

**Howard County** 

**Questions?** 

Bureau of Utilities: 410-313-4980

Billing: 410-313-2058



# High Water Usage Information



410-313-4980 Billing: 410-313-2058

## **Check for leaks**

Before contacting a plumber

#### **Did You Know?**

A running toilet is the most common cause for increased water usage.

Perform a simple test on **ALL** toilets:

- Add food coloring to tank of all toilets
- Let coloring sit for at least an hour
- Check to see if water color in bowl has changed

If the color of the water in the bowl has changed, repairs are needed.

# Other things to check....

- Leaky faucets: place an empty glass under each faucet before you go to bed and check in the morning to see if there is a slow leak
- Water heater pressure release valve: check for water leakage around the tank
- Exterior connection for hose: check for signs of leakage such as ice, or ponding water
- Standing water outside the property: may indicate a leak of underground piping, particularly during dry weather



## Does your meter indicate a possible leak?

Pictured is a typical inside water meter, the flowfinder indicates if water is flowing through the meter. Be sure ALL water operated equipment including air conditioners, humidifiers, ice makers, etc. are shut off. If the flowfinder on the meter is moving then water is flowing through the meter. If you are unable to determine where the water is being used, contact a plumber.

Flowfinder

## **Monitor Your Usage**

The meter shown has 6 dials, the first 4 dials are used to calculate the usage

for billing. You can monitor your usage by subtracting the current reading from the previous reading to get the total usage.

### Other Reasons Could Be....

- Any leaks repaired including running toilets or leaky faucets
- Issues with a water heater or water cooled air conditioner systems
- An increase in household members/guests
- Filling or topping off swimming pool and/or other water toys
- Additional time spent at home during summer or holidays
- Lawn or garden watering
- Sprinkler or irrigation use
- Power washing

