

**WN U-1**

**ORIGINAL SHEET NO. 1**

**NORTHWEST WATER SYSTEM**

**NAMING RATES FOR**

Betty Lu Miller, d/b/a Northwest Water System ("Northwest Water System")

Water Service

At

Northwest Water System

Snohomish County

Washington

And

**CONTAINING RULES AND REGULATIONS**

**GOVERNING SERVICE**

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**Issued:** June 16, 2009

**Effective:** June 17, 2009

**Issued by:** Northwest Water System

**By:** Richard A. Finnigan

**Title:** Attorney

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ORIGINAL SHEET NO. 2

NORTHWEST WATER SYSTEM

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ORIGINAL SHEET NO. 5

NORTHWEST WATER SYSTEM

WATER SERVICE  
RULES AND REGULATIONS

Rule 1 – Adoption of Rules of Regulatory Authorities

The rules regulating water service prescribed by the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission, hereinafter referred to as the Commission, are hereby adopted and by this reference are made a part of this tariff.

Rule 2 – Schedules and Conditions

The schedules and conditions specified in this tariff for water service are subject to change in accordance with the public service laws of the state of Washington or any amendment thereof. The amount of water to be furnished hereunder shall be subject to the capacity available from existing wells, or other sources of supply, of the company. All schedules for water service apply to customers located on the established water mains of the company.

Rule 3 – Supply and Use of Service

Service will be supplied only under and pursuant to these rules and any modifications or additions thereto lawfully made, and under such applicable rate schedule(s) as may from time to time be lawfully fixed. Service will be supplied only to those who secure their source of water exclusively from the company, unless otherwise provided under appropriate contract. Water service shall be used only for the purpose specified in the service agreement and applicable rate schedule(s), a customer shall not sell, or permit others to use such service, except when expressly authorized to do so under appropriate contract.

Rule 4 – Application and Agreement for Service

Each prospective customer desiring water service may be required to sign the company's standard form of application or other form of agreement before such service is supplied by the company. As part of the application, the prospective customer must complete a cross connection survey for the application to be considered complete.

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NORTHWEST WATER SYSTEM

WATER SERVICE  
RULES AND REGULATIONS

Rule 4 – Application and Agreement for Service (Cont'd)

An application for service shall be deemed to be a notice that the prospective customer desires water service from the company and represents his agreement to comply with the company's Rules and Regulations on file with the Commission and in effect at the time water service is furnished. In the absence of a signed application for water service, the delivery of water and the taking thereof by the customer shall be deemed to constitute an agreement by and between the company and the customer for the delivery and acceptance of service under the applicable rate schedule(s) and these Rules and Regulations.

Rule 5 – Change of Use

The customer will not increase his demand or use of service as stated in his application without giving due notice of such increase. In the event of such increase, the customer will be required to pay the company's regularly published rates for such increased service and demand from the date of connection and use of the same.

Whenever the customer desires to discontinue the use of water for any special purpose or through any fixtures mentioned in the original application, he shall cause the fixture to be removed and the branch pipe or service supplying the same to be capped or plugged, and shall notify the company in writing before any reduction in charge will be made. Such a reduction in charge is contingent upon the provisions of the company's tariff.

Rule 6 – Company's Service Pipe and Meters

The company will construct service connections of a proper size from its distribution mains to the customer's property. The company reserves the right to refuse to construct a service connection to any property in case the applicant's pipes are not properly constructed and protected.

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NORTHWEST WATER SYSTEM

WATER SERVICE  
RULES AND REGULATIONS

Rule 6 – Company Service Pipe and Meters (Cont'd)

The company reserves the right to meter any flat rate service at its convenience, the company's metered service rates thereupon to become effective, provided the customer has received 30 days written notice. All meters so placed will be installed and maintained by the company without cost to the customer.

Rule 7 – Reconnection Charge

A reconnection charge of \$150.00 per service shall be made for any subsequent reconnection of the customer's service to the company's distribution system. Such charge is to apply only in cases where service has been discontinued on account of delinquent account, request of the customer, refusal to make proper repairs or similar cause. No charge will be made for reconnection of service if the shut-off was made for the convenience of the company in making repairs, changes, etc.

