

DIGITAL METERS – THE REAL STORY



INNOVATION TO HELP US SERVE YOU BETTER



The facts about radio frequency and digital meters

There is much misinformation about Digital Meters. Let us help you clear that up. Below is a scale that shows the real story of radio frequency or RF emissions from transmission towers, microwave ovens and, yes – people – to demonstrate that a Digital Meter at your home offers miniscule amounts of Specific Absorption Rate—the rate at which the body absorbs RF energy. Below are some visual guides to help see what you really get in RF exposure every day. The figures demonstrate that the RF exposure from digital meters is so much less than everyday exposure from other devices – even from family members – that it is nearly immeasurable. In fact, if the images were kept to actual scale, you couldn't even see the Digital Meter – or the last six images either, for that matter.

There is no way for Hancock-Wood to access any other electronic information on your property. Automatic Meter Reading (AMR) or Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) meters operate through power lines and that technology has become obsolete and is no longer supported. Digital metering is read through RF signals. With AMI, the reading always was 24 hours old. Digital reading can be done in less than 15 minutes. Operations dispatches a “ping” to the meter to determine whether or not it is powered. The digital meter upgrade is a cost savings solution in distribution automation that also acts as a systems communications umbrella to allow for faster restoration times.

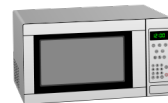
The RF emission rate numbers below were analyzed by an electrical engineering research team headed by Dr. Yakov Shkolnikov, who holds a Ph.D. in electrical engineering from Princeton University and an engineering physics degree from Cornell University. More information and a FAQ is available on our website hwe.coop and, as always, we invite you to contact our friendly Member Service Representatives at 800-445-4840 for more information.



Smart Phone (.972)
12,667 times greater



Cordless Phone (.12)
8,000 times greater



Microwave (.0047)
313 times greater



Wifi (.0010)
67 times greater



Our bodies (.0003)
20 times greater



Broadcast Tower (.00015)
10 times greater



Earth natural RF (.00013)
8.7 times greater



Digital Meter (.000015)
at one yard

Figures are based upon the FCC standard which averages exposure over 30 minutes of usage (47CFR1.1310 averaging) and are measured in milliwatts per square centimeter (mW/cm2)