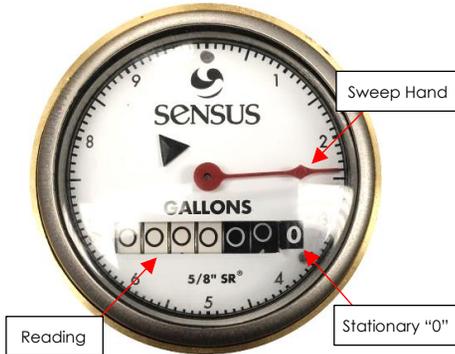


Reading Your Meter

All meters in our water system register water consumption in gallons. Water is billed based on the 1000s of gallons used by our customers. A typical residential meter register is shown below:



The movement of the sweep hand indicates consumption. A single rotation around the dial would indicate that 10 gallons of water were used. This meter head has a single stationary "0" meaning that consumption under 10-gallon increments is not recorded except by the sweep hand. After a complete revolution of the sweep hand, the right digit will advance one number. Since water is billed in 1000-gallon increments, only the left four digits show up on your water bill. Other meters may have more than one stationary "0" or more than six digits displayed, but the same basic principle applies.

As we continue to update our distribution system, newer digital models will be replacing these meters. Many digital **Sensus iPerl** meters are already in place. An example of this meter can be seen on the back panel of this brochure.

Do I Have a Leak?

Having higher than normal water consumption is a good indicator that you may have leaks. Review your water bill, which shows how much water you used during the previous month as well as a graph comparing your water use to other months.

Your water meter can be helpful in showing leaks. Check whether numbers in the register are moving when no water is being used. Some meters also have a leak indicator that turns or flashes when water is running.



Your Water Meter



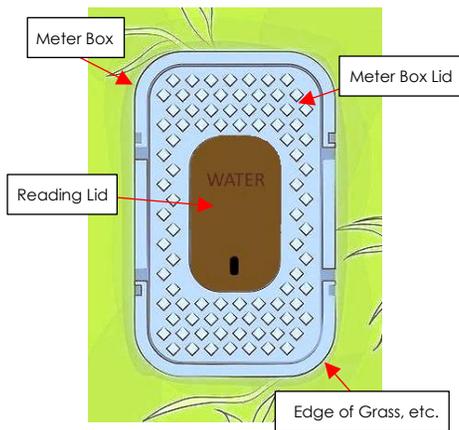
MEDFORD WATER COMMISSION

200 S. Ivy St, Rm 177
Medford, OR 97501

Access to the Water Meter

The Medford Water Commission must have adequate access to every water meter in order to properly maintain and read these meters. Meters are located in public rights-of-way or easements in order to maintain access. The following are the minimum clearances needed for this activity.

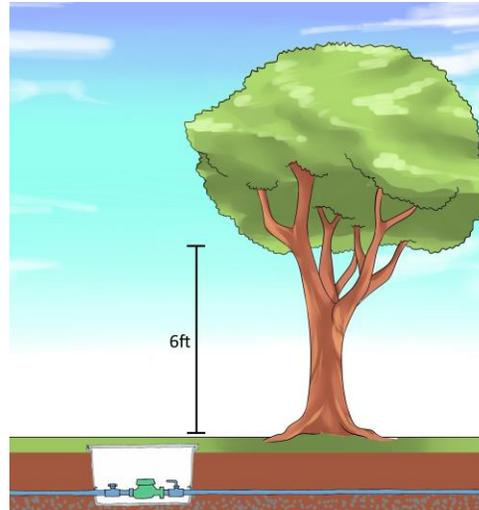
1. No landscaping, dirt, grass, etc. shall cover the meter box or lid.



2. Shrubs and bushes shall not be allowed to grow within one (1) foot of the meter box. Open access from the sidewalk and/or street shall be maintained.



3. Trees and shrubs shall be trimmed back to a level of six (6) feet directly over the meter box.



Tips for Landscaping Around the Meter Box

Many of the problems associated with access to your water meter can be avoided by proper planning of your landscaping. Listed below are some tips you should consider when you do this planning:

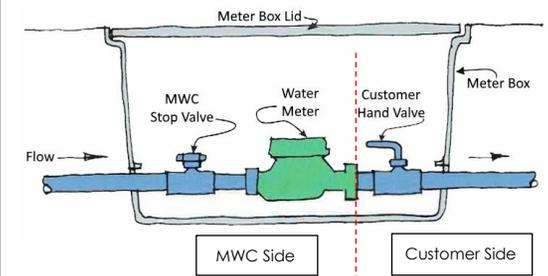
1. Determine the location of your water meter before you start your landscape plans.
2. Place ground cover (mulch, grass, etc.) level with the top of the box. This will prevent the meter box from being accidentally covered.
3. Plant trees and shrubs far enough away from the meter box to prevent them from having to be trimmed when they are mature.
4. Do not plant shrubs and trees between the meter box and the street or sidewalk.

Customer Valves

All newer meter settings consist of a water meter, a utility meter valve which is located between the water main and the meter, and a customer valve located on the customer side of the meter. If you have an older home or business, there is a possibility that a second valve does not exist. If you do not have a second valve, the commission encourages you to have one installed. It is very important for you to be able to control the flow of water in case of an emergency, such as a leak in a wall or under a sink.

As stated above, these valves are located in a concrete meter box. If you do not know where the box is that controls the flow of water to your home or business, you are encouraged to locate it. If you need help, call 774-2430.

A typical meter installation is shown below:



Location of Your Water Meter

Your water meter is normally located in front of your home at one of the property corners and is typically located behind the sidewalk. Occasionally other locations are chosen due to location of the water mains or conflicts with other utilities. It is important to know the location of your meter so that you may shut off your own water in case of an emergency. Our office can help you find the location of your water meter.