

READING YOUR WATER METER

The water meter inside your home is most likely to be in your basement, the crawlspace, or utility closet (if your house is on a slab.) Reading your water meter is similar to reading the odometer on your car. Read all the numbers from left to right. The reading on your water meter today is the total volume of water that has gone through the meter since it was installed. Your usage for each billing cycle is derived by subtracting the previous reading from the current reading.

The following is an example of what your meter face might look like. The Village of Bensenville currently bills per 1 gallon and that is how your meter is read. The last two dials represent tenths and hundredths of a single gallon and those units are not used during billing. Below meter has .41 in the last two spaces; this translates into .41 or 41% of a gallon, which is less than 1/2 gallon. This amount will not be billed for until it rolls over to the next gallon.

When we read your meter, we read the first seven numbers on the meter, reading from left to right. The example shown below reads at 0016429.41. This means that 16,429.41 gallons of water has gone through the meter and 16,429 gallons were billed for. If the next reading taken were to be 0019429.41 for example; then we would know that 3,000.00 gallons of water went through the meter and 3,000 will be billed for.



A good way to check for good flow (volume) in your home is the bucket test. Take a five-gallon bucket and put it in your laundry tub. You want a faucet with no screens or aerators. Open the faucet all the way, filling the bucket. When the bucket is full, turn off the faucet (this should take about 30 seconds). Check the meter and take down the read, then pour the water down the sink. The read should increase by 5 gallons. If the test was to be done on the above meter, the read should now be 0016434.41.