

## Information sheet

# HOW TO READ YOUR WATER METER

Regularly recording your water meter reading is a great way to monitor your water consumption and can help you to discover leaks.

#### Where is my water meter?

It is important to know where your water meter is located so that:

- You can easily take readings
- You can quickly turn off water if an emergency like a burst pipe occurs on your property.

**House:** Your water meter is usually towards the street at the front of the property protected by a cover. You may need to remove the cover before you can take a reading.

**Flat:** In large buildings the water meter can be found in the utilities cupboard on each floor, or at the front of the property in smaller buildings.

Contact your water provider if you need assistance locating your water meter.

#### **Checking for leaks**

Reading your water meter is a great way to check for leaks within the pipe work on your property. Simply follow these steps:

- Take a reading after the last person has gone to the toilet or brushed their teeth at night.
- Take a second reading before anyone uses any water in the morning.

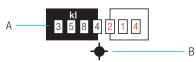
If no one has used any water overnight and the reading has changed, then you know there is a leak. Contact a plumber to locate and repair the leak.



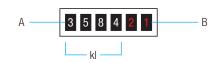
- A Black numbers on a white background register kilolitres.
- **B** White numbers on red background register hundreds of litres, tens of litres, litres and if there is a fourth red dial tenths of litres.



- A Black numbers on white background (4 digits) register kilolitres.
- **B** Four 'clock' dials at bottom of meter, register starting from right, hundreds of litres, tens of litres, litres and tenths of litres.
- C 'Tell tale' detects small usage and leaks.



- A Black numbers on white background register kilolitres. Red numbers on white background register hundreds of litres, tens of litres and litres.
- **B** 'Tell tale' detects small usage and leaks (twenty revolutions per litre).



- A White numbers on black background register kilolitres.
- **B** Red numbers on black background register hundreds of litres and tens of litres.





#### Monitor your water usage

Your water meter provides a quick & easy means of monitoring your household water consumption, just follow these easy steps:

- **STEP 1** Take an initial meter reading, also noting down the date & time.
- **STEP 2** Take a second reading on the eighth day close to the time that the original reading was taken.
- **STEP 3** Calculate the weekly consumption by deducting the original reading from the second reading.
- **STEP 4** Divide by the number of days between readings (7 in this case) to calculate the daily household usage.



Simply divide the last figure by the number of people in the household to get the litres per person per day figure. Some regions have implemented a daily water usage target ranging from 140 and 155 litres/person/day.

For handy tips on reducing your water consumption, visit **www.savewater.com.au**. You might be interested to know that your two likely biggest water users are showerheads (approximately 18 litres per minute) and washing machine (up to 140 litres for a top loader wash).

Essentially we only need to use 5-10 litres of water per day for drinking and cooking. Where do you use the rest?

Use the table below to help you keep record.

Date meter reading taken	Meter reading (kl)	Days between readings	Water consumption (kl)	Avg daily consumption (kl)

Disclaimer: While savewater!<sup>®</sup> has attempted to ensure that all the above information is accurate, it cannot accept responsibility for any loss you may suffer by relying on it. © savewater!<sup>®</sup> Alliance, 2010

### **Further information**

For further information visit www.savewater.com.au or contact your water provider.