

# Water Conservation

Water conservation is one of the most important actions we can take to sustain our water supplies, control costs, meet future needs, and reduce demands on Florida's water resources. This guide will provide tips on early leak detection, water conservation, and preservation.

## Your Water Meter

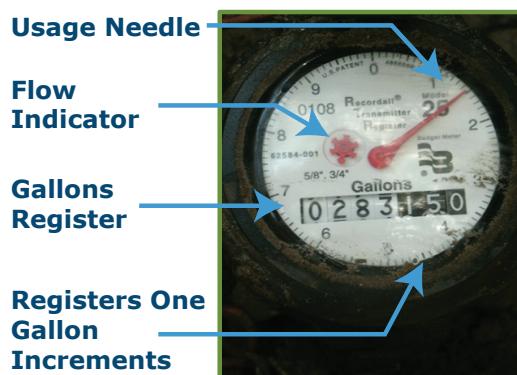
Your water meter can do more than just let the City know how much water you use in a month. If you understand your meter, it can be a valuable leak detector.

Before you can understand your water meter, you have to find it. Each water meter in Safety Harbor is encased in a meter box on your property, usually on one side of your property in the front right-of-way. Here are some examples of what your meter box might look like.

### Types of Meter Boxes



### Your Water Meter



If the flow indicator is moving that means water is being used somewhere.



## How We Read Your Meter

The City of Safety Harbor employs two meter readers, who manually or by Recordall® Transmitter Register (RTR), read over 7,000 city meters every month. They also perform all new service turn ons, final service turn offs, vacation turn on/off, rereads and delinquencies. If you believe there has been a misread of your meter or need any other service related to your water meter, please call the City at 727-724-1555.

## Water Resources in Your Home

Water emergencies happen all the time and when you least expect them. That is why it's important to locate the water main shut-off valve for your home. If you have a water leak inside your home, knowing where your shut-off valve is and how to close it could help you minimize the damage a leak could cause. Remember to check shut off valves periodically to ensure they are working properly.

### Indoor Water Conservation

From flushing less to taking shorter showers there are countless ways you can make small changes in behavior to save a whole lot of water. You can also take steps like insulating hot water pipes, purchasing water efficient appliances and fixtures, and installing instant water heaters in kitchens and bathrooms. More water conservation ideas can be found at [www.cityofsafetyharbor.com/waterresources](http://www.cityofsafetyharbor.com/waterresources).



## Water Resources in Your Yard

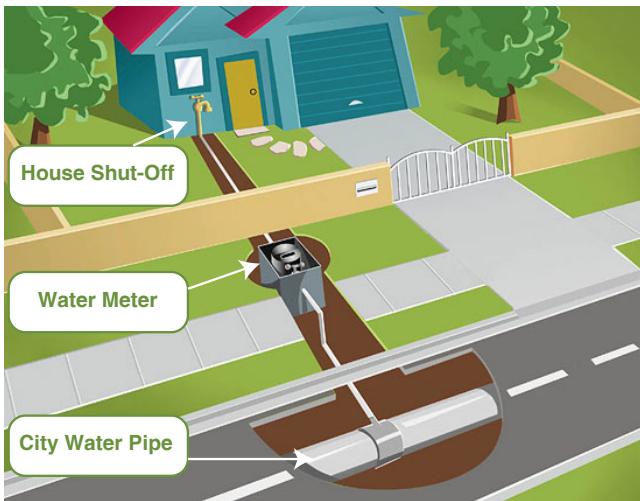


Leaks don't just happen indoors. Did you know that even a small leak outside can waste over 300 gallons of water each month. To save water and money start by checking all faucets, hoses, sprinkler heads, pools, and timers once a month. Consider rain barrels, micro-irrigation, Florida friendly landscaping and mulching to reduce usage.

### Outdoor Water Conservation

Outdoor water use accounts for up to 50% of water consumed by households so conserving water outside is vital to maintaining healthy water resources. It's important to follow local watering restrictions and remember that just because you can water doesn't mean you need to. Only irrigate your lawn when it starts showing signs of stress from lack of water. Over watering wastes water and can be bad for your yard by encouraging weeds, fungus and disease. Too much water can also cause your grass to have shallow roots, which makes it more susceptible to drought and disease. Always position sprinkler heads to ensure you're watering grass and not sidewalks, driveways or roadways. Locate sprinkler main shut-off valves and zone connectors so if you detect a leak in your sprinkler system you can shut the water off. Remember shutting off systems at the timers does not prevent leakage.

# How It Fits Together



Safety Harbor has over 70-miles of water lines within the City. If you believe there is a leak between the City's water pipe and the water meter, call (727) 724-1555 immediately. Together we can help conserve one of our most valuable resources.

## Watering & Other Restrictions

### Watering Restrictions

Safety Harbor is part of the Southwest Florida Water Management District and implements watering restrictions as directed by the district. To get the latest watering restrictions visit [www.cityofsafetyharbor.com/waterrestrictions](http://www.cityofsafetyharbor.com/waterrestrictions) or [www.watermanners.org](http://www.watermanners.org).

### Fertilizer Ordinance

Safety Harbor also complies with Pinellas County's Fertilizer Ordinance. No fertilizers containing nitrogen or phosphorous can be used from June 1 - September 30. Fertilizers can never be used within 10 feet of a body of water and must be cleaned immediately if spilled on an impervious surface, like roads, driveways, or sidewalks. For more information on Fertilizer restrictions visit [www.pinellascounty.org](http://www.pinellascounty.org).

## 10 Easy Conservation Tips

1. Wash your car on your lawn and always use a spray nozzle
2. Turn off water when brushing teeth, washing hair, lathering and shaving
3. When you drop ice cubes on the floor throw them into house plants and not the sink
4. Use bath towels more than once to reduce laundry washing
5. Use the same water glass all day to reduce dish washing
6. Listen for dripping faucets and leaking toilets
7. Direct rain from gutters to flower beds
8. Group plants with the same watering needs together
9. Use mulch to hold moisture in flower beds
10. Share water conservation tips with family, friends and neighbors

**Together we can all detect, conserve, and preserve.**



## WATER RESOURCE GUIDE

DETECT/CONSERVE/PRESERVE



750 Main Street  
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[www.cityofsafetyharbor.com](http://www.cityofsafetyharbor.com)