# Is your home or business is leak free?

## Follow these easy steps to check if you might have a leak:

## **Locate your water meter** ▶

- Your water meter is usually located near the edge of the road in a concrete or plastic box with a lid.
- Open the lid to view the meter. It is not unusual for this box to be full of dirt or water.



#### **How to Read Your Water Meter**

Most meter registers look like the one pictured to the right.

- Sweep Hand: The sweep hand will rotate when water passes through the meter. One complete turn of the hand equals 1 cubic foot of water or 7.48 gallons.
- Leak Indicator: The leak indicator will rotate with very little water flow. Any water moving through the meter is detected, so even small leaks will register.
- Odometer: The odometer records total water use in a similar way as the
  odometer in your car records miles driven. The water meter odometer records
  water use in cubic feet and displays as follows: The digits from right to left
  represent 1 cubic foot, 10 cubic feet, 100 cubic feet and so on. Like a car
  odometer, the water meter odometer cannot be altered.



### Check for leaks ▶

- Turn off all water-using appliances and fixtures inside and outside your home or business. Use no water during the test period.
- Locate the water meter at the front of your property (usually in a concrete box).
- Check and record the current meter reading.
- Wait 30 minutes without using any water inside or outside.
- Check the meter again and compare readings. If the numbers have changed, there may be a leak that needs your attention. Also, watch the leak detection indicator for a minute. If the indicator moves, even at a slow rate, you may have a leak.
- Visit our website at www.awwd.com for more information; select How-to Tips from the menu.



## Monitor your water use ▶

Read the odometer and record the current water meter reading and the date you read it. After a period of time (we suggest 7 days) read the odometer again and record the new meter reading and date.

- Subtract the first reading from the second reading. This is your water use in cubic feet during the period.
- Multiply the water use by 7.48. This is your water use in gallons during the period.
- Divide the water use in gallons by the number of days between readings. This is your average gallons per day during the period.
- Estimates vary, but each person uses about 80-100 gallons of water per day.

