

Municipal Water Utility of the City of Cedar Falls, Iowa

Service Policy

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August, 2000

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When water service has been requested from the Cedar Falls Water Utility, and such service is provided, the owner of the property shall be considered as having expressed his consent to be bound by the regulations and requirements contained within this water policy.

CHARACTER OF SUPPLY

The Utilities will supply water that is approved and certified by the United States Environmental Protection Agency and/or the Iowa Department of Natural Resources. The water supply will be fluoridated and chlorinated as required.

WATER RATES

All customers of the Utilities will be billed at the applicable residential, commercial or industrial rate. The water rates are established by, and may be changed at the discretion of, the Cedar Falls Utilities' Board of Trustees.

WATER MAIN EXTENSION ROUTES

All customers requesting a water main extension must furnish one print of the property or platted area in question to the Utilities. The customer must also furnish easements to the Utilities or assist the Utilities in securing easement rights when it becomes necessary to cross private property with the water main.

All water main extensions will be constructed along existing improved public roads, streets, and alleys where a permanent grade is established or along a route selected by the Utilities. Water mains will normally be installed in the north and/or west parking of street right-of-ways. The length of any main extension shall be considered as the distance from the nearest existing water main and measured parallel to the customer's property to his farthest lot line. If the Utilities deem it necessary to cross from one side of the street to the other side, discounting intersections, this distance will not be considered.

The Utilities may construct and finance entirely or partially a water main extension at any time if it is deemed in the best interest of the Utilities.

All water main extensions shall normally remain the property of the Utilities and the Utilities reserves the right to maintain, repair and replace the mains. The exception would be for extensions installed and maintained by the owner of said property and are considered part of the water service to the property. The Utilities will not assume ownership of any water system installed on private property until approved easements have been furnished and accepted.

SUBDIVISIONS

A developer of a subdivision will be required to construct a water main or mains of similar design as the distribution grid design used by the Utilities, including adequate valving, hydrant placement, and installation of water service stubs or conduits for future water service installation. Water mains will be required on all streets within the platted area. The developer's engineer is required to submit the necessary Iowa Department of Natural Resources permit application forms and construction plans for review by the Cedar Falls Utilities.

A developer of a subdivision, where a water main of adequate size is adjoining the subdivision, may tie into the water main with connection charges as determined by the Utilities.

UNUSUAL CONDITIONS

In all areas, the Utilities reserves the right to require an applicant to construct water main extensions of adequate size to meet applicant's requirements as determined by the Utilities. This policy would apply even in areas where a smaller size main had previously been installed.

WATER MAIN EXTENSION COSTS

An applicant requesting one or more water main extensions will be required to pay the full cost of said extensions, based on the applicant's requirements determined by the Utilities. The applicant's main size requirements will be determined on the basis of a combination of a usage and fire flow demands required for the area to be served; a 6-inch main size being minimum. If it is deemed in the best interest of the Utilities to install a larger size main than the

applicant's requirements, the Utilities will pay the difference in the estimated cost as determined by the Utilities.

In order to promote and facilitate the extension of water service to existing, previously developed subdivisions, the Utilities reserve the right to pay for a portion or all of the initial construction cost, and to recover those costs from the participating property owners through a financing arrangement. It remains the sole discretion of the Utilities as to which projects to finance, and under what length, payment schedule, and interest rates. Generally, 50% or more of the existing property owners would need to commit to converting to CFU water within a reasonable time frame. In order to participate, the property owner will be required to enter into a mortgage agreement with the Cedar Falls Utilities which provides CFU protection from default of payment.

The cost estimate of construction of the main extension will be calculated by the Utilities and include all necessary distribution fittings, valves and hydrants. When construction is necessary during the winter months, the applicant must agree to pay the additional cost of necessary frost-breaking practices.

In those cases where the construction costs of the water main extension have been paid by the applicants and one or more other property owners shall from time to time request permission to obtain water service from said main, the Utilities will charge the property owner(s) the applicable front footage fee. No refunds will be paid to the original applicants unless special conditions have been provided for in writing.

- A) All connection charges of this nature shall be paid in advance of tapping and service connections.
- B) The Utilities will study each individual case and arrive at a tapping charge and front footage fee to be paid by the property owner(s) requesting service from said main.

PLATTED ANNEXED SUBDIVISIONS

Property owners of a platted, annexed subdivision requesting water service where there is not an existing water main of adequate size adjoining the subdivision, will be required to construct a main from the existing water main to the subdivision and on all streets within the subdivision. Proper valving, hydrants and water services must be included.

