

water rings

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Water Meter Replacement Program

Beginning in May 2022, the Authority will initiate an on-going, comprehensive water meter replacement program. The purpose of the program is to improve the efficiency of meter reading and billing, reducing the need for estimated bills.

Meter replacement is necessary because water meters and their registers lose accuracy as they age. Industry standards recommend replacing them every 20 years. The new meters will have state-of-the-art meter reading technology that will save labor time, prevent meter reading errors, reduce estimated readings and minimize the need for our staff to visit individual properties.

Several weeks before we begin in your

neighborhood, you will receive a letter from us, alerting you that work will soon begin in your area. Once we have completed some required preparatory work, a notice will be left at your property by one of our team members. At that time you will be asked to call us to schedule an appointment for your replacement.

In most cases, the meter replacement is a simple procedure that will take about one hour or less to complete.

More information about the program, along with a detailed list of frequently asked questions, will be available on our website. Thank you for partnering with us in this important program!

General Hancock Tank Construction Update

The construction of our new 4.1 million gallon water storage tank on General Hancock Boulevard in Montgomeryville is nearly complete. The photo shows the last phase of construction where final steel plates were being installed on the domed roof.

The paint crew will begin its work in Spring 2022. They will start with sandblasting the entire structure to bare metal. After surface preparation is completed, the tank interior and exterior will each be painted with three coats of paint. The finished exterior color will be a shade of beige that matches the color of our storage tank located at County Line and Upper State Roads.

Electrical, mechanical, piping and site work will all continue through the summer and

into Fall 2022, at which time the tank will be placed into service.



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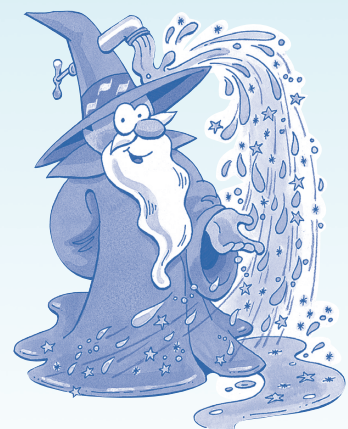
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Checking For Leaks This Spring!

Every spring, just as we change the batteries in our smoke detectors and move our clocks ahead, we should also get in the habit of checking for water leaks.

Check hose bibs, garden hoses, underground sprinkler systems, and all water pipes that were exposed to the elements during the cold winter months.

Begin checking for leaks by visually inspecting all exposed pipes and fixtures for dampness. If you have a soft, wet spot on your lawn during a dry period or hear the sound of running water, you may have a leak in the service line to your house. To confirm if the water might be coming from your service line, close the main shut-off valve inside your house. If the sound of running water continues, the outside service line could be leaking.

Check your irrigation system when it's on. Look for popped sprinkler heads and other problems. The amount of water running through a faulty sprinkler head can add up quickly and they are pretty easy to fix.

If you have a pool, shut the auto leveler off for a few days and mark the water level. If the level drops significantly in a day or two, there's a good chance there's a leak in your pool's plumbing system.

Inside your home, check your water meter before bed and when you get up, before anyone runs the water. If the meter has moved, there's likely a leak somewhere in the house.

To check for leaks in your toilets, place a drop or two of food coloring in the toilet tank. If any color shows up in the bowl after 15 minutes, you have a leak. Be sure to flush immediately after the experiment to avoid staining the tank. Call our office or email us at:

wizard@nwwater.com

and we'll send you dye tablets in the mail.

Leaking pipes waste your money, can cause property damage and should be immediately repaired. Early detection and repair will save you money and minimize damage.



Q: *I called 811 because I'm planning a project where I'll have to dig in my yard. The utilities came out, but what do all the different colored marks left behind mean?*

A: Calling PA One Call or 8-1-1 before digging is important because knowing the location of buried utility lines helps to protect you and others from injury. This service is provided free to you by your local utilities.

Utility workers responding to PA One Call will mark the location of their lines using different colors of paint to represent their particular utility. The colors and the utilities they represent are:

Red=electric power lines, cables conduit and lighting cables

Yellow=gas, oil, steam, petroleum or gaseous materials

Orange=communication, alarm or signal lines, cables or conduit

Blue=potable water

Purple=reclaimed water, irrigation or slurry lines

Green=sewer and drain lines

It is important that these marks remain visible and unaltered until all excavation in the area has been completed. Removing, moving or otherwise tampering with marks for underground utility lines can cause interruption of service for you and your neighbors and may result in costly repairs that could increase your monthly utility bills. It could also result in injury or even death to those in the immediate vicinity.

Tampering with these underground facility marks, even those on private property, is a violation of the Pennsylvania Utility Line Protection Act 287, as amended. Conviction can result in a fine of up to \$50,000, or imprisonment of up to 90 days, or both, not to speak of any civil liabilities in the matter. If you witness or suspect that someone has tampered with underground facility marks, please immediately call 8-1-1!

**Water Rings is published Quarterly to Serve our Customers in:
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