

**CITY OF PHILADELPHIA**

**WATER DEPARTMENT**

303.0 **PROPOSED MISCELLANEOUS WATER CHARGE REGULATION**

Pursuant to Section 5-801 of the Home Rule Charter and Chapter 13-100 of the Philadelphia Code, and in order to continue the Water Fund on a self-sustaining basis, charges for miscellaneous water services supplied by the City of Philadelphia shall become effective July 1, 2004 as follows:

303.1 **Meter Test Charges**

1. A customer may apply to the Revenue Department for a test of the accuracy of the registration of a water meter. At the customer's request, the Water Department shall notify the customer of the time and place of the test so that the customer may be present.
2. In testing, meters may be removed from the line and replaced by a tested meter. If removed, the meter shall be tested at the Water Department Meter Shop. Meters may also be tested and recalibrated in place without removal and replacement.

All meters shall be removed, replaced, tested or calibrated during the regular hours of business unless the customer will pay the overtime and added expenses, whether the meter passes or fails the test.

3. If the register on the meter is found on test to be registering within 2.0% of the actual volume of water passing through the meter, or registering in favor of the customer, then the Revenue Department shall make a charge for the test payable by the customer, as follows:

<u>Meter Size</u>	<u>Charge</u>
5/8"	\$ 40.00
1", 1-1/2", 2"	\$135.00
3", 4", 6", 8", 10", 12"	\$515.00
Field Tests, 3" and above	\$255.00

plus charges for any expenses incurred for work performed outside the regular hours of business, if requested by the customer.

4. If the meter is found on test to be registering in excess of 102% of the actual volume of water passing through the meter, then the Revenue Department shall not charge for the test and it shall review the billing history of the tested meter for a period not to exceed three years on the basis of the corrected registration and revise it as necessary.

- The Water Department will, upon the request of a customer, test his/her meter at no charge according to the following intervals:

<u>Meter Size</u>	<u>Interval</u>
5/8"	Every 20 years
1", 1-1/2", 2"	Every 10 years
3", 4" 6"	Every 4 years
8", 10", 12"	Every 2 years

The replacement of a meter with a tested meter shall constitute a test as provided above. Subsequent meter tests within the stated time intervals shall be billed to the customer at the charges shown in section 303.1 (3) above.

303.2 Charges for Furnishing and Installation of Water Meters (Initial Installation and Replacement of Damaged Meters)

The charges for furnishing and installing water meters are as follows:

- For work which involves only the furnishing and setting of a water meter, the following charges are hereby established:

<u>Meter Size</u>	<u>Charge</u>
5/8"	\$ 135.00
1"	275.00
1-1/2"	320.00
2"	420.00
3"	1,335.00
4"	1,850.00
6"	2,765.00
8"	3,460.00
10"	3,620.00
12"	5,485.00

- If extraordinary work is required in connection with the installation of a water meter or the replacement of a damaged meter, additional charges shall be computed using actual salaries and materials expended, plus applicable overhead costs.
- The property owner shall be responsible for safeguarding the meter and seals and shall pay for necessary repairs and replacements due to his/her failure to provide adequate protection to the meter and seals from theft, vandalism, freezing, etc. He/she shall also be responsible for the repair and maintenance of the plumbing accessory to the meter, such as inoperable valves, weakened service pipes and fittings, etc. and shall provide and pay for such plumbing, repair and maintenance as City metering needs may require.

303.3 Tampering of Meter

In the event that a tamper investigation indicates that a tamper occurred, the following charges to the customer shall be made:

<u>Meter Size</u>	<u>Charge</u>
5/8"	\$ 25.00
1", 1-1/2", 2"	100.00
3" and larger	470.00

303.4 Charges for Shut-Off and Restoration of Water Service

1. A \$22.00 charge will be made for the cost of visiting a property if a payment to satisfy the delinquency is made when the Water Department is at the property to shut off service for non-payment.
2. After termination of water service for non-payment or violation of service requirements, restoration of water service will not be made until the following charges have been paid in full or payment arrangements satisfactory to the Revenue Department have been made.
  - A. Where the only work required is operating the service valve:
    - i. service lines 2" and smaller.....\$ 45.00
    - ii. service lines larger than 2".....\$ 75.00
  - B. Where the curb stop is obstructed, the access box missing or otherwise requires excavation.....\$180.00
  - C. Where the curb stop is inoperable and a new curb stop must be installed..... \$390.00
  - D. Where the curb stop is obstructed, the access box missing, or otherwise requires excavation, and replacement of footway paving is required.....\$475.00
  - E. Where-the curb stop is inoperable and a new curb box must be installed and replacement of footway paving is required...\$730.00
  - F. Where excavation and shut-off of the ferrule at the water main is required the charge will be the actual labor, equipment and materials plus applicable overhead costs.

If the Water Department has had to remove concrete footway paving in order to perform the shut-off and/or restoration, the footway will be replaced by the Water Department and the preceding charges applied unless proof has been provided to the Water Department that some other qualified person will replace the paving.

