

## **FIRE HYDRANT WATER USE POLICY**

### **Butts County, et al. Water and Sewer Authority**

Fire hydrants are provided at various locations throughout the water distribution system solely to provide water for fire protection capabilities. Recognizing that there are times when water may be needed for other than fire protection purposes, the following policy has been established. It is expressly forbidden to withdraw water from hydrants, or from other access points not approved by the Authority, unless done in compliance with the terms of this policy.

#### Permit Required

Persons wishing to use water from a fire hydrant must use a hydrant meter provided by the Authority and must request the fire hydrant meter by applying in person at the Butts County, et al. Water and Sewer Authority at 100 West Second Street, Jackson, GA 30233.

A Fire Hydrant Water Use Permit is required for each separate occasion where water will be taken from a hydrant. The permit will indicate the proposed hydrant location, the date(s) to be used, and the estimated number of gallons to be used.

If all Authority fire hydrant meters are already in use at the time of application, a permit will not be issued until a meter becomes available.

#### Meter Deposit

A meter deposit of must be posted each time the meter is used. This deposit will be refunded upon: 1. return of the meter and combination lock in good condition, and 2. payment of any amount due for water used.

Estimated Water to Be Used	Hydrant Meter Deposit Fee
Up to 100,000 gallons	\$1500.00
101,000 gallons and above	\$3000.00

#### Installation of Hydrant Meter

When a fire hydrant water use permit has been issued, a work order will be given to Authority field staff to install the meter. The Authority's staff will endeavor to install the meter within one business day.

Authority staff will determine exactly which hydrant will be used and will secure the meter to the fire hydrant. The water user will not operate the hydrant itself but will control water through the use of the shut off valve provided on the meter. When not in use the shut off valve must be locked by the customer. A combination lock will be supplied with the meter. The lock must be returned before the security deposit is refunded.

Any attempt to remove or tamper with the hydrant meter and/or its RP backflow

prevention device will result in a revoking of the Fire Hydrant Water Use Permit and additional fines.

### Removal of Hydrant Meter and Closing of Permit

The hydrant meter will be removed when the water user notifies the Authority that it is no longer needed by calling the Authority office (770) 775-0042.

Otherwise, the hydrant meter will be removed at the end of the time period indicated for use on the Fire Hydrant Water Use Permit unless an extension of the period has been requested by the water user and approved by the Authority.

Also, if no usage is found by Authority staff over a ten-day period, the meter may be removed and the Fire Hydrant Water Use Permit closed.

### Charges for Use

The minimum fee for fire hydrant meter use will be \$100.00 per week or fraction thereof. In addition, metered water used will be billed at \$12.00 per 1000 gallons or fraction thereof.

The Authority will inspect the hydrant after use and may assess additional fees or any damage done to the unit.

After all fees have been calculated, they will be taken out of the water users security deposit. Any refunds will be mailed to the customer after final charges have been satisfied. Any additional amount due to the Authority will be invoiced to the user with payment due immediately.

### Hoses and Connections

It is the user's responsibility to supply any needed hoses and adapters to connect the hose to the hydrant meter. All connections to the meter must be made using 2 1/2" NST thread couplings.

### Violations

Violators of this policy may be charged through Article XII of the Water Ordinance for Butts County. If found guilty under the ordinance, violators shall be subject to a minimum fine of \$250.00 to a maximum fine of \$1000.00 and/or imprisonment in the county jail of Butts County for a minimum of 30 days to a maximum of 60 days.

Violators may also be fined directly by the Authority's board of directors in an amount up to \$2500 plus consequential damages. Violators will also be prohibited from any additional fire hydrant water use on the Authority's system

### Hydrant Meter Specifications

The hydrant meter to be used must be Conbraco Series 40-208-FHB Fire Hydrant Backflow Meter, or equal. The unit must be fitted with an approved Reduced Pressure backflow prevention device.

The unit shall consist of a 3" Fire Hydrant Meter, 2" RP device, 2" resilient-seated full port ball valve with locking device, 2-1/2" x 7-1/2" NST threaded hose couplings, stainless steel internal strainer on inlet connection and adjustable support rod assembly. The operating range for continuous flow shall be 10-350 g.p.m. intermittent flow with 400 g.p.m. maximum. Accuracy shall be 100%  $\pm$  1.5% of actual throughput. Low flow accuracy will be 95% at 6 g.p.m.