When a company employee is dispatched to disconnect service, that person shall be required to accept payment of a delinquent account at the service address if tendered in cash, but shall not be required to dispense change for cash tendered in excess of the amount due and owing. Any excess payment shall be credited to the customer's account.

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WATER SERVICE  
RULES AND REGULATIONS

Rule 8 – Distribution Main Extension

Water Main Distribution Extensions will be installed after contracts have been approved by the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission pursuant to WAC 480-80-335.

Rule 9 – Responsibility for, and Maintenance of, Services

The customer will assume all responsibility on his premises for water supplied by the company. The company will be exempt from all liability for loss or damage caused by leakage or escape of water furnished by the company, after the same has passed the point of the company's ownership.

All service pipes and fixtures on the premises of the customer must be kept in repair and protected from freezing at the expense of the customer. Where there are leaking or defective pipes or fixtures, the water may be turned off at the option of the company until the proper repairs are made. The company may require any service to be equipped with a stop and waste cock to be used during freezing weather instead of permitting water to run continuously from faucets.

Rule 10 – Access to Premises

The company's regularly authorized agents or employees shall have access to the premises of the customer at reasonable hours for the purpose of meter reading, inspection, connection, disconnection, repair or removal of the company's property installed thereon.

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NORTHWEST WATER SYSTEM

WATER SERVICE  
RULES AND REGULATIONS

Rule 11 – Interruption to Service

The company will make a diligent effort to render uninterrupted service and supply of water; and, in cases where shut-off is necessary for repair, reconstruction, damage prevention or similar cause, the company shall give advance notice to its customers of such scheduled shut-off. However, the company will not be responsible for any damage which may result from any cessation of services such as above outlined, nor for failure to give notice of shut-off when circumstances are such that it is impossible to give notice as stated above.

Rule 12 – Payment of Bills

All bills are due and payable upon receipt and are considered delinquent fifteen (15) days after the date mailed. Bills shall be deemed received upon personal delivery to customer or three (3) days following the deposit of the bill in the United States Mail to the customer's last known address. Each bill not paid before it becomes delinquent shall be assessed a late payment charge of \$2.00. In addition, any amounts not paid within ninety (90) days of the due date shall accrue interest at the rate of one percent (1%) per month, prorated to day of payment. On metered service, where the meter has not been read, the bill shall be for the average of the two prior billing periods for which readings are available with any necessary correction or adjustment shown when the next succeeding meter reading is available.

Rule 13 – Deposits

Establishment of credit. An applicant for residential service may establish credit by demonstrating to the company any one of the following factors:

- (a) Prior service with the company during the previous 12 months for at least 6 consecutive months during which service was rendered and was not disconnected for failure to pay, and no more than one delinquency notice was issued to the customer.

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NORTHWEST WATER SYSTEM

WATER SERVICE  
RULES AND REGULATIONS

Rule 13 – Deposits – (Cont'd)

- (b) Prior service with a water company with a satisfactory payment record as demonstrated in (a) above, provided that the reference may be quickly and easily checked by the company.
- (c) Full-time consecutive employment during the entire 12 months previous to the application for service, with no more than two employers, and the applicant is currently employed or has a regular source of income.
- (d) Ownership of a significant legal interest in the premises to be served.
- (e) Furnishing of a satisfactory guarantor to secure payment of bills for service requested in a specified amount not to exceed the amount of cash deposit which may be required.
- (f) Demonstration of satisfactory credit by appropriate means including, but not limited to, the production in person at the company business office of two major credit cards, or other credit references, which may be quickly and easily checked by the company.

Establishment of Credit, Nonresidential. An applicant for nonresidential service may be required to demonstrate that it is a satisfactory credit by reasonable means appropriate to the circumstances.

