



# Water Wise Weekly

July 13, 2009

## How to Read and Use your Water Meter for Water Conservation

Knowing where your water meter is located and how to read it are important items for every homeowner. When you know how to read it you can find out how much water your household uses in a day. By reading your meter at the beginning and the end of the day, you can compare the two totals to figure out how much water your family used. It's also an important tool to use to check for leaks.

**Here are some tips for helping you find and read your water meter:**

### Step 1: Locate Your Meter

All customers within the City of Chanhassen have their water use measured by a meter. Your water meter is generally located near your water heater in the basement or utility room of your home.

### Step 2: Read Your Water Meter

Chanhassen's domestic water meters are based on an easy-to-use gallons formula with a decimal point (tenths of gallon) place on the far right side of the meter. Most importantly, on the meter is the red "leak detector dial." This can help identify water leaks within the home. Simply observe this dial for several seconds at a time when no water is being used in the home. If the red indicator spins, you most likely have a leaking toilet or faucet. Other sources of wasted water are malfunctioning water softeners, whole house humidifiers, and outside spigots.

**TIP: To check for leaks, write down the meter reading, turn off all the water-using fixtures in your home and do not use any water for one to two hours or overnight. Then check the water meter reading again. If it has changed, you have a leak.**



Water Meter

### Irrigation Users:

Adjust your system to run **100%** of your full cycle time.

Click [HERE](#) for a sample irrigation schedule

## How to Read and Use your Water Meter for Water Conservation, *continued*

All City of Chanhassen domestic meters measure water in units of gallons. Charges for the amount of water consumed are based on the number of gallons you use during a quarterly billing period.

### Water –

First 5,000 gallons - \$8.60 (minimum charge)

Each additional 1,000 gallons up to 25,000 gallons - \$1.81/1,000

Each additional 1,000 gallons from 25,001 - 50,000 gallons - \$2.26/1,000

Each additional 1,000 gallons over 50,001 gallons - \$2.62/1,000

### Sewer –

The quarterly sewer charge is based on a flow charge of \$3.27 per 1,000 gallons of water used. The flow charge is based on the winter quarter water usage.

## Sprinkling Restrictions:

Remember, from May 1 - September 30, use of the city water supply system for lawn and garden sprinkling, irrigation, car washing, or other non-potable uses is limited to an odd/even schedule corresponding to your property address. If your address ends in an even number, you may sprinkle on even days of the month. If your address ends in an odd number, you may sprinkle on odds days of the month.

## Resources:

Click [HERE](#) for tips on how to read your utility bill

## Learning Opportunities & Events

### Summer Exhibition “Waterosity: Go Green with a Splash” June 6-October 4 Minnesota Landscape Arboretum

This program explores the interdependence of people, plants, and water through several interactive displays and exhibits.

“*The Cutting Edge*” demonstrates the lawn grasses of the future, while providing information on water-wise living and landscaping as part of the “Waterosity” exhibit at the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum. Visit [www.arboretum.umn.edu](http://www.arboretum.umn.edu) for more information.



## Monthly Drawing!

### July Prize Rainbarrel

Drawing July 20

