

# WATER CONSERVATION TIPS

## USE YOUR HERSEY WATER METER TO FIND LEAKS

Your water comes from an under ground main pipeline in the street, through a service line, and into your water meter. Each water user has a shut off valve (in the green box) between the meter and the house to be used for emergency shut off. It is the responsibility of Los Molinos Community Services District to service and maintain these delivery facilities, including the meter. Maintenance and repair beyond the meter is the responsibility of the property owner. If you suspect a leak on your side of the meter, perform this simple test.

- ❖ Locate your water meter, it is in a small concrete meter box near the street in front of your home. Lift the lid with your hand or a screwdriver. Inside you will see a large dial (see meter picture below) with a meter register that resembles a car's odometer. Our meters record in gallons. The zero on the right side of the odometer does not move, indicating that the meter records in 10-gallon increments. The meter reader records the reading and your water bill will show the reading in 10-gallon increments.
- ❖ Make sure all faucets are turned off inside and outside the house. Remember to check for appliances that may automatically use water, such as icemakers, washers, and coolers.
- ❖ When you are sure there is no water use. Go to the meter. The small triangle on the lower left side of the meter face should **not** be turning. If the triangle is turning (even slowly) you have a leak somewhere.
- ❖ If a leak is indicated and you have a shut off valve where the water goes into the house, use that value to help determine if the leak is in the house or the yard.

## HELPFULL HINT

To check for toilet leaks, add a few drops of food coloring in the tank and wait thirty minutes; if the water in the bowl has changed color, you have a leak in the flush mechanism.

### Average Water Usage

Showering 5 minutes-25 gallons  
Lawn Watering by hand-10 gallons  
Dishwasher full cycle- 15 gallons  
Clothes Washer full cycle 60 gallons  
Flushing Toilet (regular)- 3 to 5 gallons  
Flushing Toilet (low flow)- 1.6 gallons  
Leaking Toilet- 60 gallons per day



