

# City of Brewer

## Residential Submeter Program

We recognize that many residential customers use water outside during the summer months. If the water used outside does not enter the sewer system, it is possible to receive an adjustment to your sewer bill if you participate in the **Residential Submeter Program**.

Residential Submeter Program information and requirements:

1. Outside water must be separately metered to be eligible for a sewer adjustment. The customer is responsible for buying and installing the meter. A new meter can be purchased from a water industry supply store (e.g. EJ Prescott, Ferguson Waterworks, Maine Water Works Supply, USA BlueBook) at a cost of approximately \$100. Another option would be to buy a meter on the internet. The Brewer Water Department does not sell used meters.  
**The measurement on the meter must read in cubic feet.**
2. The homeowner may install the meter or hire a plumber to install it. No permit is necessary. Ideally, the meter will be installed permanently to the line feeding the outside faucet or faucets.\* If more than one outside spigot is utilized, it is preferable they both be measured by one submeter. The dial must point skyward for an accurate reading. If installing the meter with the dial pointed skyward creates a problem reading the meter, a mirror may be used.
3. To receive sewer credit, before using, the submeter must be inspected and registered by the City of Brewer Water Department. To arrange an appointment for inspection, call the Water Department at 207-989-4214.
4. It is the homeowner's responsibility to report the submeter reading to the City of Brewer Water Department on or before October 1 each year to receive a sewer credit, which will be reflected on the next sewer bill. For customers that do not report their readings every year by the deadline, the sewer adjustment will be prorated by dividing the outside water used by the number of years since the last submeter reading reported.
5. Sewer adjustments will be calculated based on the current sewer rate at the time. The City recommends customers review their summer water usage and estimate potential savings before purchasing and installing a submeter. You would need to use over 9,300 gallons (1,245 cubic feet) of water through the submeter to receive a sewer adjustment of about \$100. For many customers, it could take multiple years to use this amount of water outside.

Please call the Director of Environmental Services at 207-989-5417 to receive more details and determine if you qualify for this type of adjustment.

\* If you choose to use a mobile connection, please be advised that many homeowners experience meter failure when it is brought out of storage for the next season.