

High Consumption

High Water Bills are usually a result of:

- Toilets running
- Leaky faucets
- Malfunctioning automatic trap fillers



It is almost unheard of for a positive displacement meter (the type we use in Severn) to speed up any significant amount. Most, if not all, high bills and consumption can be traced back to your plumbing.

Tracking Water Usage

As a requirement of current legislation, we track all water taken from the source and treated, as well as all the water treated and sent to you! Through the use of online technology we also can tell when flows are unusually high. Unfortunately, we can not tell if the leak is in your house or on the service line. If you ever find a consistently wet spot on your lawn in dry times and/or snow melting in cold weather, please notify the Utilities Department so we can investigate further.

Leaks Cost You Money!

- 1/16" A continuous leak creating a stream of water this size would waste about 93 000 L of water each month.
- 1/8" A continuous leak creating a stream of water this size would waste about 372 000 L of water each month.
- 1/4" A continuous leak creating a stream of water this size would waste about 1 491 000 L of water each month.

Leaking Toilets are the Worst!

Leaking toilets are the worst offenders. They can leak as much as 900 L a day!

Try adding two drops of food colouring to the tank on your toilet and don't flush. Wait 30 minutes. If the colouring appears in the toilet bowl, there's a leak. Replace necessary parts, or call a plumber if it persists.

Perform Your Own Audit!

Your meter has a small red/black triangle on it. By shutting off all water sources inside and monitoring this low flow indicator, you can determine if you have a leak. If the triangle moves with all taps off, one of the appliances/pipes are leaking.

Another method is by reading your meter before going to bed (without the dishwasher or filters running) and reading it again in the morning. If it has moved with no water supposed to be running all night, there is a leak.

Conservation Tips

- Don't over water your lawn (1" each week).
- To prevent loss of water from evaporation, don't water during the hottest part of the day or when it is windy.
- Only run your dishwasher and washing machine fully loaded.
- Invest in water/energy saving units, which not only save on electricity, but also water. For example, a front loading washer will use 60% less water than a top loading!
- Invest in water saving fixtures such as low flow toilets and water wise showerheads.
- Use a broom, rather than a hose, to clean sidewalks and driveways.
- If you have a swimming pool, use a cover. You'll cut the loss of water by evaporation by 90 %.

Lawn Watering

We all want to have a nicely manicured lawn. However, the increase in demand on our system, approximately 40% during the summer months, costs a lot of money for water that is mostly wasted.

In the Township of Severn, we do have a bylaw restricting usage from July 1st to Sept. 30th of each year. Watering is restricted to even numbered addresses on even number days, and odd numbered addresses on odd numbered days. The hours are restricted as well. Please contact the office for more information.

A healthy lawn only requires about 1" of water per week including rainfall. Use a rain gauge to monitor your watering. Or make your own with an empty tub placed in the path of the sprinkler!

