Meter Reading Guide

The purpose of this guide is to get you more familiar with your water meter's operation and how to decipher its reading. Our meters are either a digital display or analog dial type similar to a car odometer and they read the same way. Reading from right to left starting with the decimal point the first digit/dial displays ones, second is tens, third hundredths and fourth thousandths of gallons. The meter will also display other dials that read higher and usually will read up to 9,999,999 gallons. For example, a display showing 21,000.00 is twenty-one thousand gallons and a meter that shows 2,115,000.00 is reading two million one hundred fifteen thousand gallons. All meters accumulate gallons from the time of install and do not go back to zero unless it has reached maximum reading capacity. When we perform our meter readings during the course of the year, we only read from the thousandth's gallon position up, so if your meter reading is 21,120.00, your bill would only show 21,000. However, you can track your usage easily at lower levels if desired.







Meter style 1

Meter style 2

Meter Style 3

These meters can also be viewed to determine flow. This is especially useful when trying to determine if a leak situation is present. Meter style 1 will show the word flow on it if water is moving through it. Meter style 2 has a round red dial that will rotate as water passes through it. Meter style 3 has a + sign inside a circle that flashes as water is passing through. It's best to observe any meter for at least five to ten minutes for verification of flow.

We would like also to recommend that you get familiar with where your meter is located and check it periodically for leakage and general condition. In most cases a valve will be located just ahead upstream of the meter for shut off purposes and a check valve located downstream for prevention of back flow. Your water meter is normally located in your basement somewhere close to the entrance point of the water line, in some cases the meter may be located in a difficult location to reach or be located in a meter pit outside of the house. Most of the meters are read by means of drive by radio or by a remote reader located outside the building. A visual reading cannot be obtained by a remote reader and in almost all cases a meter is not located outside of the building unless in a meter pit for protection from freezing.

As always, any questions are always welcomed. Please feel free to contact us at telephone (603) 436-2596 or email at commissioners.ryewater@comcast.net

Thank you, Rye Water District Staff