

WATER CONSERVATION



WATER COSTS MONEY-DON'T WASTE IT

Per EPA— An average household leak accounts for nearly 10,000 gallons of water. 10% of the homes have leaks that waste 90 gallons or more per day. For more information and water conservation products visit:


<https://www.epa.gov/watersense>



IF A CONTINUOUS LEAK IS REPAIRED—If a continuous leak is found and repaired, complete the following steps with your new meter:

1. Use no water for at least 15 minutes.
2. Check the  leak icon. Make sure the leak indicator changes from continuous “ON” to flashing  then the continuous leak is no longer indicated.

IF AN INTERMITTENT LEAK IS REPAIRED—If an intermittent leak is found and repaired, complete the following steps with your new meter:

1. Check the  leak icon after at least 24 hours.
2. If the leak has been correctly repaired, the leak icon changes from flashing to “OFF”.

HOW CAN I TEST MY WATER METER— If you’d like to test your water meter: Ensure there is no water usage in your home for a short time period like faucets, showers, toilets, washing machines / refrigerator ice machines, humidifiers etc. Run water on one faucet until the last three digits on your meter are all zeros. Now, fill a one-gallon container with water. The last three digits in your meter should read .133 or .134 cubic feet (equal to one gallon).

WHAT’S A READCODE ON MY WATER BILL— A Read code identifies the type of meter reading on your bill.

If the reading code is “A” next to the current meter reading on your water & sewer bill, this would indicate that the reading was actual. If its an “E”, this would indicate that the reading was estimated. Common reasons for having an estimated bill are that the meter was inaccessible, or was disconnected from the wiring, or that the signal is not functioning correctly. An “R” means the reading is associated with a meter that has been replaced. An "F" indicates that its a final bill for the current property owner. If your bill shows an E , you should contact the Water Billing Office at (781) 918-4259 to resolve the issue.

For more details about your water bill - Visit the Water / Sewer Division website at www.bedfordma.gov/dpw

Winter is here! Please shovel out your nearest hydrant.



Postal
Permit

Resident
Bedford, MA - 01730

Town of Bedford
Dept. of Public Works
314 Great Road
Bedford, MA 01730

Information regarding your new Neptune water meter.

Subscribe to E-Alerts to be notified about Town of Bedford Services. Go to <https://www.bedfordma.gov/> subscribe

HOW TO READ YOUR WATER METER

The Town of Bedford reads your meter for billing purposes, but should you wish to monitor your own consumption or check for possible leaks, below are the steps. Please note that the reading information collected by the town is a snap-shot at the time of the meter reading for billing purposes.

1. Flip open the cover.
2. Shine a flashlight over the panel continuously to activate the LCD display. The display panel will alternate between the meter reading and the rate of flow. The meter reading will display in nine digits. Record the meter reading.
3. Take a reading at the same time the next day.
4. The difference between the two readings is your consumption for those 24 hours.



Note: when the register LCD display is first activated via a flashlight, all icons will be briefly displayed followed by firmware information.

HOW TO READ—It is important to become familiar with the information available from the meter. To identify this information the following icons and displays are helpful.

	Flow/Leak indicator
ON	Water in use
OFF	Water not in use
Flashing	Water is running slowly / low flow indication
	Leak indicator displays a possible leak
OFF	No leak indicated
Flashing	Intermittent leak indicated. Water was used at least once every hour during 12 of the previous 24 hour period
ON	Continuous leak indicated. Water was used every hour within the previous 24 hour period
	Nine-digit LCD displays the meter reading in billing units of measure. The number is shown in odometer style, reading left to right

DETECT LEAKS IN YOUR PLUMBING

COMMON CAUSES OF LEAKS—If the leak indicator is flashing or continuously ON, the meter is indicating that a leak exists. Leaks can result from various circumstances. To help you identify a possible leak, the following table contains some common causes.

Possible cause of Leak	Intermittent Leak	Continuous leak
Outside faucet, garden hose or irrigation system, water-cooled air conditioner or heat pump, Dish-washer leak, Washing machine leak, Faucets or a toilet valve not sealed properly.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Running toilet, icemaker leak, soaker hose in use, leak between the water meter and the internal plumbing, water heater leak, continuous pet feeder, filling of a swimming pool.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

HOW TO TELL IF WATER IS IN USE—To determine if water is in use, complete the following steps:

1. Check the flow indicator by closely watching it for 2 minutes.
2. Determine the following conditions:
 - If the arrow is flashing, then water is running very slowly.
 - If the arrow is continuously ON, water is running.

HOW TO IDENTIFY THE MOST COMMON LEAKS

Check all possible causes of leaks listed above. The most common sources are toilets and toilet valves, faucets, sprinklers or yard watering.

Conduct a “dye test” for your toilets— Drop food coloring or a dye tablet in the toilet tank and let it sit overnight, without running the toilet. Check the toilet bowl the following morning you should not see any dye in the bowl. If you do—there is a leaky valve.

Leaks for faucets are typically at the base due to failing washers / O-rings or under the sink where water supply connections may be loose.

Areas in the yard that are constantly wet and soggy underfoot may indicate a problem with the irrigation system or site drainage. First rule out any surface or ground water drainage issues.

