

# Water Meters— Selection, Installation, Testing, and Maintenance

MANUAL OF WATER SUPPLY PRACTICES

M6

*Fifth Edition*



American Water Works  
Association

Advocacy  
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The Authoritative Resource on Safe Water®

# Water Meters— Selection, Installation, Testing, and Maintenance

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**American Water Works  
Association**

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Manual of Water Supply Practices — M6, Fifth Edition

## Water Meters—Selection, Installation, Testing, and Maintenance

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# Foreword

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This manual is a guide to selecting, installing, testing, and maintaining water meters. The manual discusses recommended practices; it is not an AWWA standard calling for compliance with certain specifications. It is intended for use by new and existing utilities of all sizes, either as a textbook for those not fully familiar with meters or as a reference manual. Water utilities may use this manual as a tool to obtain the best revenue for their investment in meters and maintenance facilities. Design engineers and consultants may use this manual in laying out new meter installations or repair shops.

Most readers will first use this manual for assistance on an individual problem; however, for adequate knowledge of the field of water meter usage, the entire manual should be studied. This manual references applicable AWWA standards for the various types of meters. These standards may be purchased by calling AWWA Customer Service (800.926.7337) or through the Bookstore section of the AWWA website, [awwa.org](http://awwa.org).

The AWWA manual on water meters was first published in a series of articles in the June, July, August, and September 1959 issues of *Journal - American Water Works Association* and was compiled as a separate reprint in 1962. A second edition of the manual was published in 1973, as a complete revision, updating and substantially enlarging the 1962 serial edition. The third and fourth editions, published in 1986 and 1999, respectively, reflected the latest revisions of the AWWA meter standards at the time and included substantial updates to the text and photographs.

This fifth edition contains current information from the latest AWWA meter standards, including new AWWA standards on singlejet meters and fluidic-oscillator meters. Since 1999, much has changed in meter reading technology, and the future holds even greater promise.