How To Read Your Water Meter

Knowing how to read your water meter can be extremely helpful in everyday conservation measures, or to find a water leak at your home or business.

✓ The first step will be to locate your water meter.

For Residential Customers this is typically in the front of the property near the street. The meter is housed in a rectangular box. Carefully lift or remove the lid to expose the water meter enclosed in the box.

For Commercial Customers this is also typically in the front of the property near the street. However, it could be located in the back or side of the property underground.

Currently, Lee County Utilities is in the process of replacing all of the analog, or non-automated, meters with automated meters that can be read remotely, and in some cases, turned off or on remotely.

Analog or Automated?
After you have identified where your water meter is, you will want to make sure it is yours and not your neighbors. Each meter has its own serial number. Whether Analog or Automated, the serial number can be found on the meter and on your billing statement. The serial number can be found on the cap covering the meter or, on the stem of the meter.

Serial Number on meter cap.

Serial Number on meter stem.

Serial Number on billing statement.
Determining Water Use

Select a date to read your water meter.

Write the numbers you see on the register.
Example: *0064.

After a period of time has passed, read your meter again. Example: *0065

Subtract the first reading from the second reading. This is your water use for that period.

0065-0064 = 1000 gallons

*LCU reads meters and bills accounts in 1,000 gallon increments.

Reading an Analog Meter

Flow Indicator- Used when measuring flow through the meter. One revolution of the needle is 10 gallons.

Leak Indicator- Only moves when water is flowing through the meter. If all water is off and this is moving, it could indicate a leak.

Meter Register- Every turn of a number in the first black register measures 10 gallons, the second is 100 gallons. Every turn of a number in the white measures 1000 gallons.

Reading an Automated (AMI) Meter

Automated or AMI meters have a flow indicator as with an analog meter. There is no actual dial, it reads as FLOW if there is water flowing through the meter, or NO FLOW if there is no water flowing through the meter.

0027126.2

If the reading on this meter today is 0027126.2, and the next day it is read again and reads 0028126.2, it would mean 1000 gallons of water had gone through the meter.