## How to Read Your Water Meter

Reading your own water meter can help you identify leaks and understand how much water you're using.
Step 1: Find your meter box. It's usually located in the front of the property, near the street. Look for a black plastic or cement box with a black plastic lid. Carefully open the lid by hand or use a large screwdriver. Slowly remove the lid entirely. The lid is attached to an antenna, which is attached by wires to the meter device. (The wiring is long enough to allow for complete removal of the lid. Watch out for wiring that may have become tangled.)
Step 2: Once you've removed the meter box lid, lift the protective cap on the meter. On the face of the meter there is a large display dial of numbers. (see right)

Step 3: Read the number display from left to right. They show the total number of gallons used since the meter's installation. To figure your usage, subtract the prior reading from this current reading.


For billing purposes, only the first five numbers are used (from left to right: all four white dials and the first black dial) and expressed as, "thousands of gallons."


## EXAMPLE:

Month \#1
This reading is $\mathbf{5 2 . 1}$ thousands of gallons
Month \#2
Let's subtract:

This reading is $\mathbf{5 8 . 3}$ thousands of gallons

58.3
-52.1
6.2 thousands of gallons

This is your usage for the month


Your meter could look like either one of these, but reading them is exactly the same

