

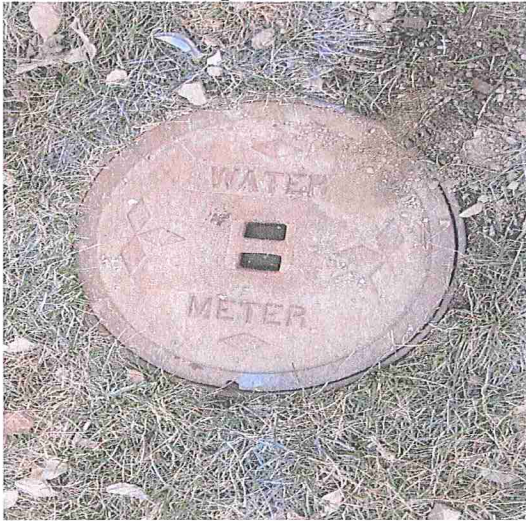
HAYDEN LAKE IRRIGATION DISTRICT

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Steps to help determine the location of your water leak:

1. Locate the water meter – this is typically in the front yard, near the street or sidewalk, if the home is older, then the meter could be elsewhere. The meters are underground in a meter box.

Example A



Round Meter Box Lid

Example B



Rectangle Meter Box Lid

2. Carefully remove the meter box lid and set it aside (see example A above) or lift the center flap within the meter box lid (see example B above).

a) Please note the following when removing the meter box lid:

- do not damage the meter
- do not damage the meter box or lid
- do not turn on/off the meter
- keep insulation intact
- watch for spiders and mice

All damage will be repaired at the home owners' expense.

2. Flip the meter lens cap to expose the meter face. (see picture A) The meter face will look similar to the picture below (see picture B).

Picture A



Meter with lid closed

Picture B



Meter with lid open

3. Locate the flow indicator on the face of the meter; it is the silver triangles inside the red circle. See picture B above as marked. If there is no water being used in the home or outside and the flow indicator is moving or spinning, this is an indication there may be a leak.
4. To determine if the leak is inside or outside the home, turn OFF the main shut off valve also known as an isolation valve. This valve is usually found where the water line enters the home, in the garage or in the crawl space. Some newer homes are putting them in the coat closet inside the home.
5. After turning off main shut off valve (water to the home), go back to the meter and see if the flow indicator has stopped spinning. If it has stopped, then the leak is inside the home. If the flow indicator continues spinning, then the leak is outside the home in the service line, sprinkler system or any outside spigot or frost free hydrant.
6. If you determine the leak is outside the home, below are a few tips to try and locate the leak:
 - a) Turn off the sprinkler timer
 - b) There is normally a connection from the water service line to the sprinkler system valves, this connection (underground) can also be leaking.
 - c) Water can be lost at the sprinkler system valves, which have an adjusting screw in each zone, if too loose water can be lost at the adjustment screw. You should be able to see this visually leaking at the screw.
 - d) Verify the sprinkler system stop and waste valve (sprinkler shut off valve) is closed/open all the way. If it is closed and the leak indicator stops spinning, then it is down stream of your sprinkler valve. If it is still spinning, then the leak is upstream of the valve.
 - e) Walk your property to find any extra wet spots or green vegetation
 - f) Visually look for puddles of standing water
 - g) Listen for water usage (small leaks will not be heard)

7. If you find the leak inside the home, below are a few tips to try and locate the leak:

- a) Turn ON the main shut off valve also known as an isolation valve. Turn off the water to all toilets. Check the meter, if the meter has stopped spinning, then the leak is from one or more of your toilets. To determine which toilet is leaking, turn on one toilet at a time and look at the meter to see if the flow indicator is spinning.
- b) If the toilets are not the issue, repeat this process with each faucet, your dishwasher, refrigerator (if you have a water dispenser or ice maker), washing machine connections and hot water tank connections.
- c) Check all faucets and hose bibs for drips.
- d) Crawl space – visually look around for leaks and wet spots.

- ❖ A leaky toilet can waste over 200 gallons of water per day
- ❖ A leaky faucet can waste more than 20 gallons of water per day

The chart below shows how much water a “slow drip” can waste, assuming there is standard 60 PSI (pounds per square inch) pressure in your pipe.

