



## 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. In the interest of public safety and to protect the integrity of the water system the fire hydrant meters are allowed for a maximum of 60 days. An exception can be made on a case-by-case basis by Central Water Association (hereinafter "CWA") for a project that will last more than 60 days. The project shall have an estimated completion date.

The primary purpose of a fire hydrant is to provide fire protection and the flushing of the water main. This policy is intended to set forth restrictions, costs and guidelines for the use of fire hydrant meters. CWA is not under any obligation or required by law to provide water service to any user that does not comply with CWA rules and regulations.

- A. Except for fire protection and other authorized associational 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 an application fee has been collected from the user and water service has been initiated. 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.
- 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 damage to the fire hydrant and/or for damage to, or theft of, meters, valves, connections and other appurtenances used during such a time water service is being provided to the user.
- C. For any hydrant meter that is owned by Central Water Association, a permit fee of \$ 100.00 per year shall be collected. In addition to the permit fee for each fire hydrant meter, the users shall be billed for water consumption at a rate of \$ 10.00 per 1,000 gallons.
- 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 CWA, the fire hydrant meter shall not be removed from the fire hydrant by the user except in emergencies. Relocation of fire hydrant meters shall be performed only by representatives of CWA. A \$ 50.00 service 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, CWA reserves the right to remove fire hydrant meters from service or to deny a request for a fire hydrant meter installation.
- F. CWA 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.
- G. Adequate protection should be always maintained to prevent back siphonage or backflow of water from any connection into the distribution system. Water must have a six-inch (6") air gap approved by CWA, or a reduced pressure zone device approved by CWA.
- H. Fire hydrant connections must be made according to the operating instructions listed below:
  1. The fire hydrant valve must be fully opened slowly to prevent damage.
  2. The fire hydrant must be in the fully open position when in use and completely closed when not in use.
  3. Water flow shall be controlled via the gate valve on the fire hydrant meter, not the fire hydrant valve.
- I. Failure to comply with any of the terms listed above may, as applicable, result in the confiscation of the fire hydrant meter, and/or other action, including prosecution, as permitted by applicable law.

8/12/2024  
Effective Date

  
John Wilkerson, General Manager