Deposit Requirements. A deposit may be required under the following circumstances:

- (a) Where the applicant has failed to establish credit as outlined above.
- (b) In any event, a deposit may be required when, within the 12 months prior to application, the applicant's water service has been disconnected for failure to pay amounts owing, when due; where there is an unpaid balance owing for water service to the company or another water company; or where two or more delinquent notices have been served upon the applicant by the company or another water company during the 12 months previous to the application for service.

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NORTHWEST WATER SYSTEM

WATER SERVICE  
RULES AND REGULATIONS

Rule 13 – Deposits – (Cont'd)

- (c) Initiation or continuation of service to a residence where a prior customer still resides and where any balance for such service to that prior customer is past due or owing.

Amount of Deposit. The deposit shall not exceed two-twelfths of the estimated billing for the premises to be served.

Extended Payment of Deposit. If a customer or applicant is unable to pay the full amount of a required deposit in advance, they shall be allowed at a minimum to pay 50% prior to service, with the remaining balance payable in equal amounts over the next two months.

Alternative to Deposit. If a consumer is unable to meet the deposit requirement of the deposit as an alternative, they shall be allowed to prepay any installation charges and reasonably estimated service charges at period corresponding to the company's regular billing period or budget payments for the length of time during which a deposit would ordinarily have been required. The customer shall then be billed in a normal fashion.

Deposit Refunds. Deposits, plus accrued interest, less any amount due the company for service rendered, shall be refunded under the following circumstances and in the following form:

- (a) Satisfactory Payment. Where the customer has received no more than 2 delinquency notices during the least 12 consecutive months or where service has not been disconnected in the last 12 months.
- (b) Termination of service.

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ORIGINAL SHEET NO. 12

NORTHWEST WATER SYSTEM

WATER SERVICE  
RULES AND REGULATIONS

Rule 13 – Deposits – (Cont'd)

- (c) Refunds – How Made. When a consumer qualifies for a refund, the deposit plus interest shall be refunded either in the form of a check issued and mailed to the customer within 15 days or applied to the customer's next bill, if appropriate.

Larger Deposit or New Deposit. Nothing in this rule shall prevent the requirement of a larger deposit or a new deposit when conditions warrant, provided that the reasons therefore shall be specified in writing to the customer. The deposit requirement must meet the standards of this rule.

Following proper notice, failure to pay a deposit under this rule renders the customer/applicant liable to a discontinuance of service under the same as for a delinquent account.

Rule 14 – Discontinuance of Service

The company reserves the right to discontinue a customer's service if the customer:

- (a) Fails to maintain the customer's connections, service pipes, or fixture in good order.
- (b) Damages any service pipe, meter, curb stop valve, seal or other facilities of the company.
- (c) Vacates the premises.
- (d) Willfully wastes water through improper or imperfect pipes, fixtures or otherwise.
- (e) Fails to make or renew any required deposits, or fails to make payments for water service or any other proper charges accruing under the applicable rate schedules, when due.

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ORIGINAL SHEET NO. 13

NORTHWEST WATER SYSTEM

WATER SERVICE  
RULES AND REGULATIONS

Rule 14 - Discontinuance of Service – (Cont'd)

- (f) Refuse to permit an employee of the company to have reasonable access to the premises for the purpose of inspecting the facilities, or for testing, reading, maintaining or removing meters.
- (g) Makes fraudulent use of service.
- (h) Fails to comply with cross connection control requirements.
- (i) Violates any of these Rules and Regulations.

The right to discontinue service may be exercised whenever and as often as any of the foregoing situations shall occur, and neither delay nor omission on the part of the company to enforce this rule at any one or more times shall be deemed a waiver of its right to enforce the same at any time, so long as the situation continues.

A minimum of eight (8) working days written notice will be given customer before service is discontinued under this rule, except in the case of danger to life or property, when company may discontinue service on less than eight (8) days written notice following written notice. Prior to disconnecting service, the company will also attempt to contact the customer in person or by telephone. If telephone contact is elected, at least two attempts shall be made during regular business hours. If a business or message number is provided by the customer, the company will try to reach the customer at that number. If unable to make contact through the residential number, a log of the attempts shall be kept by the company showing the telephone number called and the time of the call.

