

SECTION 5
METERS, BACK-FLOW PREVENTION AND REDUCED PRESSURE ZONE DEVICES

A. Metered Service (Rev. 6/1/22)

The Authority shall supply water meters for residential services for domestic use only. An Owner seeking water service for any other use, including a commercial, industrial or public Property, shall directly purchase a water meter or meters for themselves according to specifications approved by the Authority prior to purchase, including size, type and manufacture. The Authority will not supply a meter to the Owner in any such circumstance. All meters, whether supplied by the Authority or purchased by the Owner, shall be under the control of the Authority and shall be approved by the Authority prior to installation. All meters shall be installed in accordance with these Rules. The cost of meter installation shall be borne by the Owner. Approval of the installed meter rests with the Authority inspector, who shall record the initial reading.

B. Size of Meter

1. The Authority shall determine the size and the style of the meter to be installed but in no case shall the meter be more than one (1) commercial size below the size of the service line.
2. A 3/4" meter shall be the smallest meter to be installed on residential services for domestic use, but this size meter shall only be considered as being adequate for three or fewer Consumers. When four or more Consumers receive their supply through a single meter, the size shall be at least 1 inch. (Rev. 6/6/18)

C. Installation of Meters

1. Location: Effective July 1, 2018, all water meters shall be installed in meter pits located at, or approximately at, the curb line in instances of service from water mains in street rights-of-way to properties fronting those streets, or at such other location as shall be approved by an authorized representative of the Authority, in other instances. The meter pit and all associated equipment, including but not limited to the meter itself, shall meet such specifications as the Authority may adopt, from time to time. (Rev. 6/6/18)

2. Shut-off: All meter pit assemblies shall have a shut-off valve on the main side of the meter, sized to conform with the service line. (Rev. 6/6/18)
3. Inspection: At the completion of the installation of each meter pit, meter, valve(s) and associated equipment, the Owner or his agent shall advise the Authority of completion of the installation. Upon notice of installation, the Authority will inspect the pit and meter and approve if satisfactory. The initial meter reading will occur at time of inspection. (Rev. 6/6/18)
4. Pre-Existing Inside Meters: In those cases pre-dating the July 1, 2018 effective date of Section C.1. above where meters have been installed inside of residences or other properties, if meter replacement becomes necessary, compliance with the pit meter requirement of Section C.1 shall be preferred. If replacement by means of installation of a meter pit is infeasible due to cost or other reasons, new inside meters shall be installed at a height of between 12" and 48" from the floor, and at a configuration and location as shall be approved by the Authority. In each such instance, Consumers shall obtain Authority approval of the location of meter installation. The Authority may require that the location shall be different from the location of the meter being replaced, at the discretion of the Authority. (Rev. 6/6/18)

D. Inaccurate Meters

The quantity of water recorded by the meter shall be conclusive and binding on both the Consumer and the Authority, except when the meter has been found by the Authority to be registering inaccurately or has ceased to register. In either case excepted above, the meter will be repaired promptly by the Authority and the quantity of water consumed for the billing period when the meter was out of service or registering inaccurately shall be estimated by the average registration of the meter on the three (3) previous corresponding billing periods. (Rev. 6/6/18)

E. Protection of Meter

1. The Consumer must, at all times, properly protect the meter from injury by frost or any other cause and will be held responsible for repairs to meter made necessary due to his negligence. Damage due to freezing, hot water, or external cause shall be paid for by the Consumer. Meters will be maintained by the Authority so far as ordinary wear is concerned.
2. The charge for the reinstallation or changing of a meter when removed because of damage caused in any way by the negligence of Consumer shall be the same as listed herein for the meter tests. The charge shall include testing of the repaired meters. (Rev. 6/6/18)

F. Meter Tests

At the written request of an Owner or a Consumer, the Authority will make a test of the accuracy of the meter supplying a Property, and if so desired in his presence or that of his authorized representative. A deposit will be required before the meter is tested, which will be returned if the meter is found to be registering more than 4% against the Consumer on a flow equal to one-eighth of the diameter of the service, otherwise the deposit will be retained by the Authority to cover the cost of the test. The Deposit required with each request for meter testing shall be as set forth in the Schedule of Rates and Charges then in effect. (Rev. 6/6/18)

G. Liability of Authority

The Authority shall not be liable for any damage resulting from leaks, broken pipes, or from any other cause occurring to or within any house or building, or between curb stop and meter. No Consumer shall have any claim against the Authority on account of the bursting or breaking of any main or service pipe or any attachment to the Authority water system. (Rev. 6/6/18)

H. Meter Calibration/Back-Flow Prevention (Reduced Pressure Principle Back-Flow Prevention Devices).

- (a) All Authority customers served with a 2" water service or larger or a fire service meter shall be responsible for meter calibration, and shall provide certification of calibration of each such meter to the Authority. Each service supply meter of 2" or larger and every fire

service meter shall be calibrated, at the sole expense of the customer, at least bi-annually, by a person or firm certified to perform such calibration, with certified results returned to the Authority office by December 31 of each even numbered year (i.e., 2018, 2020, 2022, etc.) (Rev. 6/6/18)

- (b) Every Authority Customer with a service connection which includes a Back-Flow Prevention Device, including Reduced Pressure Principle Back-Flow Prevention Devices (referred to herein as "RPP Devices" and used in fire suppression systems which contain fluids or other substances other than potable water) shall be responsible to provide certification to the Authority annually of the proper functioning of all such devices in accordance with then applicable ANSI and AWWA standards, after inspection by a licensed person or company. Such certification shall be provided to the Authority by the end of each calendar year.
- (c) All remedial work and replacement costs necessary to achieve satisfactory meter performance and satisfactory performance of backflow preventers, including RPP Devices, shall be the responsibility of the Customer.
- (d) In the event the Authority fails to receive certification from any customer to which this Rule applies, the Authority shall provide written Notice of Noncompliance. If compliance is not achieved within sixty (60) days from the date of such Notice, the Authority shall cause each such meter to be calibrated and certified, and shall cause each such back-flow preventer or RPP Device to be inspected and certified, with the cost of such calibration, inspection and certification (together with remediation costs, if necessary) to be the responsibility of the customer. Costs associated with calibration, certification of equipment and/or remediation by the Authority or its contractors or agents shall be billed as part of a monthly or quarterly bill following performance of the work.
- (e) The Authority shall be permitted access to all service connections to independently inspect and verify meter calibration and proper functioning of back-flow prevention devices, including RPP Devices.

(f) Non-compliance with any of the provisions of this Section H shall constitute cause for termination of water service by the Authority, upon Notice given in accordance with Section 9.G.3 of these Rules. Notice shall not be required and Rule 9.G.2.f shall apply in instances when the Authority determines service termination is necessary to protect the public health and safety.

I. Leaks or Waste

All water passing through a meter shall be charged for at the regular rate, and no allowance will be made for excessive consumption due to leaks or waste.

J. Access to Meter

The Authority shall have the right of free access at all reasonable times to each Property in or on which a meter is located for purposes of setting, reading, testing, inspecting or repairing. (Rev. 6/6/18)

K. Replacement of Meter

All Authority customers served with a fire service meter or a meter that is larger than 1" shall be responsible for the replacement of the meter as needed. Customers shall pay any costs associated with the removal and replacement of a meter including but not limited to the cost of the new meter and the costs of installation. Replacement of a meter shall occur at the direction of the Authority when a meter is not operating properly, if a meter ceases operation, when a meter reaches its end-of-life or as otherwise required by the Authority. (Rev. 6/5/24)