

**RULES AND REGULATIONS**  
**of the**  
**WATER WORKS DIVISION**  
**of the**  
**PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT,**  
**CITY OF WOONSOCKET, RHODE ISLAND**  
**EFFECTIVE AS OF JANUARY 29, 1960**  
**(Except as Otherwise Noted)**

## FOREWORD

This booklet has been prepared to establish a better understanding between the department and the citizens in the various communities served by the City of Woonsocket system. The rules and regulations embody a uniform practice governing the department for the installation of services, meters, water mains and miscellaneous services rendered. They are intended to define the obligation of the department to the consumer and of the consumer to the department.

People, as never before, are beginning to realize how essential their water supply is to life and health and the protection of property against fire. In addition to its value to our civilian economy, manufacturers recognize it, as a basic material for which there is no substitute.

Like any other product, water must be distributed through miles of water mains in order to reach all consumers served by our system. Reservoirs of water are maintained in the distribution system to meet sudden peak demands placed on our water supply.

The rates charged for this important commodity are relatively low, and compare most favorably with those of other water utilities for similar service.

#### **GENERAL INFORMATION**

##### ***Main Offices***

Offices of the department are located at Water Treatment Plant, 1500

Manville Road, Woonsocket, Rhode Island.

### ***Office Hours***

Office hours daily, except Saturdays, Sundays and legal holidays: from  
8 A.M. to 4 P.M.

### ***Information and Complaints***

Any information about water services, rates, rules, etc. may be had by  
calling Water Works Division at 767-1410. The operator will connect you  
with the proper party. Complaints of a minor nature may be made by phone.

Major complaints should be made in writing and addressed to the Water  
Works Division. All complaints will receive careful consideration.

### ***Emergency Calls***

The department maintains emergency crews who are on duty the entire 24  
hours, including Saturdays, Sundays and holidays. Any emergency may be  
reported day or night by calling 767-1410.

***Street Services***

Services between the street main and the curb line are maintained by the department. Any and all work inside the curb line and in the building must be performed by the property owner through a master plumber licensed by the State of Rhode Island.

***Inspectors and Meter Readers***

Do not allow any person claiming to be an employee of this department to enter your premises unless he can show proper identification. Any imposter should be reported at once.

***Rates for Water***

The entire supply of the City of Woonsocket system to any and all premises shall be furnished by Meter only and at the following prescribed rates.

***Rates Applicable to Woonsocket***

***Quarterly Minimum Charge  
-Bills Are Rendered Quarterly-***

This charge includes the charge for water used at the established rate up to the amount of the minimum charge. These charges are according to the size of meter as follows:

Meter Sizes and Cost Per Quarter

PLEASE CALL FOR CURRENT RATES

**RULES AND REGULATIONS  
ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL  
EFFECTIVE AS OF JANUARY 26, 1960**

The following rules and regulations and all subsequent changes, amendments and additions thereto, shall constitute a part of the contract with every person, corporation and property owner supplied with water from the City of Woonsocket system. Every person, corporation and property owner using such supply shall be considered as having expressed consent to

be bound thereby.

A copy is available to every consumer and can be obtained upon application, and all persons are requested to read same carefully, as failure to know the rules and regulations will not excuse anyone from the consequences of neglect of such rules and regulations.

## **SECTION 1**

### **Water Bills**

#### ***Information Regarding Bills:***

Bills are prepared by the Water Works Division and filed with the City Treasurer for collection.

Requests for information regarding bills or notices should be made either personally or preferably by letter to the office of the Water Works Division.

***Property Owners Responsible for Water Bills:***

To ensure proper rendering of bills, property owners shall notify the office of the Water Works Division of any changes in mailing addresses. Failure to receive a bill does not relieve the property owner from the obligation of its payment or the payment of penalties subsequently incurred.

***Responsibility for Water Charges:***

Customers and property owners shall be responsible for all charges accruing for water service until written notice has been given to the Water Works Division by the owner of the property served to discontinue the service or (in case of a change in ownership of the premises) until notice has been give the Water Works Division of the change of ownership of the premises served and the new owner has filed with said Water Works Division (on the form provided for such purposes) a written application for water service. New owners using water at their premises without filing the proper application for water service shall be (1) liable and responsible for all water service provided and water used during their ownership of the

premises, (2) subject to the penalties provided by law for the unauthorized use of water. In such cases the Water Works Division reserves the right to discontinue water service to any property, the recorded owner of which has not filed an application for water service.