If service is not discontinued within ten (10) working days of the date noted, unless other mutually acceptable arrangements have been made, that disconnection notice shall become void and a new notice shall be required before the service can be disconnected.

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ORIGINAL SHEET NO. 14

NORTHWEST WATER SYSTEM

WATER SERVICE  
RULES AND REGULATIONS

Rule 14 - Discontinuance of Service – (Cont'd)

The company will restore service when the cause of discontinuance has been removed and payment of all proper charges due from customer, including the Reconnection Charge set forth in this tariff, have been made.

Rule 15 – Outdoor Watering – Sprinkling, Irrigation, Pools, Hot Tubs, etc.

Water used for sprinkling and irrigation shall be paid for at the regular prescribed tariff rates for such service. The hours for such use shall be as prescribed from time to time by the company or as required by the Department of Health. In addition, the company may put restrictions on filling of swimming pools, hot tubs, etc.

No person shall use water for sprinkling or irrigation purposes during any fire in the area, and all sprinkling or irrigation shall be stopped immediately when an alarm of fire is sounded, and not resumed until the fire has been extinguished.

Each customer will follow a “best practices” approach to the use of irrigation service. This best practices approach includes the following:

- a. revisiting existing landscaping to determine if modifications are needed to reduce use of water;
- b. irrigating grass areas at a rate of no more than one (1) inch per week;
- c. sizing irrigation sprinklers or installing irrigation sprinklers to provide as near a uniform coverage of grass-landscaped areas as feasible;
- d. not using watering practices that involve a “sponge” approach where water is applied in one area with the thought that it will eventually provide coverage of other areas through the water traveling over, through or under the ground; and
- e. not irrigating when the temperature is forecasted to exceed ninety (90) degrees Fahrenheit.

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**ORIGINAL SHEET NO. 15**

**NORTHWEST WATER SYSTEM**

**WATER SERVICE  
RULES AND REGULATIONS**

Rule 15 – Outdoor Watering – Sprinkling, Irrigation, Pools, Hot Tubs, etc. – (Cont'd)

If the company issues a “no irrigation” order for the water system, the customer must immediately cease irrigation until the “no irrigation” order is lifted.

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ORIGINAL SHEET NO. 16

NORTHWEST WATER SYSTEM

WATER SERVICE  
RULES AND REGULATIONS

Rule 16 – Rates

Rates for water service and supply shall be those published in the company's tariff on file with the Commission. Unless otherwise stated in this tariff, the rates shall apply to a single service, to one customer at one premises. Where two or more families with separate housekeeping establishments occupy the same or separate dwellings, each family using water shall be considered a separate customer. Each separate housekeeping establishment or business, using water service, will each be considered a customer.

When conditions require that more than one customer be supplied through one meter, each customer shall be charged the minimum charge as provided by the schedule of rates. If the consumption as shown by the meter exceeds the allowance for the minimum charge multiplied by the customers, the excess consumption charge shall be computed at the regular rates for one customer and the amount prorated equally to the several customers, or otherwise as may be agreed among themselves.

Rule 17 – Limitations on Liability

(a) General

The Company's liability, if any, for its gross negligence, willful misconduct or violation of Chapter 19.122 RCW is not limited by this tariff. With respect to any other claim or suit, by a customer or by any others, for damages associated with the installation, provision, termination, maintenance, repair or restoration of service, the Company's liability, if any, shall not exceed an amount equal to the proportionate part of the monthly recurring charge for the service for the period during which the service was affected. This liability shall be in addition to any amounts that may otherwise be due the customer under this tariff as an allowance for interruptions. THERE SHALL BE NO LIABILITY FOR CONSEQUENTIAL OR INCIDENTAL DAMAGES.

