Typical Residential Water Meter Layout

How to check if there is a leak:

1. Make sure nothing is running inside of the home: example dishwasher, washing machine, bathroom.
2. Lift lid of the meter box carefully.
3. To check if leak is between meter and the home, the house valve would need to be shut off. (see page 2 typical location for valve)
4. If meter is still moving the leak is in the ground.
5. To check if leak is in home, house valve needs to be on and customer will need to follow steps on page 3.
6. If the triangle is spinning or if the digital number is moving while all water is off, a leak is present in the home.
7. At that moment you may either try to find the leak or contact a plumber.

The meter is usually located between your home and your neighbors home in the front yard.

Call customer service (561-768-0700) if a water pipe or line bursts in your yard.

The Utility will send a Service Technician out to evaluate and determine if it’s the responsibility of the Utility or the customer.
Steps If you have a Leak Outside

A service line is an underground pipe that carries water from the water main, through your meter to your home.

**Step One**
Find your water meter box. Most residential water meters are located near the curb or sidewalk at the front of the property in a black "box." The box will have a metal or plastic lid. Carefully lift the cover and check for leaks.

**Step Two**
Find the house (main) shut-off valve on the water supply riser, generally located in the front or on the side of the house below the hose bib. (See examples 1a and 2a for two typical set-ups.) Check for leaking water around exposed pipes and valves.

**Step Three**
Visually inspect your property between your house shut-off valve and your water meter. A wet spot, small hole or depression may indicate an underground leak in the service line.

**Step Four**
Check all other hose bibs and/or outdoor faucets for dripping water and/or wet spots.
Indoor Leak Inspection

Toilets, faucets, and shower heads are the most common type of leak found inside the home. Because these types of leaks can be silent, it may go unnoticed.

Understanding the basic mechanics of your toilet can save you thousands of gallons of water per year.

Perform a toilet dye test:
• Lift the tank cover.
• Place a few drops of food coloring into the tank.
• Wait 15 minutes (do not use the toilet).
• If the color appears in the toilet bowl, you have a leak.

IF you have a leak, check:
• A. Overflow Tube: Water should be a half-inch below the top of the tube.
• B. Lift Chain: It should not catch on anything.
• C. Flapper: Ensure it is seating properly.
• D. Flush Handle: Make sure it functions properly.

Faucets, Showerheads and Bathtubs
An annoying, dripping sound is often the first sign of a leak.

Look for dripping sink and bathtub faucets and showerheads.
• Worn-out washers typically cause faucet and showerhead leaks.
• Check under and around sinks for wet spots, a musty smell.
• Check for moisture around faucets, showerheads and bathtubs.

Common water loss examples in gallons per month:
Leaking Toilet @1/2 GPM = 21,600
Drip Irrigation @1 GPM = 43,200
Watering Garden for 2 hours @ 5 GPM = 18,000
Watering Garden for 2 hours @ 10 GPM = 36,000
Unattended Water Hose 1 night @10 GPM = 5,400
Broken Services Line 1 week @15 GPM = 151,200
Village of Tequesta Utility
Tips to Check for Leaks

The following is information captioned from our Water Operating Manual. This may help you understand the significant rise in your monthly bill should a leak be detected. Water loss as a result of a drip only 1/4” can mean a loss of 13,122 gallons a day; at 60 psi. Should this leak continue for a period of 30 days, approximately 400,000 thousand gallons can be lost. The following image will demonstrate loss of water per size of pipe leak.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DRIP SIZE</th>
<th>GALLONS LOST PER DAY</th>
<th>GALLONS LOST PER MONTH</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1/16 “</td>
<td>822</td>
<td>24,660</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/8 “</td>
<td>3,288</td>
<td>98,640</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/16 “</td>
<td>7,244</td>
<td>217,320</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/4 “</td>
<td>13,122</td>
<td>393,660</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Information based on a continuous leak at 60 psi.