



Penngrove Kenwood Water Company  
4982 Sonoma Highway  
Santa Rosa, CA 95409  
(707) 539-6397  
[www.pkh2o.com](http://www.pkh2o.com)

### Water Connections Requirements

The Penngrove and Kenwood Village water companies are frequently asked questions regarding new water service connections and the requirements for them. Questions range from what size meter is required to what should be the size of the service pipes. These questions, although important, are to be decided upon by the property owner and/or their agents (architects, contractors, engineers, etc.) in compliance with applicable building codes. Please refer to your contractor before you call the Penngrove Kenwood Water Company to place a meter. In Sonoma County, building codes are promulgated and enforced by the Sonoma County Permit and Resources Management Department (PRMD), 2550 Ventura Avenue, Santa Rosa 95403: Phone (707) 565-1900.

**Fire flow requirements** for fire protection and sprinkler systems are important to look at when considering sizing for the components of a residential water service. Your contractor will have **sprinkler calculations for fire sprinkler systems**. Based on the size of the house, the sprinkler contractor has to decide what the appropriately sized service line and meter should be for your property. In the case of a service renewal, the existing pipe from the water company main to the meter location may be undersized relative to current flow requirements. In this case, the service pipe should be replaced with a larger diameter pipe; and service lines on the property from the meter to the residence may also be undersized, requiring replacement. The above named water companies do not and will not specify the parameters of a new or a replaced water service connection. As stated above, this is the responsibility of the property owner, in compliance with the code requirements specified by PRMD.

Although the water companies will not specify the service connection parameters, our experience has been that typically the minimum residential 5/8-inch x 3/4-inch meter fed by a 3/4-inch inside diameter service line will not provide adequate fire flows for fire protection sprinkler systems to meet current codes. Further, a 1-inch meter fed by a 1-inch service line has typically been sufficient. **The water company will install whatever meter size the customer requests**. Since post-installation, the service line from the main to the meter becomes the water company property, we require new service lines, if any, to be installed using polyethylene (PE) pipe for longer life and lower maintenance.

Please feel free to contact our offices for clarification on any of the information provided above.

Sincerely,

PKWC Staff and Management

