

Village of Bloomfield Utility Department

Water Utility Operating Rules

Compliance with Rules

All persons now receiving a water supply from this water utility, or who may request service in the future, shall be considered as having agreed to be bound by the rules and regulations as filed with the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin.

Establishment of Service

Application for water service may be made in writing on a form furnished by the water utility. The application will contain the legal description of the property to be served, name of the owner, the exact use to be made of the service, and the size of the supply pipe and meter desired. (Note particularly any special refrigeration, fire protection or air-conditioning water consuming appliances.)

Service will be furnished only if (1) premise have a frontage on a properly platted street or public strip in which a cast iron or other long-life water main has been laid, or where property owner has agreed to and complied with the provisions of the utility's filed main extension rule, (2) property owner has installed or agrees to install a service pipe from the curb line to the point of use, and laid not less than 6 feet below the surface of an established or proposed grade, and according to utility's specification, and (3) premises have adequate piping beyond metering point.

The owner of a multi-unit dwelling has the option of being served by individual metered water service to each unit. The owner, by selecting this option, is required to provide interior plumbing and meter settings to enable individual metered service to each unit and individual disconnection without affecting service to other units. Each meter and meter connection will be a separate water utility customer for the purpose of the filed rules and regulations.

No division of the water service of any lot or parcel of land shall be made for the extension and independent meterage of the supply to an adjoining lot or parcel of land. No division of a water supply service shall be made at the curb for separate supplies therefrom for two or more separate premises having frontage on any street or public service strip whether owned by the same or different parties.

The utility may withhold approval of any application wherein full information of the purpose of such supply is not clearly indicated and set forth by the applicant property owner.

Operation of Valves and Hydrants, and Unauthorized Use of Water - Penalty

Any person who shall, without authority of the utility, allow contractors, masons or other unauthorized persons to take water from their premises, operate any valve connected with the street or supply mains, or open any fire hydrant connected with the distribution system, except for the purpose of extinguishing fire, or who shall wantonly damage or impair the same shall be subject to a fine as provided by municipal ordinance. Permits for the use of hydrants apply only to such hydrants as are designated for the specific use.

Service Connections (or Water Laterals)

No water service shall be laid through any trench having cinders, rubbish, rock or gravel fill, or any other material which may cause injury to or disintegration of the service pipe, unless adequate means of protection are provided by sand filling or such other insulation as may be approved by the utility. Service pipes passing through curb or retaining walls shall be adequately safeguarded by provision of a channel space or pipe casing, not less than twice the diameter of the service connection. The space between the service pipe and channel or pipe casing shall be filled and lightly caulked with an oakum, mastic cement or other resilient material, and made impervious to moisture.

In backfilling the pipe trench, the service pipe must be protected against injury by carefully hand tamping the ground filling, free from hard lumps, rocks, stones or other injurious material, around and at least six (6) inches over the pipe.

All water supplies shall be of undiminished size from the street main into the point of meter placement. Beyond the meter outlet valve, the piping shall be sized and proportioned to provide, on all floors, at all times, an equitable

Village of Bloomfield Utility Department

Water Utility Operating Rules

distribution of water supply for the greatest probable number of fixtures or appliances operating simultaneously.

Replacement and Repair of Service Pipe

Where the property owner requests that a larger service lateral be installed to replace an existing smaller diameter pipe, an allowance of \$15 will be made as a deduction in the cost, providing the new service is to be installed in the same ditch as the existing service pipe.

The service pipe from the main, to and through the curb stop, will be maintained and kept in repair and when worn out, replaced at the expense of the utility, if the lateral is copper or lead. The property owner shall maintain the service pipe from the curb stop to the point of use.

If an owner fails to repair a leaking or broken service pipe from curb to point of metering or use within such time as may appear reasonable to the utility after notification has been served on the owner by the utility, the water will be shut off and will not be turned on again until the repairs have been completed.

Charges for Water Wasted Due to Leaks

See Wis. Adm. Code, Chapter PSC 185.

Thawing Frozen Services

See Wis. Adm. Code, Chapter PSC 185.

Curb Stop Boxes

The customer shall protect the curb stop box in the terrace and shall keep the same free from dirt and other obstructions. The utility shall not be liable for failure to locate curb stop box and shut off the water in case of a leak on the owner's premises.

Installation of Meters

Meters will be furnished and placed by the utility and are not to be disconnected or tampered with by the consumer. All meters shall be so located that they shall be protected from obstructions and permit ready access thereto for reading, inspection and servicing, such location to be designated or approved by the utility. All piping within the building must be supplied by the owner.

Repairs to Meter

Meters will be repaired by the utility and the cost of such repairs caused by ordinary wear and tear will be borne by the utility.

Repair of any damage to a meter resulting from carelessness of the owner of the premises, owner's agent, or tenant, or from the negligence of any one of them to properly secure and protect same, including any damage that may result from allowing a water meter to become frozen or to be injured from the presence of hot water or steam in the meter, shall be paid for by the consumer or the owner of the premises.

Service Piping for Meter Settings

Where the original service piping is installed for a new metered customer, where existing service piping is changed for the customer's convenience, or where a new meter is installed for an existing unmetered customer, the owner of the premises at their expense shall provide a suitable location and the proper connections for the meter. The water utility should be consulted as to the type and size of meter setting.

