

Is your water bill higher than normal? Helpful Steps for Finding a Water Leak

If your water bill is higher than normal, or if you have received a courtesy notice warning of high water use, the following steps may be helpful in determining the high water usage issue on the property.

1. Turn off all running water inside and outside your home.
2. Locate your water meter, which is usually found in the sidewalk in front of your property.
 - Compare the current read on the meter to your most recent bill to ensure the read numbers are in progressive order.
 - You should see a triangle or circle at the top of the meter. If the triangle is spinning or the circle has a flashing plus (+) sign, water is currently flowing somewhere on the property.

A water leak that goes undetected can cause extensive damage, and result in high water bills and substantial repair costs. A very small leak the size of a pencil point can allow up to 6,000 gallons of water per month to be lost. You are responsible for finding and repairing leaks on your property.

3. Find your water leak through a process of elimination.
 - Check your sprinkler system for a leak. Shut off the valves for your backflow prevention device that serves your irrigation system, which is usually found in your front yard. Now check your water meter. If the flow indicator has stopped moving, your irrigation system could be the cause of your leak. If the flow indicator is still moving, you may have a leak inside your
 - Check your main service line for a leak. The main service line all the water you use inside your home. Find your shutoff valve, which is usually found in your front yard, in your garage or near your water softener. Shut off the valve, go inside your house and turn on a faucet to make sure the water is off. Now check your water meter. If the flow indicator is moving, the leak is between the shutoff valve and the water meter.
 - Check your toilets for a leak. Turn off one toilet at the valve located directly behind the toilet, then check the flow indicator on the water meter. If the flow indicator has stopped moving, that toilet has a leak. If you still see the flow indicator moving, that toilet is not the cause of the leak. Check each toilet in your home one-by-one.

For more information contact our customer service at Aztec Utilities – 505-334-7670.



Shutoff Valves

Watch this YouTube Video – Finding a Leak In and Around Your Home – Ctrl + click on link below.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?list=PL30648085AE8AB1F9&v=F2r_v48PWZA