

Intermittent & Continuous Flow Messages on Statements

Water meters record water flow information, in 15 minutes intervals for 35 days. There are 96 15-minute intervals in a 24-hour period. A Flow Detected message indicates the number of days in the last 35 days when either an intermittent or continuous flow was detected.

An Intermittent Flow indicates water flow during at least ½ of the 15-minute intervals in the 24-hour period prior to meters being read.

A Continuous Flow message indicates flow was detected during all 15-minute intervals in the 24-hour period prior to meters being read.

Possible Causes of Leak	Intermittent Leak	Continuous Leak
Outside faucet, garden, or sprinkler system leaking	✓	✓
Toilet valve not sealed properly	✓	✓
Toilet running		✓
Faucet in kitchen or bathroom leaking	✓	✓
Icemaker Leaking		✓
Soaker hose in use		✓
Leak between the water meter and the house		✓
Washing machine leaking	✓	✓
Dishwasher leaking	✓	✓
Hot water heater leaking		✓
Watering yard for more than eight hours	✓	✓
Continuous pet feeder	✓	✓
Water-cooled air conditioner, heat pump, or humidifier on furnace.	✓	✓
Filling a swimming pool		✓
Any continuous use of water for 24 hours or more		✓



Helpful Hints to Detect a Water Leak

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Figures to Determine Water Use

Estimates vary, but on average, each person uses about 80-100 gallons of water per day, for indoor home use. The largest use is to flush toilets, and after that, to take showers and baths.

A survey conducted by the Water Research Foundation reported the following breakdown of average daily household water usage: Toilet – 24%, Shower – 20%, Faucet - 19%, Washing Machine – 17%, Water Leakage – 12%, Other – 8%.

To determine if your water usage seems high, use the chart below to figure the approximate average daily usage for your family and/or farming operation.

<u>Household</u>	<u>Gallons Per Person</u>
Toilet	18.5 Gallons/Day
Washing Machine	15 Gallons/Day
Shower	11.6 Gallons/Day
Faucet	10.9 Gallons/ Day
Dishwasher	1 Gallons/ Day

<u>Lawn & Garden</u>	
Per 1,000 Square Feet	600 Gallons/Day (Approx. 1 Inch)

<u>Farm and Agricultural</u>	
Sheep or Goat	2 Gallons/Head
Horses or Mules	12 Gallons/Head
Dairy Cows	20 Gallons/Head
Dry Cows	15 Gallons/Head
Beef	20 Gallons/Head
Swine	4 Gallons/Head
Laying Hens	9 Gallons/100 Birds
Ducks	22 Gallons/100 Birds
Sanitation Flushing & Cleaning	500 Gallons/Day

We can help you try to troubleshoot a leak, call 402-254-6758 to schedule a time.

Common Causes of High Water Usage

An unusually higher water bill is often due to a leak or change in water usage. Some of the common causes of higher water usage include, but are not limited to, the following:

- A leaking toilet or a toilet that continuously runs after being flushed; a continuously running toilet can waste up to 200 gallons a day.
- A dripping faucet; a faucet drip can waste 20 gallons of water per day or more.
- Filling or topping off a swimming pool.
- Watering the lawn, new grass, trees, or plants.
- Open hose bib.
- Kids home for summer vacation or school holidays, or guests.
- Water-cooled air conditioners.
- A broken water pipe or large leak inside or outside of the home.
- Water heater leak.
- Water softener problems, cycles continuously.

Water meters not only record how much water is going through the meter they are helpful in identifying leaks. A meter can be used to identify if a leak exist by turning off every plumbing fixture in your house, do not forget to turn off things that turn on automatically such as a built-in ice maker, water softener, and the reverse-osmosis water filtration system. Once everything has been shut off, use a strong flashlight to shine down the meter pit to check the flow rate, the water meter is located inside the meter pit besides the MIU post (See Figure 1). Do not pull the meter from the pit. The meter (See Figure 2) has a LCD display which alternately flashes between the meter reading and the flow rate. If there is no water going through the meter the rate of flow will read "0.00". The meter will show a flow rate if there is any water going through the meter, even a slow trickle. The meter may read a number for example 1.38 or .08, this indicates the gallons per minute water is going through the meter.

The most common source of leaks is toilets. Check the toilets in your home by putting a bit of food coloring in each toilet tank. Without flushing, watch for a few minutes to see if the color shows up in the bowl. Leaky toilets can usually be repaired inexpensively by replacing the flapper in the tank.

Little leaks add up in a hurry. Check every faucet in your home for leaks. Replacing the rubber washer or O-ring inside the valve can repair dripping faucets.

It is possible to have a leak between the water meter and the main shut off valve where water enters your home. To determine if the pipe between these two points is leaking, shut off the main water supply valve at the house and check to see if the meter continues to show water is being used.

On the farm, water lines may supply multiple buildings or water tanks. To determine if there is a leak in these lines, use the valves in your system to isolate different lines, checking the meter for usage when everything is shut off on these lines.

Call 811 Before You Dig!! It is the law!!

MIU, Meter, and Pit Locations

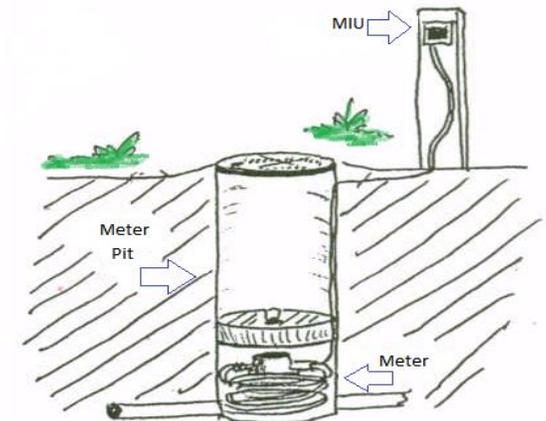


Figure 1

Meter Read Out and Components



Figure 2

The Solar Cell, located at the top of the E-Coder, supplies the power for the register. The solar cell is activated by light (Sunlight or strong flashlight works best)