

6. PLUMBERS AND EXCAVATORS

A. GENERAL INFORMATION AND PURPOSE

- 1) The purpose and intent of the Rules and Regulations is to establish guidelines and conditions for connection to or extension of the City's water distribution, wastewater collection, or stormwater drainage systems. Detailed plans including material specifications and methods of installation must be approved and permits obtained prior to installation. The Department of Water reserves the right to specify, implement and enforce the terms and conditions mentioned herein. The role of the plumber and/or excavator in the process of providing utility service is to act as the Customer's agent and install service and plumbing materials in accordance with accepted practice and these Rules and Regulations.
- 2) Customers shall contract with licensed plumbers and/or excavators to obtain service and are obliged to conform to these Rules and Regulations of the Department of Water as a condition of service. Plumbers and/or excavators shall perform all service work in a dedicated street, alley or easement. Customers may perform certain work on premises with the consent of the Department of Building Services and the Division of Building Inspection.

B. LICENSE AND PERFORMANCE BOND

- 1) All plumbers and excavators doing utility work for City Customers shall be licensed and bonded by the City. By obtaining a license and bond, plumbers and excavators agree to perform all utility work in accordance with current specifications and/or standards of the Department of Water.
- 2) All new work shall be guaranteed against defects in materials and workmanship for a minimum of one (1) year after final inspection.
- 3) Plumbers and excavators shall resolve Customer or City complaints concerning materials or workmanship in a timely manner. Recourse for non-performance or failure to resolve problems may include, but is not limited to, revoking permits, assessing violation fees, enforcing bond, making repairs or filing a complaint before the Board of Plumbing Appeals.

C. PERMITS AND INSPECTIONS

- 1) Service permits and inspection are required for all new or repair work on any portion of the water service or sewer lateral except work being performed by City crews on the City maintained facilities. Plumbers and excavators shall obtain permits prior to commencing work. Violations shall be brought to the attention of Department of Building Services, Division of Building Inspections.

D. STANDARDS FOR TAPS, SERVICES AND METERS

- 1) The Department of Water shall provide current standards for materials, methods and cost concerning taps, service and meters. These Standards are published separately from these Rules and Regulations and updated as needed.

E. TAPPING WATER AND SEWER MAINS

- 1) All taps on the City-maintained water distribution system, wastewater collection system, or stormwater drainage system shall be made or supervised by personnel of the Department of Water. Water taps shall be made by the City in areas outside of the corporation limits that are not served through a master meter, except as modified by agreement.

F. MAIN EXTENSIONS

- 1) These Rules and Regulations apply whenever water or sewer facilities are available to the Customer's property. If no main is available, the Customer shall contact the Department of Water, Division of Water Engineering for procedures to follow.

G. WATER SERVICE INSTALLATION – DOMESTIC

- 1) Services shall be installed as detailed in the City's current "Standards for Taps, Services, Meters and Backflow Prevention" Plans shall be submitted for any service larger than one (1) inch in diameter. The plans shall contain the layout, location of meter; location of backflow prevention device and such other detail as may be required by the Department of Water. The minimum permitted pipe size for a new domestic service is one inch in diameter. Existing services less than one (1) in inch diameter may be picked up for reuse subject to a demonstration that the flow capacity of the service will meet the Customer's plumbing system fixture load demand while maintaining the required residual pressure at the fixture with the highest elevation. The Customer is responsible for the cost of upgrading the service if the existing service is not adequately sized to satisfy the Customer's usage demand.

H. WATER SERVICE INSTALLATION – FIRE

- 1) All fire suppression systems require plan approval from the Department of Fire, the Department of Building Services and the Department of Water. The plan shall show the size and type of pipe to be used, location of valves, hydrants, siamese connections, check valves, backflow preventers, and other appurtenances. Plumbers and excavators shall install the underground portion of firelines on the Customer’s premises subject to permits, fees, materials and procedures outlined in “Standards for Taps, Services, Meters and Backflow Prevention” and these rules. Where applicable, plumbers/excavators shall be licensed by the City and by the State of Ohio as sprinkler contractors. The installation methods and materials shall also comply with the current edition of NFPA #24, “Standard for the Installation of Private Fire Service Mains” except as otherwise specified in the City Water Service Standards or the Ohio Building Code. The minimum permitted fire line size is two (2) inches in diameter and all materials shall be new.

