Reading Your Water Meter

Finding your water meter

Water meters can be located in the mechanical room of your residence. Normally this will be an unfinished room in the basement probably where the furnace is located. However, the pressure tank and water meter may also be found in the crawl space of the home when there is no basement. Check around the bottom floor of your house and look for a cylindrical tank connected to copper pipe. **(Figure 1)** This tank keeps your water system pressurized when the well pump isn't running. The water meter may be located on the copper pipe very close to the pressure tank. It might have a protective plastic or bronze cover over the dial that you will have to lift to see the meter face. The cover can be easily opened to expose the meter dial (**Figures 1a & 1b)**
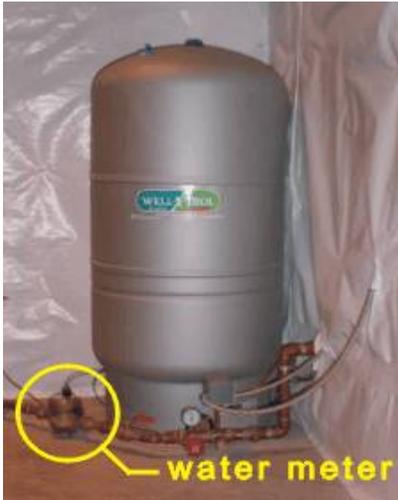
Figure 1

Figure 1a

Figure 1b

Reading your meter

Read only the digits. If there is also a sweep dial (red pointer) just ignore it. Be sure to *include all leading zeros and all trailing zeros* when you read the meter. See the examples below for different types of dials and how to report the information.
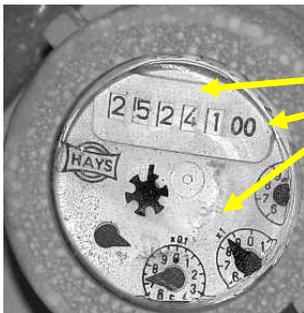

Figure 2

Figure 2. The correct reading for this meter is: 2524100

Only submit the digits displayed on the face of the meter.
Be sure to report the zero(s) painted to the right of the changing digits.
Do not read and report the numbers from the rotating pointers at the bottom part of the meter.

Figure 3. The correct reading for this meter is: 0201860

Submit only the digits displayed on the face of the meter. If there is a sweep dial (red pointer) just ignore it.
Include all leading and trailing zeros, including the digits painted on the face of the dial.
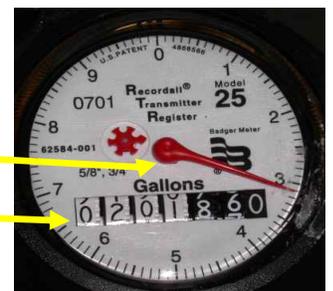

Figure 3

Figure 4. The correct reading for this meter is: 0021470

All leading and trailing zeros in the digital display are reported.
If any numbers are in the process of changing, as in this photo where the six is changing to a seven—report the higher number: seven in this example.
Do not report the number the sweep dial pointer is indicating.

Notice that no decimal point is inserted into the reading. Just report the digits.

Figure 4