303.5 Pumping of Properties

The following charges shall apply for the pumping of water from properties when the condition requiring such service is not caused by the Water Department.

1. Occupied Properties

- a. Pumping of water from occupied properties will be done at the owner's request and expense.
- b. Pumping of other properties due to the failure of a customer's piping shall be performed by the Water Department and be charged to the owner of the property at which the failure occurred.
- c. Charges for pumping shall be calculated at actual salaries and materials expended plus applicable overhead costs.

2. Vacant Properties

Water will be pumped from vacant properties only when in the opinion of the Water Department such a condition is causing serious consequences in an adjoining property. The charges for pumping shall be as specified in section 303.5 (1) above.

303.6 Charges for Water Main Shutdown

1. The Department of Licenses and Inspections shall issue permits for the temporary shutdown of a water main to allow a registered plumber to make immediate repairs to a broken water service and to avoid the necessity of opening the street.
2. Permits shall be issued after:
  - a. Certification by the Water Department that the shutdown will not seriously inconvenience other customers; and
  - b. The applicant has paid a \$200.00 service charge.
3. In an emergency or when responsibility for a leak is in doubt, the Water Department may make the shutdown before the permit is obtained. If the Water Department determines that the leak was not the Department's responsibility, the owner shall obtain a permit and pay the above stated service charge.

Water Connection Charges

1. Permits. The Department of Licenses and Inspections shall issue permits for connections to the City's water supply system.
2. Ferrule Connections. Connections between 3/4 inch and 2 inches in diameter shall be made by a ferrule installed by the Water Department. The owner, at his own expense, shall excavate for the connection, install all piping and appurtenances after the ferrule and fill the excavation. The owner thereafter shall be responsible for maintaining this piping and appurtenance.

The charges for such ferrule connections shall be as follows:

<u>Size</u>	<u>Base Charge</u>	<u>Additional Hourly Overtime Charge</u>
3/4"	\$125.00	\$23.00
1"	130.00	23.00
1-1/2"	160.00	28.00
2"	185.00	33.00

The additional overtime charge shown above shall be added to the base charge for work performed at the customer's request, other than during normal working hours.

3. Valve Connections. Connections 3 inches and larger shall be made by a valve installed by the Water Department. This valve installation shall include, but shall not necessarily be limited to, the connection to the main, the valve, valve box, necessary piping after the valve from the main in the street to one foot inside the curb, backfill and repaving. The Water Department shall thereafter be responsible for maintaining this valve and piping.

The charges for valve connections shall consist of a base charge plus a charge per linear foot of pipe laid as follows:

<u>Size</u>	<u>Charges</u>
3" & 4"	\$6,520 plus \$225.00 per linear foot of pipe laid
6" & 8"	\$6,850 plus \$230.00 per linear foot of pipe laid
10" & 12"	\$8,165 plus \$270.00 per linear foot of pipe laid

4. Additional-Charge. Where a connection is made to a water main larger than 12 inches in diameter, an additional charge representing the difference between the current cost of a 12-inch tapping sleeve and the cost of the larger sleeve, plus \$1,850.00, shall be assessed.
5. Payment of the Charges. The base charge and the additional charge, if any, shall be paid at the time application is made. The charges per linear foot of pipe laid shall be paid as prescribed below in section 303.11.

303.8 Discontinuance of Water

Except as otherwise provided, no customer shall be relieved of the obligation to pay water and sewer charges unless he or she has obtained a permit for the discontinuance of water from the Department of Licenses and Inspections. When a permit is granted to discontinue water service, charges shall terminate on the date of removal of the meter by the Water Department. The charge for a permit for discontinuance of water is \$100, regardless of service size.

303.9 Hydrant Permits

A permit shall be obtained from the Department before a hydrant can be used. The permit shall contain the terms and conditions that are required of the customer in order for the customer to use the hydrant.

The costs for obtaining a permit shall be as follows:

One Week Permit for use of standard pressure hydrant- \$185.00

Six Month Permit for use of standard pressure hydrant- \$1,600.00

303.10 Flow Tests

When a customer requests the Department to conduct a flow test on a fire hydrant to determine the volume and residual pressure available on a domestic or fire connection, or at a specific location, the charge shall be \$350 for each flow test.

303.11 GENERAL PROVISIONS

All billings for the above services are due and payable when rendered, unless stated otherwise herein, and are subject to such penalties for late payment as is prescribed by current ordinance or as may be amended.

303.12 EFFECT OF THIS REGULATION

Except as otherwise provided herein, this regulation applies to the billing of charges accruing on and after July 1, 2004. Once effective, this regulation supercedes Water Regulations Nos. 56 and 73 and Sections B (1) and B (2) of Water Regulation No. 51.

303.13      EFFECTIVE DATE

This regulation is effective July 1, 2004.

Approved as to Form and Validity:

Kumar Kishinchand /s/  
Kumar Kishinchand  
Deputy Water Commissioner

Keith J. Jones /s/  
Keith J. Jones  
Deputy City Solicitor