## Where did all that water go?

As the temperature climbs, we hear the question, "How could I have used all that water?"

Warmer weather brings increased landscape irrigation. Many residents don't realize the amount of water used in maintaining a nice yard. An easy way to monitor the amount you use in your landscape is to create a water log/journal.

Start first thing in the morning, any day you like. When you get up, go out to the water meter and write down the read. During the day keep track of exactly what water was used. This will include sinks, toilet flushes, loads of laundry, showers, times the dishwasher ran and running the swamp cooler. (Remember hand washing the dishes uses more water than running the dishwasher!) The first day, don't water outside.

At the end of the day, record the read again. Check the read in the morning to ensure no unexpected water use occurred after you last read the meter. There have been occasions where the electric timers were running an extra cycle in the night and unless you see it run, you'd never know.

The next day, try and replicate the same water use but DO water in your normal manner outside. This shows you in two days how much water your exterior usage is.

Throughout the week, you can make small changes to your regular patterns and you see the difference right away!

This will also bring any unexpected water use to your attention immediately, giving you the opportunity to investigate promptly.

\*One unit of water is 748 gallons.

## Do you have a LEAK?

Here is an easy way to find out.

- -Locate your water meter. It's near the street in front of your house.
- -Open the sight lid on the concrete. (You may find it filled with dirt from gophers or wind.) Your water meter gauge will be located in the plastic lid.
- -Ensure that no one in is using any water inside or outside of your home.

-In the center of the gauge, there is a dial that has small silver triangles on it. (The black arrow points to it.) If everything is off, that dial should not be moving.



-If you are sure no water is being used

inside or out, you have a leak. Most of the time a plumber can help you find it.





## **Water Log**

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Date	Read	Consumption in units	Activities that used water: i.e. loads of laundry, ran dishwasher, 7 sprinkler stations ran one time for 5 minutes each, etc