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ORIGINAL SHEET NO. 17

NORTHWEST WATER SYSTEM

WATER SERVICE  
RULES AND REGULATIONS

Rule 17 – Limitations on Liability (Continued)

(b) Disclaimer

THE COMPANY EXPRESSLY DISCLAIMS ALL WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, EXCEPT THOSE EXPRESSLY SET FORTH IN THIS TARIFF, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE.

(c) Relation to Charges

The charges for services rendered under this tariff are expressly based on the limitations on damages and disclaimer of warranties set forth above.

Rule 18 – Unauthorized Use of Service

Where service has been disconnected either through the request of the customer or through action of the company, and the Service (which includes, but is not limited to, the saddle, curb stop, piping, meter setter, angle stop, check valve, meter) has been locked, authorized service can not be restored without the company first reinitiating service. If service is restored by the unauthorized removal of the meter lock, the customer receiving the unauthorized service will be charged the cost of the meter lock and a \$150.00 charge for inspection of the Service for damages. If the original Service was damaged by the removal of the meter lock, the customer receiving unauthorized service will be liable for the cost of replacing the damaged Service. In addition, the company will charge the customer receiving unauthorized service the tariff rate for all service that the company estimates was taken plus all of the company's costs resulting from the unauthorized use and all applicable fees per WAC 480-110-355.

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ORIGINAL SHEET NO. 18

NORTHWEST WATER SYSTEM

WATER SERVICE  
RULES AND REGULATIONS

Rule 19 – Account Service Charges

A service charge of \$50.00 will be made for each new account or change of account responsibility on an existing service. Such charge shall be included in the initial billing to the customer. An additional charge of \$25.00 is applicable when the company must dispatch an employee to establish a base meter reading. Where separate new connections or changes are required for service billed on different account numbers at the same address, the service charge shall be applied to each account, unless service has been separated for the company's convenience.

The service charge shall not apply to the following:

- (a) Installation of a new service.
- (b) When a temporary or seasonal connection or reconnection charge is made.
- (c) When an owner or agent assumes temporary responsibility for service to vacated premises.

A service charge shall be applied to each account for each check returned unpaid for any reason by the bank upon which the check is drawn. The service charge is \$25.00. A returned check is considered to be a nonpayment.

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**ORIGINAL SHEET NO. 20**

**NORTHWEST WATER SYSTEM**

SERVICE AREA(S)

Northwest Water System, System ID No. 619472.

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**FIRST REVISED SHEET NO. 21 CANCELING  
ORIGINAL SHEET NO. 21**

**NORTHWEST WATER SYSTEM**

SCHEDULE NO. 1

MEASURED RATE SERVICE

Available

Within Northwest Water System.

Applicable

Applies to all customers that have meters installed.

Rates

Per Month

Base Rate

\$33.15 (no usage allowance)

(I)

Usage:

\$0.04658 per cubic foot for the first 1200  
cubic feet, or portion thereof

(I)

\$0.07558 per cubic foot for each cubic foot  
or  
portion thereof over 1200 cubic feet

(I)

Conditions

1. Customers will be billed monthly. Meters will be read monthly unless severe weather conditions or other unforeseen circumstances prevent the reading of meters.
2. Customers will be billed the Base Rate plus Usage. In addition, the state utility tax at 5.029% applies to the foregoing charges.

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ORIGINAL SHEET NO. 22

NORTHWEST WATER SYSTEM

SCHEDULE NO. 2

CROSS CONNECTION CONTROL

**A. Applicable:**

To all customers served by the company for purposes of assessing the presence of cross connections and additional requirements apply to those customers that have cross connections.

**B. Rate:**

Site Visit Charge	- \$150.00
Premises Inspection Charge Installation of Approved Backflow	- \$75.00 per hour prorated for time spent
Prevention Assembly	- Time and materials

**C. Conditions:**

1. This schedule is established pursuant to the requirements adopted by the Washington State Department of Health in WAC 246-290-490, as it now exists or is hereafter amended or replaced. Copies of this regulation are available from the Washington State Department of Health or from the company.