Applicants for water service at all premises shall become responsible for all outstanding charges for water theretofore furnished said premises.

Section 39-15-12 of the General Laws of Rhode Island, 1956.

### **PAYMENT OF WATER BILLS**

#### ***Payment:***

All water bills are payable at the office of the City Treasurer, City Hall, Woonsocket, and must be paid within (30) days after they are rendered and become due.

#### ***Penalties:***

If bills remain unpaid for thirty days after they are rendered, the water will be shut off. Whenever water is turned off under such conditions, it will not be turned on again without payment of all charges due, plus a fee of (please call) for turning on the water.

## COURTESY NOTICES

It is the intention of the Water Works Division to send courtesy notices of increased consumption or delinquency in payment of bills, but failure to do this does not relieve the customer of his responsibility to repair leaky fixtures or pay water charges promptly.

### SECTION 2

#### Meters

***All Water Metered:***

All water from the City of Woonsocket system will be supplied through one primary meter for each separate service. All water passing through such meters will be billed to the owner of the property supplied, as the same appears in the records of the Water Works Division, whether the water is used or wasted. Customers are advised to read their meters frequently in order that leaks or waste may be detected and large bills prevented.

***Ownership of Meter: (Effective April 1, 1960)***

Meters, up to and including 1" in diameter, except as otherwise provided in Section 6, are installed by and at the expense of the Water Works

Division. The Water Works Division reserves the right to designate the size of meter to be installed on any service. Meters over 1" in diameter are the properties of the property owner.

***Annual Rental:***

Meters up to and including 1" in diameter are subject to an annual rental charge of (call for current rates) per annum. This charge will be billed each of the water bills rendered quarterly beginning with the quarter ending September 30, 1960.

***Location of Meters:***

The property owner shall furnish a proper place for the meter, which is to be installed in a horizontal position just inside and as near as possible to the point of entry of the service pipe through the building wall. The meter shall be located in the building nearest to the street line, provided that this building is not more than 75 feet from the street line. In the event that the nearest building is located more than 75 ft. from the street line, the meter shall be installed just inside of the owner's property from the street line in a suitable housing or pit,

provided and maintained at the expense of the property owner.

Upon installation of such a pit, the property owner shall also install a conduit and pull string from the pit to the basement of the nearest building for wiring of an ARB reader by the Water Division.

***Accessibility:***

Meters must be easily accessible at all times so that they may be examined and read by employees of the department. They must not be exposed to danger from frost or contamination.

***By Whom Set:***

The installation, repair and disconnection of all meters are to be performed by employees of the Water Works Division only, except as hereinafter provided.

***Damaged Meters:***

If meters are damaged by frost, hot water, or external causes, either by carelessness or neglect of the owner or occupant of the premises or his

agents, the Water Works Division, except as hereinafter provided, will repair the meter; and the owner must reimburse the Water Works Division for all cost of repairs.

In case of breakage, stoppage or any other irregularity in the meter, the property owner is to notify the department immediately.

***Meter Testing:***

Every water meter is carefully tested before it is installed. Periodic tests for duty of each meter will also be necessary. Should a property owner at any time question the accuracy of the meter on his service, it may be tested after the department receives the request in writing, a fee is paid, and said request is proven valid.

***Adjustments:***

If the testing of a meter as hereinbefore provided shows that it fails to register correctly within two percent, the charge to the consumer shall be adjusted accordingly as the registration varies from 100 percent; and such adjustment shall apply to the current period only,

unless it is apparent to the Water Works Division that a previous

period's consumption has also been affected by the same error.

***Repairs to Large Meters:***

At the written request of the Water Works Division, property owners will return meters larger than 1 inch in diameter to the factory for necessary and complete repairs. The owner will remove the meter within 15 days after receiving this notice, and will advise the department the date the meter is to be removed so that a representative of the department may obtain a reading on the meter. The owner will notify the factory to forward direct to the Water Works Division a certified copy of the test on the meter before repairs are made, and another certified copy of the test after completing repairs. All expenses covering the repairs are to be borne by the property owner.