I. VALVE AND CURB STOP OPERATION

- 1) Plumbers and excavators licensed by the City are permitted to operate curb stops two (2) inches in diameter and smaller in the course of performing maintenance and repair work. Valves three (3) inches and larger shall be operated solely by City personnel. Any person who without authority operates a curb stop or street valve shall be assessed a *Fee for Unauthorized Use*.

J. PRESSURE/LEAKAGE TEST

- 1) New services for fire and/or domestic use shall be tested. During the test leakage shall not be allowed on exposed joints. Test specifications for domestic services are as follows:

<u>TYPE OF SERVICE</u>	<u>MAIN TO PROPERTY LINE (PL)</u>	<u>PL TO BUILDINGS</u>
K copper (domestic)	Line Pressure	150 psi. or 1.5 times the working pressure, whichever is greater.
Ductile Iron (domestic)	Tested to tap valve at 150 psi. or 1.5 times the working pressure, whichever is greater	
Ductile Iron (fire before double-check valve)	Same as Ductile Iron (domestic)	
Fire line after Double-check Valve	Tested at 200 psi. if subject to pressurization by Fire Department pumps.	

The duration of the pressure/leakage test shall be as required to ascertain a leak-free service as deemed necessary by the inspecting agency.

- 2) For fire service testing, the testing requirements of the current edition of NFPA #24 shall apply. Following satisfactory completion of the hydrostatic test, the line must be flushed also in accordance with NFPA #24. The Contractor shall provide the Fire Department with a completed "Contractor's Material and Test Certificate for Underground Piping."

K. DISINFECTION

- 1) Purity tests are required on all underground piping installed in rigid lengths. New copper pipe from a sealed coil shall be thoroughly flushed prior to use for either fire or domestic use. The required test may be performed by the Department of Water as part of service work done by the City. Two (2) consecutive purity tests twenty-four (24) hours apart shall be administered from a hose bib at the metering location, fire line double-check valve or hydrant as appropriate, in accordance with Ohio Environmental Protection Agency directives and AWWA procedure. Chlorine dosages shall meet or exceed applicable AWWA standards.

L. SEPARATION OF WATER SERVICES AND BUILDING LATERALS

- 1) In dedicated streets or easements a minimum distance of ten (10) feet shall separate parallel water mains and wastewater sewers. Between the water main and the property/easement line a minimum distance of five (5) feet shall separate the water service and building lateral

M. MINIMUM COVER

- 1) The minimum cover on water services from the main to the property or easement line is forty-eight (48) inches.

N. METERED/UNMETERED WATER

- 1) Plumbers and excavators shall ensure that no water is used without a meter. Fees for violation shall be assessed in accordance with these Rules and Regulation.
- 2) Jumpers for testing purposes shall be removed immediately after testing. Any person violating this paragraph shall be assessed a *Fee for Unauthorized Use*.

O. METERING

- 1) Metering plans must be approved prior to installation of new or resumed water service for meters one and one half inches (1-1/2") or larger. Plans shall be submitted to the One Stop Shop, Division of Water Engineering for approval. All new meter spreads and piping shall comply with "Standards for Taps, Services, Meters and Backflow Prevention" as published by the City Department of Water. Meter spreads and piping for services being resumed shall be brought up to current standards. Openings are prohibited ahead of the meter except for 1/4" outlets for pressure gauges.

P. BACKFLOW PREVENTION – CROSS CONNECTION CONTROL

- 1) All water services, whether new or resumed, shall be investigated and analyzed for backflow prevention and cross connection control. Cross connections are prohibited and all installations must conform to the backflow prevention portion of the Rules and Regulations of the Department of Water, the requirements of the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency and the Ohio Department of Commerce. Plumbers are responsible for performing this activity. All backflow prevention devices (types ASSE 1013, 1015, and 1020) shall be installed in accordance with the Department of Water and Plumbing Inspection's current procedures for plans, permits and inspections.

Q. PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS

- 1) All bills for materials, labor and equipment rendered by the Department of Water in connection with service work, main extensions or fire hydrant usage are payable within thirty (30) days of receipt. Procedures for non-payment may include assessing the bonding company, revoking future permits or prosecutions, and such other measures as allowed by law.

R. PENALTIES

- 1) Plumbers and excavators shall follow proper procedures, including obtaining plan approval and permits, inspections and fees, using proper materials and methods, removal of bypasses, purity tests, etc., and, in general, shall conduct business in a professionally skilled manner. Penalties shall be assessed as detailed in accordance with these Rules and Regulations.

S. EMPLOYEES

- 1) Plumbers and excavators are responsible for the actions and safety of their employees.