

THINK YOU HAVE A LEAK?

If you think you have a leak, there is a simple test you can perform...

1. Turn off all faucets and water-using appliances.
2. Locate your water meter and lift the cover to view the meter dials.
3. Note the position of the red sweep-hand or take a clear picture with a camera or on your phone.
4. Wait 20-30 minutes, don't use any water, and check the sweep-hand.
5. If the sweep-hand has moved, you may have a leak somewhere in your system.

Call Public Works at (503) 625-5722 if you need help finding your water meter or need to turn it off for plumbing repairs.

Check the usual suspects



Silent Toilet Leak: dye tablets in tank will show color in the bowl



Moist spots around and under the house and above irrigation lines



Worn washers in faucets and showerheads

READING YOUR METER



Movement of the red sweep-hand indicates that water is currently flowing through the meter.

Reading your water meter is like reading the odometer of your car. Read the numbers from left to right that appear under the word "Gallons." The first digit on the right represents one gallon. The second from the right represents 10 gallons. The third from the right (usually a different color) represents 100 gallons – or one cgal. Water in Sherwood is billed in cgal.



UTILITY BILLING DEPARTMENT
503.925.2315



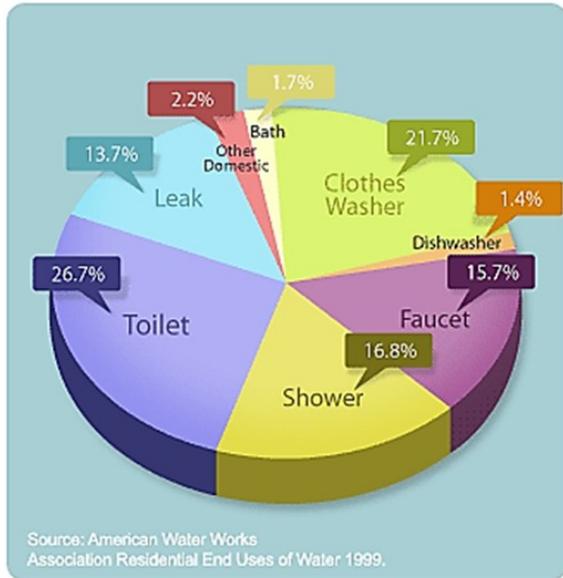
UTILITY BILLING DEPARTMENT

DID I REALLY USE THAT MUCH WATER?



Average Indoor Water Use

Did you know that most people use an average of 70-90 gallons of water per day? In the average house, two-thirds of indoor water is used in the bathroom. Take some time to go through your house or apartment and look for ways to conserve!



The Utility Billing Department has several conservation devices available for free.

- ◇ Low Flow Shower Heads
- ◇ Kitchen and Bath Faucet Aerators
- ◇ Toilet Tank Banks and Leak Tests
- ◇ Shower Timers
- ◇ Additional tools and tips to reduce water consumption indoors and out.

In the Bathroom

Place a plastic container or tank bank in the back of older toilets. This displaces water, reducing the water used per flush without impairing efficiency. Do not do this with newer, low-flow toilets.



Shorter showers can save 5 to 10 gallons per shower & be sure to replace the showerhead with a low-flow model.

Turn off the faucet while shaving or brushing your teeth. Leaving the water running can waste 5 gallons.

Install a low-flow faucet aerator. Aerators restrict flow without sacrificing efficiency.

Clothes Washing

Install water-efficient washing machines which typically use 35% to 50% less water and 50% less energy per load than other models. You could save 7,000 gallons of water a year, not to mention savings on your energy bill! In addition, there are many rebates and tax credits available.



Run the washing machine only when you have a full load of laundry.

The city offers Washing Machine, Dishwasher, Toilet and Landscape rebates for residential customers. Visit sherwoodoregon.gov for more information.

In the Kitchen

Use faucets at less than full pressure and/or install aerators.

Hand wash dishes by filling the sink or dish pan for washing and another for rinsing.

Fill the sink to wash vegetables and other foods instead of rinsing them under running water.



Keep drinking water in the refrigerator instead of running water until it is cold.

Run only full loads in the dishwasher using the shortest running cycle.

Ask us about the many ways to reduce outdoor water use.

