How to Measure Your Water Use

Your water meter measurements are in cubic feet

1 cubic foot = 7.48 gallons
100 cubic feet (HCF) = 748 gallons = 1 billing unit

To find the amount of water used by an irrigation zone, a specific appliance, or to check for leaks, record meter readings before and after a water usage event.

Example: Record the number on your meter. Run a zone of irrigation for 1 minute (with no other water being used) and record the new meter reading.

Reading after 1 mins: 0 1 8 7 5 8 8 8

Subtract original reading: 0 1 8 7 5 7 5 5

Water used = 0.0133 HCF, or 1.33 cubic feet (187.58.88 - 187.57.55 = 0.0133 HCF)

To convert to gallons, multiply 1.33 cubic feet x 7.48 gallons = 9.95 gallons used in 1 minute.

Video Demo: www.SantaBarbaraCA.gov/Meters

How to Shut Off Your Water

Most homes have a shut-off valve where the water line enters the house and/or at the water meter. In the case of a broken pipe or when repairing plumbing, shut off the valve by turning the valve perpendicular to the pipe. If you do not have a homeowner shut-off valve, or if it doesn’t easily turn, call (805) 564-5413.

Shut-off Valve

Most meters are located in a box in the ground near the street. Open the lid to read your meter inside.

Your Water Meter

Most meters are located in a box in the ground near the street. Open the lid to read your meter inside.