

Checking for leaks

Let's make sure our safe, clean drinking water stays on for everyone. Be onto it with leaks at your place and you'll help take the pressure off our pumps and pipes so we can supply water to everyone and have enough in reserve to fight fires. Reducing your water use by sorting leaks could also save you money.

Everyone has a role to play in making sure we all have access to safe, clean water, now and for future generations.

Reducing the demand on our water supply network means we won't have to spend as much money upgrading and building new infrastructure to cope with the extreme demand at certain times of year.

Our water is too precious to waste, so it's up to everyone to use it wisely. Together, our savings can help to conserve our most precious resource – our water.

For more information please contact:

Email: info@ccc.govt.nz

Phone: **03 941 8999 (0800 800 169)**

ccc.govt.nz/WaterReporter

Checking for leaks

Help ease the load on our pumps and pipes so we have enough pressure to supply water to everyone.

Let's use water like we oughta

ccc.govt.nz/WaterReporter



Charges are in the pipeline for high water users

Christchurch and Banks Peninsula households that regularly use much more water than the average will pay extra for their water supply. Know and reduce your property's water use with our Water Reporter – ccc.govt.nz/WaterReporter.

How to avoid wasting water

The biggest source of wasted water is leaks, with millions of litres of drinking water being lost across Christchurch and Banks Peninsula each year. We're doing our best to repair and replace leaking Council owned pipes, but we need your help to sort leaks on private property.

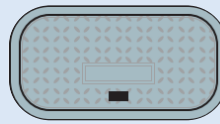
It can be hard to know if you have a leak on your property as they aren't always easy to see. Checking for common causes of leaks and reading your water meter are good ways to identify if your property has a leak.

How to check for leaks

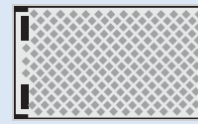
1. Check your hot water cylinder, appliances and toilet cistern for signs of a leak
2. Check for damp patches in the garden or driveway during dry weather
3. Listen for water hissing or the sound of running water when no water is being used across your property
4. Read your water meter to find out if water is flowing when no water is being used on your property.

Reading your water meter

Water meters are usually located in a box in the ground on or near your front boundary. They are normally in a straight line between the road and your outside hose tap. The meter boxes come in many different shapes and sizes, both metal and plastic. There may be debris or vegetation covering the meter.



Plastic



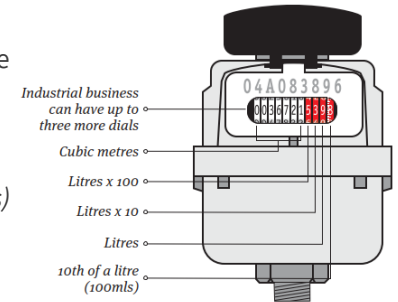
Metal

- Once you have located your water meter, pick a time when no water will be used for at least four hours (e.g. overnight).
- Don't turn off the tap on your water meter during the test. You need to be able to see if the meter dial still moves while you are not using water.
- Read your water meter, then read it again after the period of not using any water.
- Read all the numbers on the dial, including the red ones.
- If your meter readings are different it means water is still flowing somewhere on your property and it is likely you have a leak.
- If a leak is discovered on your property, it's up to you to get this fixed as soon as possible. The Council is only responsible for pipes and fittings up to your property's boundary.
- Contact a certified plumber to enquire about getting your leak fixed.

Here's what your water meter looks like

Most water meter recorders look like this and record in litres.

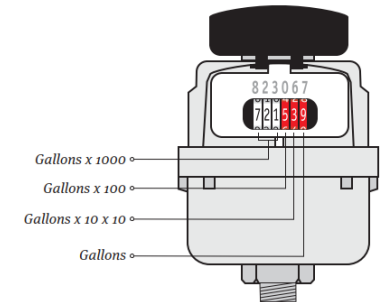
(Note: 1 cubic metre = 1000 litres)



This particular meter would read thirty six thousand, seven hundred and twenty one cubic metres and five hundred and thirty nine point eight (36,721,539.8) litres.

There are some areas which still have older water meters which record in gallons.

(Note: 1 gallon = 4.545 litres)



Comparing two water readings

If the dials stay the same then there is no leak.



If there is a difference then there is a leak somewhere on your property.



If a leak is discovered on your property, it's up to you to get this fixed as soon as possible. The Council is only responsible for pipes and fittings up to your property's boundary.