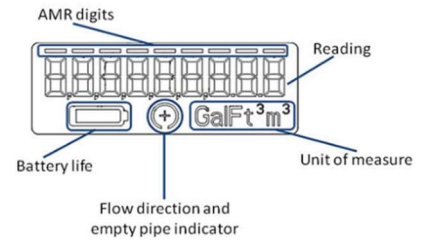




Getting to Know Your iPERL Water Meter

1. There are 9 digits on the Sensus iPERL meter at the top of the digital display. The first number to the left of the decimal is in cubic feet (Ft³). The last 3 digits right of the decimal read in 1/10, 1/100, and 1/1000 of cubic feet.
2. Billing unit is hundreds of cubic feet (ccf). 1 ccf = 748 gallons
3. To check for leaks, use the flow direction / empty pipe indicator. If there is a plus sign in the middle of this circle, water is passing through the meter.



To get your current usage read the meter and write down the reading. The next day or another subsequent time do the same and subtract the numbers to find your usage.

There are several reasons why you might want to locate and read your water meter. First, you might be interested to know how much water you use in a day. This is especially helpful in the summertime when watering lawns and flowerbeds can cause a spike in your water usage. The second reason is to check for leaks.

Water leaks can be costly and cause property damage. If you suspect you have a leak, try closing any valves you may have on your water service one at a time to see if you can pinpoint the area where the leak may be. After each valve is closed, check to see if the flow indicator plus sign (+) disappears or remains. If the (+) sign remains, then a fixture or pipe is still leaking water.



Whether you notice it yourself as evidenced by an unexpected jump in water usage on your utility bill or receive a notice from the City, it is always disconcerting to learn that you have what appears to be a water leak on your private plumbing. Often the leak is simply traced to a problem with a toilet, with the tank outlet flapper valve not closing or the tank level float not completely shutting off the water fill line. To test the flapper valve, remove the lid from the toilet tank and mark the water level, and shut off the water supply to the toilet. If the water level remains steady the flapper valve isn't leaking. If the water level drops, the flapper valve is leaking and should be replaced. To ensure the water in the tank does not exceed the level of the overflow tube, you may need to adjust the float that controls the water level. If the water is overflowing, lower the float setting. In some cases, replacing the shutoff float valve may be necessary. Additionally, leaks in the toilet tank often stem from worn parts or misalignment within the flushing mechanism.

Another common area for leaks to occur is in the buried water line between the meter and the house, especially if the service line is galvanized steel. This can sometimes be discovered in the summer by a patch of grass that is noticeably greener than the rest of the lawn. Often, repairs can be done by the owner; however, if you are unsure, you can hire a professional. It is prudent to get more than one quote to get the best price.

City code prohibits tampering with a meter. If you need your water service to be shut off for repairs, please call the City Shops at 360-825-5541. The Water Department encourages all customers to install their own shutoff valve on the house side of the meter.