


Resident High Water Consumption Investigation Checklist

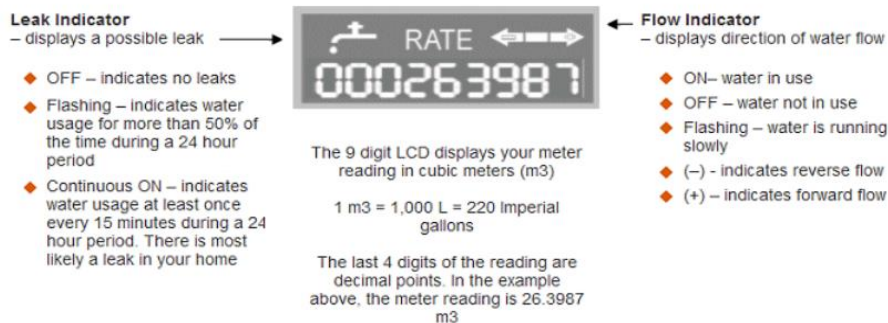
Check Your Residence for Water Leaks

- Complete an assessment of your property by:
 - Looking at areas where water is used, inside and outside your home. *For example*, your outdoor water taps. Look for any water stains/drips and listen for water running while conducting this initial check.
- Turn off any items within the property that uses water and ensure no water is running. This includes:
 - Turning off all taps, faucets and showers.
 - Dishwasher and washing machine.
 - Note: Do not turn off the main property water valve. The valve is typically located in the basement under the water meter itself.
- With all of the running water in the property turned off, check the face of your water meter to see if it is still registering consumption.

Example of a water meter



1. Shine a flashlight on the photoelectric eye (look for the flashlight symbol) to activate the screen. The screen eventually will begin to flash between "Reading" and "Rate".
2. There is a leak indicator faucet icon  built into this meter, that will either be on solid or flashing indicating that there has been a leak detected. The solid faucet indicates a continuous leak occurrence over the last 24 hrs. Check the last digit on your screen to see if it is incrementing. If so, check your interior and exterior faucets, the valves in your toilets, and look around the exterior of your home for signs of surface water. The flashing faucet indicates an intermittent leak occurrence over the past 24 hrs. Check your interior and exterior faucets and the valves in your toilets to see if leakage is occurring.
3. If there is no faucet icon, then there is no water leak presently in the home causing the high usage 'unexplained'



The City of Warman staff will read your meter for billing purposes, but should you wish to monitor your own consumption, here's how:

- Shine a flashlight over the flashlight icon (located on the register) to turn the LCD display on
- Take a reading at a set time of the day
- Take a 2nd reading at the same time the next day
- The difference between the two readings is your daily water consumption

Call Warman City Hall with questions about your invoice at 306-933-2133



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Tips for Checking Indoor Water Leaks Checklist

- **Toilets**
 - Toilets account for over 50 per cent of all water leaks. Did you know that a broken or faulty toilet can lose up to 22 litres of water per minute? This equates to \$\$\$ **on your monthly water bill.**
- To check for leaks – conduct a toilet test:
 - Remove the toilet tank lid
 - Put several drops of food colouring into the toilet tank (do not flush)
 - Wait 20 minutes and look in the bowl to see if the water has changed colour. If it has – there is a leak.
- There are usually two main issues with toilets: issue with the **flapper** or **high water level** in the toilet tank.
 - Flapper Issue:
 - Turn off the water supply to the toilet, then go and check the meter (make sure nothing else is running). If the flow indicator stops moving, then it's a toilet leak which is causing the high water use. Conduct a leaky toilet test and repair by replacing the flapper and conduct toilet test again to ensure fixed.
 - High water level issue:
 - Overfilling toilet tank – could be intermittent issue. Refer to the simple repair instructions.
- **Water softeners, reverse osmosis and water-cooled air conditioning systems:** Check for leaks and ensure proper maintenance as per manufacturer instructions.
- **Central humidifiers or whole house humidifier:** Check for leaks and ensure proper maintenance as per manufacturer instructions.
- **Hot water tank:** Cardboard can be placed underneath to determine leak.
- **Taps/faucets:** Be sure to look for leaks under sink too.
- **Dishwasher, fridge with water dispenser/ice maker:** Have you recently installed any new appliances?
- **Are there any additional people/guests living in your home?**

Tips for Checking For Outdoor Water Leaks

**** Remember that water consumption will be higher in the months from May to September ****

- High water use can be caused by over-irrigation or system leaks.
- A small hole or depression in the ground may indicate a water leak below the surface.
 - You could contact a certified plumber or irrigation company to check your underground sprinkler system if you wish.
 - Ask yourself: How often are you watering? What is the output per head per zone? How many zones in your yard? Are any sprinkler heads broken or leaking? Is there a break in the line under the ground? Check for wet spots on your lawn. This could be indicative of a break in the line or a broken or leaking irrigation head.

Check for the following outdoor water leaks:

- Broken sprinkler head(s) and riser(s).
 - A broken sprinkler head can lose up to 45 liters/minute. If it's leaking for a full month this will add \$\$\$ on your water bill.
- Signs of overspray onto sidewalks, driveways, walls or buildings; runoff into gutter/street.
- Outdoor property taps/connections.
- Pool/hot tub automatic refill float and valve.

Did You Know?

Water meters cannot run faster. Typically- as it ages, it slows down.

Water meters are mechanical devices – water needs to pass through the meter in order to record consumption.

There are no electric components inside a water meter

If after completing this checklist and you are unsure about a leak in your home, you should contact a certified plumber who will be able to complete an inspection.

