

## FIRE HYDRANT METER RENTAL GUIDELINES

### **General**

Fire hydrants are installed primarily for fire protection. When a hydrant meter is installed, the hydrant is effectively removed from service for emergency use. Additionally, the risk of damage to the hydrant increases during meter use.

### **Intent**

Fire hydrant meters are intended only for situations requiring a large volume of water over a short duration. They shall not be used as a temporary substitute for a permanent water service connection.

### **Guidelines & Procedures**

1. Hydrant meters are limited in quantity and are issued on a first-come, first-served basis.
2. Each request will be reviewed to ensure compliance with the intent of these guidelines. Misuse or misrepresentation of the intended use may result in revocation of hydrant meter privileges.
3. North Penn Water Authority (NPWA) will determine, on a case-by-case basis, whether a specific hydrant is suitable for meter installation. Not all hydrants are available for use. If a requested hydrant is unsuitable, alternative locations may be provided.
4. Customers must control water flow using the valve assembly provided with the meter and are responsible for securing the assembly to prevent unauthorized use.
5. Due to freezing risks, hydrant meters will only be issued between **April 1 and October 31**.
6. Hydrant meters must be removed at the end of each workday or shift in accordance with hydrant operating procedures and properly secured.
7. Customers are responsible for all applicable rental fees and charges as outlined in the Fire Hydrant Meter Rental Fee Schedule.
8. The customer shall be liable for any damage to the hydrant or meter occurring during use or when in the possession of the customer, including by other parties. All associated repair or replacement costs will be invoiced. Any security deposit may be retained and applied to outstanding charges until paid in full.

9. The customer agrees to indemnify and hold North Penn Water Authority, its agents, employees, and representatives harmless from any and all liens, charges, claims, demands, losses, costs, including but not limited to legal fees and court costs, causes of action or suits of any kind or nature whatsoever arising from injuries, property damage, or death associated with:
  - a. The use of a hydrant meter or hydrant.
  - b. Damage caused by the customer that affects the normal operation of the hydrant in an emergency.

### **Fire Hydrant Operation & Meter Installation Procedures**

1. Always use a designated fire hydrant wrench when operating a hydrant.
2. Operate the hydrant from behind the barrel, ensuring that no ports are directed toward you. Confirm all caps are securely tightened prior to operation. Loose caps under pressure can cause serious injury or property damage.
3. Remove a side port cap and install the hydrant meter onto the exposed threads. Tighten securely using a hydrant wrench.
4. Ensure the meter's ball valve is in the closed (off) position before opening the hydrant.
5. Open the hydrant **fully** to ensure proper operation of internal drain valves. Avoid excessive force. Close the hydrant slowly to prevent water hammer, which can damage infrastructure.
6. Once pressurized, gradually open the ball valve to regulate flow. Use the valve—not the hydrant—for throttling.
7. Do not allow vehicles to drive over charged hose lines, as this may cause water hammer.
8. Report any unusual hydrant operation to NPWA immediately.
9. When finished, slowly close the ball valve, then slowly close the hydrant. Do not overtighten.
10. After shutdown, open the ball valve to relieve residual pressure and verify a complete shutoff.
11. Remove the meter assembly and allow the hydrant to drain before replacing caps.
12. Remember: fire hydrants are intended primarily for emergency fire protection and related uses.



**FIRE HYDRANT METER RENTAL FEES AND CHARGES**

Description	Charge		
	Refundable Security Deposit – based on size	Size	Amount
1”		\$350.00	
3”		\$750.00	
Meter Rental – based on size	Size	Week (minimum charge)	Month
	1”	\$ 35.00	\$ 140.00
	3”	\$50.00	\$ 200.00
Water Used	\$ 5.90 per thousand gallons		
Meter and Hydrant Repair or Replacement	Cost plus overhead		

For NPWA Use Only:		
Location:	Size:	Account #:
Meter #:	Reading:	
Transmitter #:	Deposit Paid:	
NPWA Representative: (Initials)	Date:	

**The undersigned acknowledges the Fire Hydrant Meter Rental Guidelines, Fees and Charges.**

**Company Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Company Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Print Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Contact Phone No.:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email Address:** \_\_\_\_\_