READ YOUR OWN METER

Take charge of your own water management by learning how to read your meter. It is easy.

1. **Locate the meter** in the concrete box, which is generally in front of your house or business. If you need help locating your meter contact the City of Escondido’s Water Maintenance Division at 839-4668.

2. Lift the lid and you will see either a single dial meter (see Figure A) or a multiple dial meter (see Figure B).

3. **Record the reading**
   
   If you have a **single dial meter** (Figure A), there are numbers in boxes, similar to a car odometer. Read and record these numbers from left to right. The last number, “0,” is fixed and not in a box. To find this number read and record the number that the needle is on. If the needle is between 2 numbers, record the lower number. For example, you would read the meter in Figure A as: 1,251,113 gallons.

   Some dials have a small triangle. This is your leak detector (Figure A). This triangle will move at the slightest movement of water through the meter. If you have every faucet turned off and you feel there is no water running on your property and this triangle is still moving, you have a leak. Repair the leak as soon as possible to avoid high water usage and cost.

   If you have a **multiple dial meter** (Figure B), find the 1,000,000 dial and record the number that the needle is on. If the needle is between 2 numbers, record the lower number. Follow this same procedure going clockwise around the meter. You should end at the 10 gallon dial. For example, you would read the meter in Figure B as: 454,970 gallons.

4. Read and record the meter readings again one week later.

5. Subtract the first reading from the second reading. This gives you the number of gallons of water you used during that week.

6. Divide that number by 7 and you will have your average daily consumption.

For information on programs and events offered by the Utilities Administration, call the Water Conservation Hot Line 839-4658 and the Recycling Hot Line 839-4818.
How Much Water Do You Use?

**Interior**
- Choose a time when you perform your regular household duties such as laundry.
- Shut off all irrigation and/or do not hand water outside for the time you are tracking. Remember not to fill your pool.
- Record the date, time and water meter reading (Reading 1).
- 24 hours later record the date, time and water meter reading (Reading 2).
- Subtract Reading 1 from Reading 2. This gives you your interior water usage.

**Exterior** (Obtain your interior water usage before proceeding.)
- Make sure that the irrigation will run its entire cycle during the tracking period.
- Write down the date, time and reading of your water meter (Reading 3).
- After 24 hours, write down the date, time and reading of the meter (Reading 4).
- Subtract Reading 3 from Reading 4. This will give you your total water usage in the 24-hr. period.
- Subtract your interior water usage from the total water usage. This number is your exterior usage.

*Keep in mind that the results may not be exact but a good indicator of water use.*

Use the bottom half of this sheet as your worksheet

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Read 1</th>
<th>Read 2</th>
<th>Read 2: ( \text{minus} ) Read 1: ( \text{Total A:} )</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Date:</td>
<td>Date:</td>
<td>Read 2: ( \text{minus} ) Read 1: ( \text{Total A:} )</td>
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<tr>
<td>Time:</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Read 3</th>
<th>Read 4</th>
<th>Read 4: ( \text{minus} ) Read 3: ( \text{Total B:} )</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Date:</td>
<td>Date:</td>
<td>Read 4: ( \text{minus} ) Read 3: ( \text{Total B:} )</td>
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<td>Time:</td>
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