Platted or annexed subdivisions, where a water main of adequate size is adjoining the subdivision, may tie into the water main with connection charges as determined by the Utilities, and construct a water main within the subdivision providing all construction complies with the Utilities specifications.

FOOTAGE CONNECTION CHARGES

When the Utilities--for health, system pressure, system stability or other reasons--extends or has extended water mains at its own expense, there shall be a connection charge for all connections to such mains. Said charge shall be \$12 per foot on the footage on the side of the lot upon which the connection is made with a minimum charge of \$600 per connection.

No footage connection charge will apply when a customer simply replaces the water service.

Footage connection charges will be based on a minimum of 100 feet in unplatted areas.

PRIVATE HYDRANTS

Fire hydrants installed on private water lines shall be the type and design approved by the Utilities. An annual protective maintenance charge will be billed by the Utilities to those customers owning an approved fire hydrant. This charge will cover the cost of painting, lubrication, flushing, pumping and minor repairs. Other necessary repairs to condition the hydrant for emergency fire protection service will be done at an additional charge to the customer.

All fire hydrants shall be operated by authorized personnel by Cedar Falls Utilities.

WATER SERVICE OUTSIDE CITY LIMITS

The Utilities may provide water service to customers outside the City limits at the discretion of the Utilities.

INSTALLATION OF WATER SERVICE

The owner of a property to be served must assume the responsibility and bear the entire cost of the water service line which runs from the water main to the building. All water services shall be installed to comply with the Plumbing Code of the City of Cedar Falls, Iowa.

The customer or plumber must make application with the Utilities for a water tap prior to the installation of the water service. The Utilities will make the water tap and will charge the owner or plumber a fee for this work according to tap size.

The water service line shall be owned, maintained and repaired by the property owner. This service lines includes the piping, corporation at the main, curb stop, curb box and meter valve. The Utilities will not be responsible for the failure of any pipe or fixtures associated with the property owner's service line. All owners, at their own expense, must keep their service line (from the point of connection with the Utilities main to their premises) in good working condition. Any failure of the service line during normal operation by a Utilities employee shall be repaired and paid for by the service line owner.

Water tap charges, including labor, inside the City limits are:

5/8"	\$30
3/4"	\$30
1"	\$30
1-1/4"	\$35
1-1/2"	\$35
2"	\$35
3"	\$75
4"	\$300
6"	\$325
8'	\$350
10"	\$425
12"	\$450

The above charges also apply for taps outside the City limits. An additional charge of 35¢ per mile for transportation, plus all labor expenses, will be added for this work.

ABANDONED WATER SERVICES

All water services that become obsolete because of the laying of new or larger services must be cut and shut off at the water main and reported to the Utilities. When a building is to be torn down or moved, eliminating the need for a water service, the water service must also be cut

and shut off at the water main. All expenses and work incurred in cutting and shutting the service off permanently is the responsibility of the owner.

METER INSTALLATION

The Utilities will furnish, own, install and maintain all meters and meter connections through which service is supplied. The customer's meter size requirements shall be governed by the size of the service and determined by the Utilities. All meters shall be placed on the service pipe, not to exceed two feet from a wall where the pipe enters the building and with the bottom of the meter at least 7-inches above the floor with a shut off valve between the meter and said wall. On services of 1-1/2" or larger, a shut off valve shall be installed on both sides of the meter. Multiple meter set ups shall be installed so that any one of the meters can be removed without interruption to the other multiple meter services.

All the necessary piping for the meter installation and the house piping on the outlet side of the meter shall be furnished by the customer.

When meters are placed on a pipe connected to a boiler or other hot water apparatus, a relief valve must be placed between the meter and the boiler or hot water apparatus to protect such meter from the back pressure of steam or hot water. If a meter is damaged through negligence by excessive back pressure or freezing, the Utilities shall charge the owner the total repair or replacement charge, with a minimum fee of \$40.

BACKFLOW PREVENTION

Cross-connections control containment provisions are contained in Division 1 of Article VII, Cross-Connection Control Containment Provision of Chapter 7, Buildings And Building Regulations of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Cedar Falls, Iowa (Ordinance No. 2196, Par 1, 6-23-97). Consumers connecting to the Cedar Falls Utilities water system are required to abide by this ordinance, which is intended to safeguard the municipal water supply.

The purpose of cross-connection control containment is to safeguard potable water supplies by preventing backflow of pollution into the public water systems that would impair the quality of the potable water.

The administrative authority for containment, backflow devices at the water service entrance to a consumer's facility, is the Board of Trustees of the Municipal Water Utility of the

City of Cedar Falls. Administrative authority for backflow prevention by isolation, backflow devices located at the cross-connection, is the City Council of Cedar Falls.

