

Water Bill Looking Too High?

Usually it is not too hard to find out what has caused a sudden spike in your water bill. Once you find a problem, you'll probably know how to make corrections, or when to seek professional help. Here are some items to investigate to check out what has made the bill so high.

Examine Your Bill

Pull out last month's bill and compare to your current bill.

- Were you billed for more water this month than in the same month of prior years?**
Note: Rates are tiered. If your higher use raised your total above the threshold, the additional increment will have been more expensive than others.
- Were there more days in this billing period than last?**

Your Household Inside

- Did you have guests or extra laundry demands last month?**
- Do you see or hear water running or dripping from toilets, faucets or sinks?**
- Is there a silent leak in a toilet?**
To check, put a few drops of food coloring in the tank. Wait ten minutes. If the water in the bowl is now colored, you have a leak!
- Have you had any repairs made in the last month?**
If so, did they use or release water in the process?
- Check your water softener and/or reverse-osmosis system.**
Have the settings been changed or a new system added?

Your Household Outside

- Did you wash the windows or cars last month?**
- If you have an evaporative cooler, is the re-circulating pump working?**
- Are re-circulating pumps working on any ornamental water features?**
- Do you have any new grass or plants?**

- Have you increased the frequency of duration of watering recently?

Irrigation System

- Are there wet spots in the yard or at valve boxes which might indicate leaks?
- Has the system been turned off and recently turned back on?
- Are there missing emitters?
- Is the timer working?
- Have the frequency and/or duration of the watering cycles changed?

Swimming Pool

- Does the water level in the pool drop more than ¼ inch per week?
- If you have an auto-fill system, is it working properly?
- Have you drained or filled the pool recently?



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