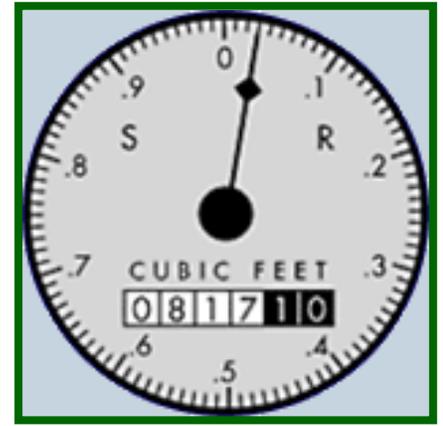


Be a Water Meter Reader

The benefits of knowing how to read your water meter are endless. With this knowledge, you will have the power to:

- Know how much water you use in a day.
- Know how much water your sprinkler system uses.
- Check for leaks. (You can do this by turning off all the taps and other equipment that uses water in and outside your house and go look at your meter. If your meter is still running chances are you may have a leak somewhere.)



Anatomy of the Water Meter

Dial: The dial rotates when water passes through your meter. One complete rotation of the dial equals 1 cubic foot of water or 7.48 gallons of water.

Odometer: The odometer on the water meter is similar to the odometer on a car; it records the total amount of water used. The odometer is the numbers below the words CUBIC FEET and displays as follows: The digits from right to left represent 1 cubic foot, 10 cubic feet, 100 cubic feet and so on.

(*Water bills are read in units; 1 unit= 748.05 gallons or 100 cubic feet) therefore when your meter is read by your water agency only the numbers located on the white part of the dial is looked at.)

Follow these 3 easy steps and you'll be reading your water meter in no time!

Step 1: Locate your meter

To read your water meter, you've got to locate it! Water meters are generally located near the curb in front of your home. Look for a large concrete box usually labeled "water."

Step 2: Open your water meter

Carefully remove the lid by using a tool such as a large screwdriver. Insert the tool into the hole and cautiously lift the lid off.

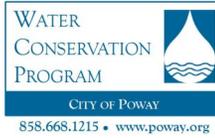
Step 3: Read your meter

In the meter shown above, the odometer reads 081710, which is the total number of cubic feet of water recorded *since the meter was installed*.

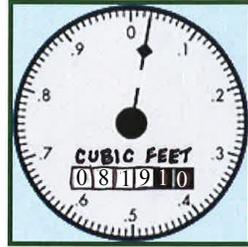
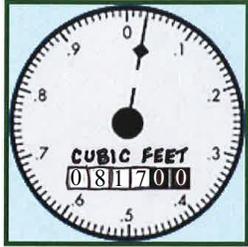
1. Read the odometer and write down the complete number. Pick an amount of time when you want to
2. Re-read your meter, this could be after you run your sprinklers, after 24 hours, etc.
When you read the odometer again, write down the complete number and subtract it from the first reading. This is your water use in cubic feet during the time period of your choice.
3. Multiply the water use shown in step 2 by 7.48. This shows how much water was used in gallons during the chosen time period.
4. Divide the water use in gallons by the number of days, hours, or minutes (depending on your time period) between readings. This is your average gallons per day, hour, minute, etc. during that period.

Monitoring your water consumption and checking for leaks is the easiest way to save money and water!
For more information on reading your water meter, please visit www.poway.org/waterconservation or call (858) 668-1215.

HOW TO CALCULATE YOUR WATER USE (SAMPLE)



1. Meter Readings:



Reading #1
Date/Time: 1/12/10

Reading #2
Date/Time: 1/17/10

Odometer
Reading #1: 81700

Odometer
Reading #2: 81910

5 Days Amount of time between
reading #1 and reading #2

2. Water Use (cubic feet):

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Readings \#2:} & \quad \underline{81910} \quad (\text{cubic feet used}) \\ \text{Reading \#1:} & \quad - \underline{81700} \quad (\text{cubic feet used}) \\ & \quad = \underline{210} \quad (\text{cubic feet used}) \end{aligned}$$

3. Water Use (gallons):

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Cubic feet used:} & \quad \frac{\underline{210}}{\times 7.48 \text{ gallons}} \\ & \quad = \underline{1,571} \quad (\text{gallons used}) \end{aligned}$$

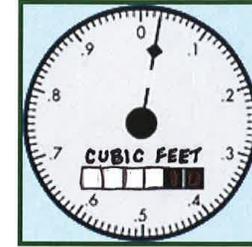
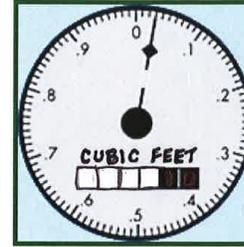
4. Average Water Used For Specific Time Period:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Gallons used:} & \quad \underline{1,571} \\ \div & \quad \underline{5} \quad (\# \text{ of days between reading}) \\ & \quad = \underline{314} \quad (\text{average gallons per day}) \end{aligned}$$

HOW TO CALCULATE YOUR WATER USE



1. Meter Readings:



Reading #1
Date/Time: _____

Reading #2
Date/Time: _____

Odometer
Reading #1: _____

Odometer
Reading #2: _____

_____ Amount of time between
reading #1 and reading #2

2. Water Use (cubic feet):

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Readings \#2:} & \quad \underline{\hspace{2cm}} \quad (\text{cubic feet used}) \\ \text{Reading \#1:} & \quad - \underline{\hspace{2cm}} \quad (\text{cubic feet used}) \\ & \quad = \underline{\hspace{2cm}} \quad (\text{cubic feet used}) \end{aligned}$$

3. Water Use (gallons):

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Cubic feet used:} & \quad \frac{\underline{\hspace{2cm}}}{\times 7.48 \text{ gallons}} \\ & \quad = \underline{\hspace{2cm}} \quad (\text{gallons used}) \end{aligned}$$

4. Average Water Used For Specific Time Period:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Gallons used:} & \quad \underline{\hspace{2cm}} \\ & \quad \underline{\hspace{2cm}} \quad (\text{amount of time between reading}) \\ & \quad = \underline{\hspace{2cm}} \quad (\text{average gallons per amount of specified time}) \end{aligned}$$