2. All customers shall be surveyed as to the existence of cross connections pursuant to the definition of cross connections established by the Washington State Department of Health. A second survey shall be sent to those customers who fail to respond to the initial survey. If the customer fails to respond to the second survey, then the following non-response options may be necessary and the customer will be charged pursuant to the rate or rates, as applicable, set forth in section B, above. For new customers, a survey will be required as part of the application prior to accepting the applicant as a customer.

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ORIGINAL SHEET NO. 23

NORTHWEST WATER SYSTEM

SCHEDULE NO. 2 (Continued)

CROSS CONNECTION CONTROL (Continued)

**Non-Response Options**

- a. Site Visit letter/appointment for on-site review of cross connection potential, followed by a Site Visit and Premise Inspection for determination of cross connection potential as defined in WAC 246-290-490. The customer will be assessed the charges set forth in section B, above.
  - b. Installation of Approved Backflow Prevention Assembly at customer's expense or as set forth in section B, above.
  - c. Notice of disconnection of service per WAC 480-110-355.
3. An on-site inspection is required for every customer meeting any criteria of WAC 246-290-490-4(b) Table 9. The customer will be assessed the appropriate charges set forth in section B, above.
4. If a cross connection is detected or is reported by the customer, then the company will determine the appropriate remedy and notify the customer of the remedy, options, and dates for compliance. If an Approved Backflow Prevention Assembly is required, the company will determine the type of Approved Backflow Prevention Assembly that must be installed, and must provide the customer with a date by which the device must be installed. Installation will be the customer's responsibility and sole expense. The customer may choose to have the Approved Backflow Prevention Assembly installed through any contractor acceptable to the company. If the customer does not install the appropriate Approved Backflow Prevention Assembly within thirty days of notification, the company may take appropriate action to correct. This may include the company installing an Approved Backflow Prevention Assembly at customer's expense if tariffed or may result in the company providing a notice of disconnection of service by the date specified in the notice. The Approved Backflow Prevention Assembly will be installed on a customer's side of the service connection.

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ORIGINAL SHEET NO. 24

NORTHWEST WATER SYSTEM

SCHEDULE NO. 2 (Continued)

CROSS CONNECTION CONTROL (Continued)

5. If the customer has an Approved Backflow Prevention Assembly installed the assembly must be tested annually by a certified Backflow Assembly Tester (BAT) specialist. The company will maintain a list of certified BAT specialists that are acceptable to the company and the customer may choose from any such BAT specialist on the company's list. The customer will provide a copy of the acceptable annual report from the BAT specialist. If the annual report is not provided within thirty days of the anniversary date of the installation of the Approved Backflow Prevention Assembly, then the company will provide a notice of disconnection pursuant to WAC 480-110-355. If a copy of the annual report is not received by the date for disconnection as specified in the notice, the company will disconnect customer's service.

6. No less often than every three years, the company shall re-survey its customers concerning the existence of cross connections. If the customer does not respond to the initial survey, a second survey will be sent. If the customer does not respond to the second survey, then non-response options listed in paragraph 2 will apply.

7. For each customer meeting any criteria of WAC 246-290-490-4(b) Table 9, no less than every three years, the company shall conduct a site visit, premises inspection and shall assess the customer the charges set forth in section B, above.

8. When necessary, the company will provide notices of disconnection as required in WAC 480-110-335.

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ORIGINAL SHEET NO. 30

NORTHWEST WATER SYSTEM

SCHEDULE NO. 3

SERVICE CONNECTION CHARGE

Applicable

To lot owners in Northwest Water System when water service is requested to the lot initially.

1. A charge of \$4,250 will be assessed the first time a lot is connected to the utility's main.

2. At the time service is physically connected, a connection charge of \$1,200.00 will be assessed for a standard three quarter inch (3/4") connection. These non-refundable charges do not include the cost of a meter, which will be furnished, installed and maintained by the company.

3. The company will own and maintain all materials involved in making a service connection.

4. The service connection charge will be paid before the water is turned on.

5. If water service is transferred from one customer to another, a transfer fee of \$50.00 shall be billed. This charge must be paid before service to the new customer will begin.

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