

Checking for Leaks (Tattletale)

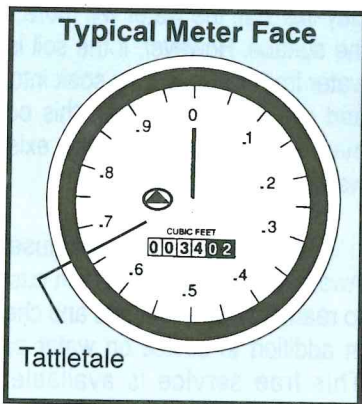
The following is a way to check for leaks within an individual's water system.

Some meters have a small triangle known as a "tattletale" which is located toward the left side of the meter face, just above the register. The sole purpose of this triangle is to spin at the slightest flow of water through the meter. To check for leaks, please follow this procedure:

1. **First** shut off all running water inside and outside of the home, including any evaporative coolers;
2. **Next** check the tattle tale on the meter. If the tattletale is spinning, there may be a leak;
3. **Repeat** Step 1 by checking to be sure all water is turned off inside and outside of the home (e.g. ice makers);
4. **Check** the tattletale again. If it is still spinning, there is most likely a leak. It is recommended that a plumber or leak detection company be notified.

Detecting a leak in its early stage could save a substantial amount of money. In harder, clay-like soil, the water will more likely rise to the surface. However, if the soil is sandy, the water from the leak may soak into the ground and not be visible. When this occurs, there may be no clue that a leak exists until the water bill is received.

The District offers a Household Water Awareness Program to teach customers how to read their water meters and check for leaks in addition to advice on water conservation. This free service is available by calling 760.365.8333 for an appointment.



Checking for Leaks (Sweepband)

The following is a method to check for leaks within an individual's water system.

On meters with no tattletale a sweepband, which is located on the meter face, can be used to check for leaks. Please follow this procedure:

1. **First** shut off all running water inside and outside of the home, including any evaporative coolers;
2. **Next** mark the location of the sweepband on the meter (e.g. with a twig or pebble). Wait 10 minutes (complete Step 3 while waiting);
3. **Repeat** Step 1 by checking to be sure all water is turned off inside and outside of the home (e.g. ice makers);
4. **Check** the sweepband. If it has moved, there is most likely a leak. It is recommended that a plumber or leak detection company be notified.

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