

FIRE HYDRANT METER POLICY FOR TEMPORARY WATER SERVICE

This policy regulates the use of water meters attached to fire hydrants (hereinafter "fire hydrant meters") so that users will have the ability to obtain temporary water service in those instances where it is not practical to establish a permanent tap for metered water service.

The primary purpose of a fire hydrant is to provide fire protection and the flushing of water mains. This policy is intended to set forth restrictions, cost and guidelines for the use of fire hydrant meters. Rogers Water Utilities is not under any obligation or required by law to provide water service to any user that does not comply with the City of Rogers Code of Ordinances and policies governing water service as established by Rogers Waterworks and Sewer Commission.

- A. Except for fire protection and other authorized municipal uses, all water obtained from fire hydrants shall be measured through fire hydrant meters. Temporary water service obtained through a fire hydrant meter shall be established at such time as a refundable meter deposit has been collected from the user and water service has been initiated. A one-inch (1") fire hydrant meter deposit is \$200.00; a two-inch (2") fire hydrant meter deposit is \$350.00; and a three-inch (3") fire hydrant meter deposit is \$500.00. Unlawful taking of water from a fire hydrant shall be considered theft of public property, and violators/offenders will be subject to prosecution as permitted by state statutes and the City of Rogers Code of Ordinances.
- B. Users are responsible for blocking/support of any fire hydrant meter attached to any fire hydrant. Users requesting fire hydrant meters for temporary service are responsible for the volume of water registered through the meter. Users shall also assume responsibility for any damages to the fire hydrant and/or for damages to, or theft of, meters, valves, connections and other appurtenances used during such time water service is being provided to the user.
- C. For any fire hydrant meter that is owned by Rogers Water Utilities, a meter rental fee of \$7.00 per day shall be collected regardless of the size of the meter. In addition to the rental fee for each fire hydrant meter, the users shall be billed for water consumption based upon the most current water rate schedule established by the City of Rogers Code of Ordinances. Users will be billed for water based upon the location of the fire hydrant meter. Water measured from fire hydrant meters located inside Rogers City limits will be billed at inside city rates. Water measured from fire hydrant meters located outside Rogers City limits will be billed at outside city rates. A privately owned fire hydrant meter shall be tested no less than once a year.
- D. Users shall identify, at the time of the request, the location of the fire hydrant to be used, for attachment of the fire hydrant meter. After service has been initiated by Rogers Water Utilities, the fire hydrant meter shall not be removed from the fire hydrant by the users

except in emergencies. Relocation of fire hydrant meters shall be performed only by representatives of Rogers Water Utilities. A \$30.00 service call charge shall be collected each time a fire hydrant meter is set or relocated to another fire hydrant.

- E. Fire hydrant meters shall be allowed as a temporary source to secure metered water needed for outdoor uses. When the ambient air temperature is expected to drop below thirty-two (32) degrees Fahrenheit, Rogers Water Utilities reserves the right to remove fire hydrant meters from service or to deny a request for a fire hydrant meter installation.
- F. Rogers Water Utilities reserves the right to restrict the use of fire hydrant meters and to determine the fire hydrant location for metered service. The use of fire hydrant meters may be discontinued in the event of a water shortage or during periods of time when the water supply is diminished. Large fire hydrant meters (two-inch (2") meters or greater) shall not be attached to fire hydrants in areas where excessive flows through the metered connection could diminish or cause a loss of water pressure in the distribution system. A fire hydrant meter shall not be provided at locations where the use of a meter could damage the fire hydrant, create a potential traffic hazard, result in property damage, or otherwise impact the effective and efficient operation of the water system and/or sewer system.
- G. Adequate protection should be maintained at all times to prevent back siphonage or backflow of water from any connection into the municipal distribution system. Water trucks must have a six-inch (6") air gap approved by Rogers Water Utilities or a reduced pressure zone device approved by Rogers Water Utilities.
- H. Fire hydrant connections must be made according to the operating instructions listed below:
 - 1. A fire hydrant wrench issued by Rogers Water Utilities must be used to open and close the fire hydrant valve. The use of a pipe wrench or channel lock wrench is not allowed for operating a fire hydrant.
 - 2. The fire hydrant valve must be fully opened slowly and fully closed slowly to prevent damage.
 - 3. The fire hydrant must be in the fully open position when in use and completely closed when not in use.
 - 4. Water flow shall be controlled via the gate valve on the fire hydrant meter, not the fire hydrant valve.
- I. Failure of the user to comply with any of the terms listed above may, as applicable, result in the confiscation of the fire hydrant meter, deposit forfeiture, and/or other action, including prosecution, as permitted by state statutes and the City of Rogers Code of Ordinances.

Effective Date: August 1, 2015



Earl Rausch, Utility Superintendent

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