



## Finding My Water Meter

1) **Locate your Water Meter:** Most residential water meters are located near the curb or sidewalk at the front of the property in a concrete "box." The water meter box will have a metal lid. (Fig. A)

2) **Opening the Meter Box:** Use caution upon opening the lid as insects, reptiles or other small animals occasionally take residence inside the boxes. Use a long screwdriver to remove the lid.

Some water meters will have a small, hinged cover while others may not. Lift the cover and use a damp rag to wipe the face clean. (Fig. B)



3) Turn-Off all indoor and outdoor water using devices- including evaporative cooler, water softeners and icemaker. Do not use any water on your property during this test.

## Reading My Water Meter

4) Observe the sweep hand. (Fig. C) If it is moving, you have a continuous leak. Observe the low flow indicator. If it is moving, you have a continuous leak. (Fig. C) Some leaks are so small that the movement is almost undetectable. To determine if you have a slow leak: Read your water meter and record the numbers. Use the number indicated by the sweep hand as the final digit.

5) Wait 20 minutes then read your water meter again and record the numbers.

6) Subtract the first water meter reading from the second. If Gallons used is greater than zero, you have a continuous leak.

### An Example of Meter Read:

Some customers would like to know how to read their own meters. This is a great way to keep track of water usage.

This meter is a Badger Recordall, it is one of the meter brands that the City of Prescott utilizes to register water usage.

This meter reads 56359 gallons. Please notice that the far right zero is fixed and does not move. The long skinny needle is the "Sweep Hand" and moves around the face and accounts for a singular gallon digit. It is the number on the far right of the read odometer. One full revolution by the



"Sweep Hand" records every 10 gallons used. The small six pointed red star or triangle is called a "Low flow finder" or "Leak detector". It will move if you have even a very small leak. Sometimes the movement is jerky and you might have to watch it for a few minutes.

To check for a leak using your meter: turn off all water in and outside your home or business. Record your meter read by writing down all of the numbers from the face of the meter. Wait as long as you can without using any water, perhaps even while you are at work. When you return, record the meter read again. If there is any change in the numbers, you have a leak.

The Town meters all have electronic radio-transmitters (ERTS) which has a wire that exits the register and connects to an electronic read transmitter. This device allows the Town Meter Readers to read the meters from a mobile handheld device so that they do not have to physically open each meter box to obtain the monthly usage read at each home or business saving time and resources.