

# How to read your water meter

Water meters are read by Maranoa Regional Council twice a year, and display both black and red numbers.

The black numbers represent kilolitres, while the red numbers represent litres. One kilolitre is equal to 1000 litres.

Water meters are usually located on the front boundary of a property.

Regularly reading your meter and keeping a simple record of water use can help you save water and reduce your bill.

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## Check for leaks

Your water meter can help you identify leaks.

Read your meter when everyone in the house has finished using water at night.

Don't use water overnight, and re-read in the morning.

If the numbers have changed even slightly, there is a leak somewhere on your property.

If you're concerned about the efficiency of your meter, Council can test it for a small fee. If it's faulty, it will be replaced and any associated costs refunded.



# Save water, save money

Did you know the average household in western Queensland uses up to 60 per cent of its water on lawns and gardens? By being water smart in the garden, you can reduce water use - and your water bill.

## Sprinklers

Less is best. A good 15 minute soak once or twice a week is more beneficial to your lawns and gardens than surface sprinkling once a day.

## The right landscaping

Right plant, right place! Shade loving plants in the sun will require extra water. Native plants use much less water than exotic species, and grow better in tough conditions. Minimise lawn areas as they demand larger amounts of water – try using ground covers instead.

## Mowing the lawn

Raise the mower blade to at least 7cm (approximately 3 inches) – a lawn cut higher encourages grass roots to grow deeper, and better protects soil moisture.

Choose a lawn type that's water efficient and best suited to western Queensland conditions. 'Couch', 'Buffalo' and 'Kikuyu' all have low to moderate water demand and reasonable drought resistance.

## Mulch

Mulch reduces a high percentage of evaporation and runoff. It also keeps the weeds out! A layer of hay or chip-bark is all you need.

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**Water. Use it wisely.**

