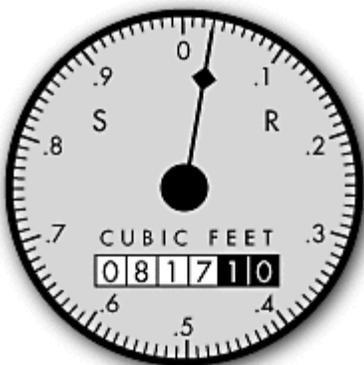**How to Read Your Water Meter**

There are several reasons why you'd want to be able to locate and read your water meter. First, you might be interested in just how much water you use in a day. By reading your meter at the beginning and the end of the day you can compare the two totals to tell how much water you used. The second reason is to check for leaks. If you turn off all the faucets in your house, look at your meter and it is turning, chances are you have a leak somewhere. The third reason is if you have a water leak and do not have a cutoff valve in your home, or if your line is leaking from meter to the house, you may want to turn your water off at the meter box to make repairs. Here are some hints to help you find and read your water meter:

Step 1: Locate Your Meter
Your water meter is generally located near the curb in front of your home or place of business. Carefully remove the lid by using a tool such as a large screwdriver.

Step 2: Read Your Water Meter
Your meter reads like an odometer on a car. Read numbers from left to right. For example, the meter example below reads 817.10. Since we bill in even 100 cubic feet we drop the .10 and replace with 00.

Check for Leaks

1. Turn off all faucets and water-consuming appliances such as an automatic icemaker.
2. Read your water meter. Write down the current reading including the tenths of a cubic foot
3. Read the meter again after 3 hours or overnight. If the meter reading has changed, you have a leak.
4. The most common leak is a commode leak. Simply place a few drops of food coloring in the water tank and wait about an hour. If you see color in the bowl you have a leak.

Possible Causes of High Water Consumption

1. Landscaping
2. Underground Leak
3. Running Toilet
4. Extra House Guests