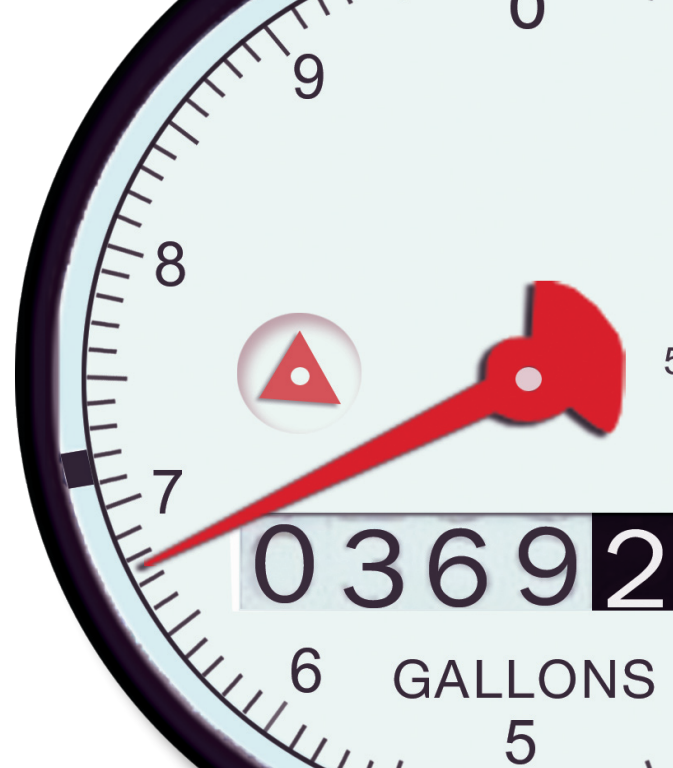


Santa Fe County

DOMESTIC WELL METERING PROGRAM



Information About the Well Metering Program:

PROGRAM PURPOSE—

To reduce overall groundwater withdrawals in Santa Fe County alleviating stress on the aquifer.

The combination of limited water resources as well as numerous droughts in Santa Fe County demonstrates the need for strict water conservation measures. Therefore, in December 2002, the Santa Fe County Board of County Commissioners adopted Ordinance 2002-13, entitled An Ordinance Addressing Water Conservation for All Residential and Commercial Uses of Water Within Santa Fe County.

A major goal of this ordinance is to implement a domestic well metering program within Santa Fe County. As stipulated by Ordinance 2002-13, the domestic well metering program applies to all Santa Fe County residents living or operating businesses on lots where restricted water usage and water meter reporting requirements were **voluntarily accepted** as part of plat approval. You can determine if you meet these requirements by checking your recorded survey plat for water restrictions. Water restrictions are usually limited to 0.25 acre feet per year or 81,463 gallons. This is the amount of water determined by the New Mexico Office of the State Engineer to sustain a household of four.

Information About Your Domestic Well:

SHARED WELLS—

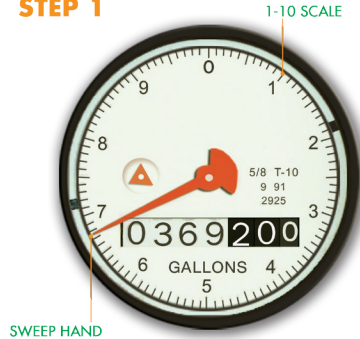
Shared wells come with many benefits including the lower cost of drilling and maintenance. In order to obtain a shared well a group of people must apply for a permit through the Office of the State Engineer. It is also important that they understand and can comply with the regulations for a shared well. It is also recommended that the group using the well create a legally valid agreement to assure that each person knows their responsibilities, and there is no question of the construction or maintenance of the well. The legal agreement created by the current property owners should remain valid and binding for future property owners of the well.

WELL MAINTENANCE—

It is very common to forget about your well once it has been installed and you have running water. Yet, to keep your well functioning properly, early detection and regular inspection is necessary. Some of the most common problems that you can look for are wear on the parts of the pump, build up of deposits on the metal parts of the well, and corrosion on the well screen. If you have a higher than average water bill yet no increase in the delivery of your water you may be experiencing a pump performance problem. If the pump runs more frequently than it should check for possible leaks in places such as the pressure or the distribution system. Another aspect of your well that should be inspected regularly is whether there are any spaces in your water system where insects, plants, or other objects could enter, ultimately contaminating your water supply. If problems with your well worsen the best thing to do is to hire a professional to fix it.

How to Read Your Water Meter:

STEP 1



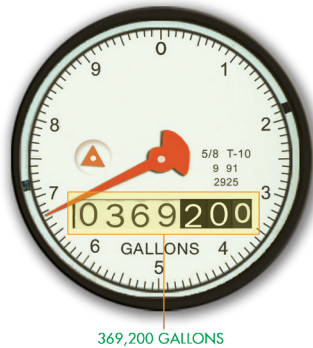
Observe that the water meter has one dial with a sweep hand and scale numbered from 1 to 10. Each revolution of the sweep hand represents 10 gallons of water through the meter.

STEP 2



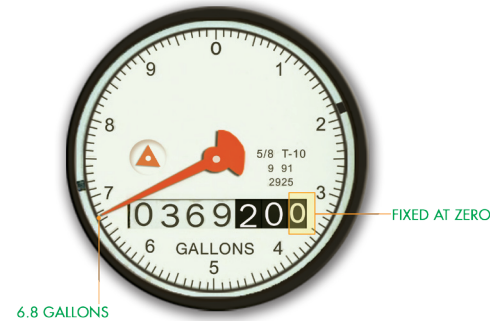
Refer to the horizontally displayed numbers in the mechanical odometer to read the total revolutions of the sweep hand and the total number of gallons through the meter.

STEP 3



Read the mechanical odometer numbers from left to right. The meter shown in the image reads 369,200 gallons.

STEP 4



Notice that the last number on the far right is fixed at zero. The actual value of this field is shown by the sweep hand, which measures individual gallons. In the meter shown in the photo, the sweep hand reads 6.8 gallons, making the exact number of gallons through the meter 369,206.8.

USING WATER WISELY—

Water is a precious resource and should be used efficiently. When used efficiently a water user can save money. The average user uses 50 to 75 gallons of water daily. Water usage can be cut by 10 to 20% without affecting the users lifestyle.

WAYS TO REDUCE WATER USE INSIDE AND OUTSIDE OF THE HOUSE—

- Change the toilets and shower heads to ultra low-flow ones
- Use front-loading washing machines and only do laundry when you have a full load.
- Don't leave water running while brushing teeth or washing dishes, and take shorter showers.
- Collect the cold water from your faucet while waiting for the hot water, and collect grey water—both can be used on vegetation
- Collect rainwater in barrels to use for irrigation
- Plant native and drought tolerant plants in your yard.
- Use a drip irrigation system instead of a regular sprinkler and only water in the evening or early morning.
- In all cases become aware of your water use.

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www.santafecounty.org/waterconservation

