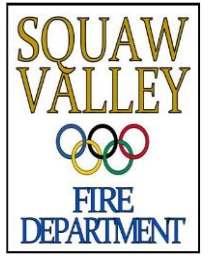




SQUAW VALLEY PUBLIC SERVICE DISTRICT



The District converted all residential water meters from a manual reading process to an automated method. The reading is performed via a radio signal to a hand held receiver. This technology provides rapid, accurate meter reading on a year-round basis.

Radio reading allows for early leak detection and water conservation. Absentee owners may be alerted to possible leaks requiring repair and may avoid costly water bills.

HOW TO READ YOUR METER. Locate your meter box. Underneath the insulation and beneath the meter face, you will see a glass dial similar to a clock face. There will be an odometer style dial and a clock hand. Write down the positions of both. There will also be a small red triangle or a red asterisk on the dial face. If the triangle or asterisk is moving when you are not using water, this is your first indication that you may have a leak.

After reading the meter, leave your water off for at least half an hour. Take a second reading. If you used no water, the two readings should be the same. If the reading has changed or the sweep hand or triangle has moved, water is running somewhere on the property.

HIGH WATER CONSUMPTION? If your water consumption fee seems high, you may have a leak or use more water in the summer months for outside irrigation. A dripping faucet or other unsuspected leak may also be the cause. A 1/32" leak can waste as much as 170 gallons in 24 hours and add over \$85.00 to your annual bill. If you suspect you have a leak, here are some ways to check your system:

- **Listen and look for running water.**
- **Check toilets for leaks:**
 - ✓ Put a few drops of food coloring into the tank. If color shows up in the bowl within ten minutes, the valve or support assembly may need to be replaced.
 - ✓ See if the ball valve drops squarely into the drain opening. If not, clean it out or replace the ball valve if it is worn.
 - ✓ Check the flush handle to see if it is stuck in the flush position.
 - ✓ Carefully bend the float arm to lower the water level to at least one-half inch below the top of the overflow tube.
 - ✓ Replace the overflow tube if it has holes below the water line.
- **Check for dripping faucets**
 - ✓ Replace worn gaskets and washers.
 - ✓ Replace washerless faucets.
 - ✓ Tighten water line connections and valves.
- **Water Heater**
 - ✓ Replace pressure and temperature valve, if leaking. ✓ Tighten the drain valve.
- **Water Service Connection**
 - ✓ Look for drips or wet areas in the crawl space.
 - ✓ Place a screwdriver on the service line and listen. No noise means water is not running or is too far away to detect. Make sure you check in several locations. This is not always accurate.
- **Sprinkler System**
 - ✓ Disconnect hoses from outside faucets to protect against freeze damage.
 - ✓ Winterize your sprinkler system according to the system's instructions.
 - ✓ Check for any damage to sprinkler heads.
 - ✓ Check automatic timer systems. (This is one of the biggest culprits of high use and damage in the winter.)
 - ✓ Make sure that all drain plugs are closed.
- **Elusive Leak?** If you suspect you might have a leak and have made every effort to find it, you may contact our office (530) 583-4692 during normal business hours Mon-Fri 8:00 to 5:00. Contact the District for a list of professional leak detection companies. The District cannot make any repairs to your property. However, if the leak is causing damage, you should contact a plumber immediately. The District can shut off water in an emergency. Any repairs beyond the meter are the owner's responsibility.

HOW TO REDUCE YOUR BILL

Practicing water conservation and ensuring your system has no leaks will reduce your bill. The District no longer has a leak rate available. It was determined that by offering a leak rate, the District may be sending a conflicting message which does not promote conservation.

More information will be forthcoming on conservation issues on our web site. Please watch for it.