No permit will be given to change from metered to flat rate service.

Turning on Water

The water cannot be turned on for a consumer except by a duly authorized employee of the utility. The plumber must leave the water turned off after completing the job. This does not prevent the plumber from testing the work.

Village of Bloomfield Utility Department

Water Utility Operating Rules

Failure to Read Meters

Where the utility is unable to read a meter after two successive attempts, the fact will be plainly indicated on the bill, and either an estimated bill will be computed, or the minimum charge applied. The difference shall be adjusted when the meter is again read, that is, the bill for the succeeding billing period will be computed with the gallons or cubic feet in each block of the rate schedule doubled and credit will be given on that bill for the amount of the bill paid the preceding period.

If the meter is damaged or fails to operate, the bill will be based on the average use during the past year unless there is some reason why the use is not normal. If the average use cannot be properly determined, the bill will be estimated by some equitable method.

Complaint Meter Tests

See Wis. Adm. Code, Chapter PSC 185.

Inspection of Premises

During reasonable hours, any officer or authorized employee of the utility shall have the right of access to the premises supplied with service, for the purpose of inspection or for the enforcement of the utility's rules and regulations. Whenever appropriate, the utility will make a systematic inspection of all unmetered water taps for the purpose of checking waste and unnecessary use of water.

Customer's Deposits

See Wis. Adm. Code, Chapter PSC 185.

Conditions of Deposit

See Wis. Adm. Code, Chapter PSC 185.

Guarantee Contracts

See Wis. Adm. Code, Chapter 185.

Deferred Payment Agreement

See Wis. Adm. Code, Chapter 185.

Collection of Overdue Bills

An amount owed by the customer may be levied as a tax as provided in Section 66.069, Wisconsin Statutes.

Surreptitious Use of Water

When the utility has reasonable evidence that a consumer is obtaining water, in whole or in part, by means of devices or methods used to stop or interfere with the proper metering of the utility service being delivered, the utility reserves the right to estimate and present immediately a bill for service unmetered as a result of such interference and such bill shall be payable subject to a 24-hour disconnection of service. When the utility shall have disconnected the consumer for any such reason, the utility will reconnect the consumer upon the following conditions:

1. The consumer will be required to deposit with the utility, an amount sufficient to guarantee the payment of the consumer's bills for utility service to the utility.
2. The consumer will be required to pay the utility for any and all damages to its equipment on the consumer's premises due to such stoppage or interference with its metering.
3. The consumer must further agree to comply with reasonable requirements to protect the utility against further losses.

Sections 98.26 and 943.20, Wis. Stats., as relating to water service, are hereby adopted and made a part of these rules.

Village of Bloomfield Utility Department

Water Utility Operating Rules

Vacation of Premises

When premises are to be vacated, the utility shall be notified, in writing, at once, so that it may remove the meter and shut off the supply at the curb valve. The owner of the premises shall be liable to prosecution for any damage to the property of the water department by reason of failure to notify the utility of vacancy.

Repairs to Mains

The utility reserves the right to shut off the water in the mains temporarily, to make repairs, alterations or additions to the plant or system. When the circumstances will permit, the utility will give notification, by newspaper publication or otherwise, of the discontinuance of the supply. No rebate will be allowed to consumers for such temporary suspension of supply.

Handling Water Mains and Service Pipes in Excavation Trenches

Contractors must ascertain for themselves, the existence and location of all water mains and service pipes. Where removed, cut or damaged during trench excavation, the contractors must, at their own expense, cause them to be replaced or repaired at once. Contractors must not shut off the water service pipes to any consumer for a period exceeding 6 hours.

Protective Devices

- A. Protective Devices in General: The owner or occupant of every premise receiving water supply shall apply and maintain suitable means of protection of the premise supply, and all appliances thereof, against damage arising in any manner from the use of the water supply, variation of water pressure, or any interruption of water supply. Particularly, such owner or occupant must protect water cooled compressors for refrigeration systems by means of high and/or low pressure safety cutout devices. There shall likewise be provided, means for the prevention of the transmission of water ram or noise of operation of any valve or appliance through the piping of their own or adjacent premises.
- B. Relief Valves: On all "closed systems" (i.e., systems having a check valve, pressure regulator, or reducing valve, water filter or softener), an effective pressure relief valve shall be installed either in the top tapping or the upper side tapping of the hot water tank, or on the hot water distributing pipe connection at the tank. No stop valve shall be placed between the hot water tank and the relief valve or on the drainpipe. See applicable plumbing codes.
- C. Air Chambers: An air chamber or approved shock absorber shall be installed at the terminus of each riser, fixture branch, or hydraulic elevator main for the prevention of undue water hammer. The air chamber shall be sized in conformance with local plumbing codes. Where possible, the air chamber should be provided at its base with a valve for water drainage and replenishment of air.

Purity of Supply Not to Be Impaired by Cross-Connections

Every person owning or occupying a premise receiving municipal water supply shall maintain such municipal water supply free from any connection, either of a direct or of an indirect nature, with a water supply from a foreign source, or of any manner of connection with any fixture or appliance, whereby water from a foreign supply or the waste from any fixture, appliance, waste or soil pipe may flow, be siphoned or pumped into the piping of the municipal water system.