***Billing Non-Registering Meters:***

In case a meter fails to register or has been removed for repairs, testing or other purposes during the billing period, the bill will be issued, based on the average daily rate of consumption as shown by the meter after it has been returned to service and is in proper working order.

If the meter has not been returned to service, the bill will be issued

based on the average daily rate of consumption for the previous corresponding quarter over a 3-year period.

***Unserviceable Meter Over 1" in Diameter:***

The Water Works division reserves the right at all times to remove, test, repair and replace any meter; and if such meter is found to be economically unserviceable, require another meter be substituted in its place at the expense of the property owner.

***Tampering or Defacing Meters:***

The Water Works Division of the City of Woonsocket will prefer charges in accordance with Section 11-35-6 of the General Laws of Rhode Island, 1956, against every person who shall tamper or deface a meter to prevent the proper registration of the water consumed by altering the register index or otherwise, or for the breaking of any seal placed by the department for the protection of any meter, valve or fitting.

- A. For the efficient and proper operation of the water system of the City of Woonsocket, all water meters up to one inch in size, currently in operation, shall be owned by the City of Woonsocket.

- B. There shall be no privately owned water meters up to one inch in size served by said system.
- C. The City of Woonsocket is authorized to purchase all water meters up to one inch in size that are owned by individual taxpayers and connected to the City of Woonsocket Water System; and the Finance Director is hereby authorized to purchase said meters at the current market price of new meters of the same similar types.
- D. Payment for said meters up to one inch in size that are individually owned at the present time shall be made from the Water System Construction Fund.
- E. On and after November 1, 1960, the Water Department of the City of Woonsocket shall not provide water to any homes or establishments whose water meters are up to one inch in size if said meter is privately owned by the taxpayer.

### SECTION 3

#### SERVICE PIPES (GENERAL)

***Application for Service Pipes:***

Application for the installation of new services or the renewal of old services, when the request for new service is larger in size than that presently in service, shall be made by the owner of the property or his authorized agent on forms supplied at the offices of the Water Works Division, City Hall, Woonsocket.

Applications for water must state fully and truly the purpose for

which same is to be used, together with the proper legal description of the property; also, the official town or city street and the number of the premises to be supplied.

***Connection Charges for Service-Pipes:***

Service pipes are installed by the Water Works Division from the distribution main in the street to the curb stop just inside the curb line.

The charge for this installation will be estimated by the Water Division Engineer and must be paid for in advance.

***Ownership of Service Pipe:***

The service pipe from the distribution main to the curb stop is owned and maintained by the city. The portion of the service pipe beyond the curb stop is the property of the customer, and is installed and maintained by the owner through a plumber licensed by the State of Rhode Island.

The service pipe from the curb to the building shall be laid by a licensed plumber, and the installation completed before the city installs its portion of the service from the street main to the curb line.

The licensed plumber must lay his portion of the service in a straight line from the curb to inside the building and at a right angle to the street line.

The service pipe shall be inspected and approved by a representative of the Water Works Division before being covered.

Service pipes must have 5 ft. of cover to avoid freezing.

***Location:***

The location where the service is to enter the property must be distinctly marked by a card furnished by the department and placed on the house, or a stake, by the property owner.

***Material for Service Pipes:***

All service pipes 3/4" in diameter to and including 2" in diameter shall be type "K" extra heavy, soft temper, cold drawn, seamless, deoxidized copper tubing, having a minimum ultimate tensile strength of not less than 30,000 lbs. per square inch.

Service pipes 4" in diameter and above shall be class 150 cement mortar lined cast iron pipe, manufactured in accordance with Federal Government Specifications WW-P-421 a Type, as amended to date.

***Inspection:***

Service pipes shall be tested for water tightness in the presence of a representative of the Water Works Division before being covered up.

No service pipe shall not be laid in the same trench with a building drain or sewer pipe, NOR SHALL THE WATER PIPE BE CLOSER TO A SEWER THAN TEN (updated 2003) FEET AT ANY HORIZONTAL POINT.

