets or in other areas where leaks might occur. If necessary, call a plumber for help.