METER PITS

Upon approval of the Utilities, the customer may have his meters installed outside the building in a meter pit or vault constructed according to specifications on file at the Utilities. The customer will be responsible for all construction and maintenance costs of the pit or vault.

OUTSIDE WATER READING REGISTERS

Outside reading registers will be installed and maintained by the Utilities on all new dwellings or in existing dwellings where all other Utilities' meters are located outside. The reading register shall be in a position approved by the Utilities and at a minimum height of 24-inches and a maximum height of 60-inches above finished ground elevation.

On dwellings of non-wood construction, the contractor or owner must provide a wood mounting surface of 10-inches wide by 8-inches high of a standard 1-inch board thickness, or an alternate means of mounting approved by the Utilities. On dwellings of non-wood construction, the contractor or owner must install a 3/8-inch sleeve through the wall through which the connecting cable for the outside reading register may pass. A sleeve of sufficient length must also be installed by the contractor when it becomes necessary for the cable to pass through an inaccessible area. The sleeve must be installed flush with the outside wall surface and at a location easily accessible to the desired location of the unit.

METER TESTING

An established program of meter testing or meter replacement will be conducted by the Utilities. A customer may request a special meter test at any time, with the Utilities reserving the right to require a nominal fee.

MULTIPLE DWELLINGS

A multiple dwelling is considered as any structure containing two or more separate living units. A separate living unit is defined as one containing separate, permanent kitchen facilities.

A separate meter may be installed for each living unit if desired. Water service for a central swimming pool and/or lawn sprinkling where waste water is not discharged into the sanitary sewer may be metered separately and billed at the regular rate. Where service is provided through one meter for more than one living unit, each water rate block will be multiplied by the number of living units served.

All water meter locations for multiple dwellings must be approved by the Utilities.

USE OF WATER FROM AN UNMETERED SERVICE

Contractors, builders and others desiring water from an unmetered service for temporary construction must pay the appropriate rate as established by the Board of Trustees and published in the Cedar Falls Utilities Rate Manual. If the Utilities estimate the water used to exceed that covered by the established rate, this water usage charge will be raised proportionately. The Utilities will bill this flat rate after the water tap is made and will continue to do so until notified by the contractor or owner. When so notified, the Utilities will shut off the water at the water main or curb stop.

Plumbers may use water to thoroughly test out all plumbing and service lines. After such testing is finished, the water shall be turned off at the water main or curb stop by the Utilities. In all cases where plumbers find the water shut off at the water main or curb stop, they must secure permission from the Utilities before turning the water on.

USE OF WATER FROM HYDRANTS

The operation of any fire hydrant either privately owned on private property or owned by the Utilities is restricted to personnel authorized by the Cedar Falls Water Utility. All water usage from hydrants other than for the purpose of fire fighting will be limited to hydrants specified by the Utilities. Authorized users will be required to complete a Hydrant Connection Agreement furnished by the Utilities.

Fire Hydrant Connection Fee Schedule

<u>Size</u>	<u>Deposit Required</u>	<u>Installation & Removal</u>	<u>Relocation Charge</u>	<u>Monthly Minimum Charge</u>
1 1/2"	\$750	\$35	\$20	\$15

2” \$1000 \$35 \$20 \$20

Water Usage Rate = \$1.08 per CCF used

Installation, removal, and relocation fees are during regular working hours. Additional charges may apply for work performed during after hours.

Unmetered usage will be reported and appropriate billings made.

INSTALLATION OF WATER USING APPLIANCES AND PIPING

All installations of water-using appliances and piping installed in buildings must receive the approval of the City Plumbing Inspector and conform to the City Plumbing Code.

CUSTOMER SERVICE

The customer service offered by the Utilities shall involve all necessary repair and maintenance on water distribution mains, equipment, hydrants, meters and miscellaneous fixtures owned by the Utilities.

The Utilities keeps a record of the locations of all water curb stops. Customers or plumbers may obtain this information from the Utilities and the assistance of a Utilities' service worker if necessary. No responsibility will be assumed by the Utilities for the accuracy of these curb stop records. Recommendations may also be given customers to eliminate such service problems as noisy pipes, freezing, water leaks and unusual tastes.

WATER LEAKS

With the exception of meter connectors and meter leaks, all internal leaks on the service line or building lines will be the responsibility of the owner to repair and pay for.

The Utilities will make the final decision as to responsibility of external leaks. If Utilities excavation on a leak finds the property owner's line needing repair, work will cease, if practical, and the owner notified. All Utilities expenses will be billed to the owner.