Naperville Smart Grid Initiative
Reading Standard Residential Meters
Quick User Guide
Created May 2012

Typical Residential Meter

Elster brand, Type "R2S" or "R2SD", as indicated by arrow

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How do I read my meter for total electricity usage?

Your meter displays different screens that repeat in a sequential order. Carefully watch the display screen until the screen displays kWh and kW.

Electricity usage is measured in kilowatt hours (kWh), which is a unit of energy. Your meter is continuously recording electricity usage from the moment of installation; to find your current total electricity usage, look for a number display followed by kWh (see example below).

Energy Usage measured in kilowatt hours (kWh)

a. The total energy usage in the graphic above is 2004 kWh.
b. To see how much electricity you've used in, for example, one week, write down this number at the beginning of the week and then subtract it from the number displayed at the end of the week.
c. Your bill is calculated by multiplying your total electricity usage (for a given billing cycle) by the rate per kilowatt hour (plus applicable taxes and service fees).

How do I read my meter for my maximum demand?

Demand is the <u>rate</u> at which energy is used and is measured in kilowatts (kW), which is a unit of power. To find your maximum 30-minute demand within the last 30 days, look for a number display followed by kW. The total demand in the example below is 21.390 kW.

Demand measured in kilowatts (kW)

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Additional displays found on your residential meter

Residential meters have additional display types that repeat in a predetermined sequence.

Beyond energy usage (kWh) and maximum demand (kW) as shown on the previous page, all other meter displays are used for diagnostic purposes by utility technicians and are not applicable to basic residential customer needs.

Displays may vary based on specific meter model, service, or meter conditions. Displays may change without notice based on utility modifications.

For more information on the meter displays above or questions on how to read your meter, please contact the City of Naperville Finance Department at 630-420-6059.