

Why is my water usage increasing?

Common reasons for increased water usage include:

- Summer – Irrigation use
- Dripping or leaky faucets
- Running toilets
- Malfunctioning water softener

Open the black cap on top of the meter.

1. Shine a flashlight on the solar panel
2. The screen below the solar panel will then display the current water meter reading in gallons.
3. It will also flash other indicators such as “leak” or “rate of flow.” If you see a light in the shape of a faucet, this indicates an intermittent flow (flashing faucet) or continuous flow (faucet light stays on). The rate of flow should be 0.00 if there is no water flowing through the meter.

We recommend that you follow the steps below to help determine the cause:

1. Use the below checklist to identify potential leaks.
2. If you are unable to identify the leak, you may choose to contact a plumber. Any cost incurred is the responsibility of the homeowner.
3. If a leak is located and repaired, provide a copy of the repair receipt to the utility billing department at utilbilling@EdinaMN.gov to be eligible for possible charge adjustments.

CHECKLIST

Toilets

- Check flappers to ensure no leaking and listen inside the tank for any noise.
- Check floats to make sure water shuts off before it reaches the top of the overflow tube.

Water Softeners

- Check drain tube to see if water is continuously leaking into floor drain or wash tub.
- Listen to the motor (you may hear the sound of running water). If it is leaking, there will be water running to the drain.
- Check salt usage. If tank is empty or you’re constantly refilling the tank, it could be a sign of an issue, BUT there are different types of water softeners (please refer to owner’s manual).

Irrigation (Warm Months)

- Check zone settings on control box.
- Run each zone and walk the yard to each head to locate any wet spots or water coming up. This will usually highlight any leaks in the system.
- Check home side valve box in the yard for a continuous leak.

Outside spigots

- Spigots should be turned off inside the house during winter months to avoid pipes freezing. Once the spigot is turned off, open the outside spigot to make sure the valve is holding. If not holding properly, it could continuously leak.
- If properly winterized, spigots should be dry with no ice accumulation.

Humidifiers

- It is recommended that you change your pad or filter every fall (check owner's manual for frequency).
- Generally, a humidifier uses 12 gallons of water per day. This can add up to 12 gallons an hour if not running properly.