***Main Shut-Off Valve:***

On every new pipe, immediately after its entry into the building, shall be an approved type gate valve. Gate valves manufactured to conform in all respects with American Water Works Specification C-500 as amended to date or ball valves shall qualify as an approved type. Valves that fail to meet these specifications will be rejected for this class of service. Existing service pipes not equipped with the above type of valve, when renewed or replaced shall conform with the requirements for new service pipes.

***Horizontal Meter Setting:***

All small meters on new installations shall be set approximately twelve inches above the floor, in a horizontal position, immediately after the main shut-off, and as near to where the service pipe enters the building as is practicable. The plumber shall provide an approved support for the meter. Large meters may be set directly on the floor, and current type meters shall have a straight length of pipe at least eight times the pipe diameter before the meter.

Whenever it is necessary to renew or replace a service pipe, the meter shall be reset to conform with the requirements for new installations.

***Back Water Valves:***

All new services shall be equipped with an approved type of gate valve immediately following the meter setting on the house side, to act as a back valve and prevent the house piping from emptying while the meter is being changed or for other work on the service pipe. Valves manufactured to conform in all respects with Federal Specifications WW-V-54 Type 1 Class A as amended to date shall qualify as an approved type. Valves that fail to meet these specifications will be rejected for this class of service.

Existing service pipes not equipped with the above type of valve, when renewed or replaced shall conform with the requirements for new service

pipes.

***Tapping Mains:***

No person except an authorized representative of the Water Works Division will be allowed under any circumstances to tap the mains or distribution pipes, insert corporation stops therein, set or remove meters on service pipes, or interfere with water gates or curb stops.

***Repairs to Property Owner's Service Pipe and Fixtures:***

Property owners must keep their own pipes and all fixtures connected thereto in good repair and protected from frost at their own expense. In case of a break in that section of the service pipe between the curb stop and the meter, the property owner shall immediately obtain the services of a licensed plumber to make the necessary repairs. Failure to make repairs at once or to obtain the necessary permits covering these repairs shall be sufficient cause to shut off the supply.

***Cleaning Service Pipes:***

The Water Works Division does not recommend or approve the cleaning of service pipes to remove rust or other obstructions to increase the flow. Property owners desiring this service must submit their request in writing,

and agree to take all responsibility for the cost of replacing the service in case it is broken.

***Sidewalk Permits:***

No sidewalk or other public place shall be opened for the laying of service pipes until the property owner, through a licensed plumber, obtains a permit from the proper city, town or state agency. Cost of repairs to city sidewalks shall be borne by the property owner.

## SECTION 4

### *Temporary Services*

#### *For Building and Other Construction Purposes:*

Contractors, builders, etc., requiring water for construction purposes, shall make application for a temporary service, and will be subject to the same rules and regulations as apply to regular service installations. A meter will be installed on the temporary service by the Water Works Division, and the cost of temporary services are subject to same rentals as regular services with a minimum charge of (call). Temporary services will be subject to the connection charge described in Section 3, plus the cost of removing the service.

All charges, including the connection charge, cost of removing the service and setting the meter, shall be paid in advance; and the applicant will be required to deposit a sufficient sum of money with the City Treasurer to cover the cost of the estimated amount of water to be used in conjunction with the work.

If, at any time during the course of construction, the estimated

amount of water covered by the deposit is below the actual consumption shown on the meter, the applicant will be required to deposit additional sums with the City Treasurer. After completion of the work, if the actual consumption registered on the meter is below the estimated amount, the department will arrange to refund the difference.

## **SECTION 5**

### ***Main Pipe***

#### ***Distribution Main:***

Distribution mains are water pipes laid in the streets as feeders for consumers, services and hydrants. These pipes are laid on application of the property owner, subject to the following provisions.

## **SECTION 6**

### ***Fire Supplies***

The Water Works Division may render a special service to private property for private fire protection purposes.

Application must be made by the owner of the property or his authorized agent and will be subject to all the provisions, including the

connection charge hereinbefore described entitled "Service Pipes (General)" as far as they apply to this type of service.

**Drawings:**

The applicant must furnish a complete and correct drawing or set of drawings showing the location of the premises to be supplied, together with location of all valves, pipes, hydrants, tanks, sprinkler heads and other appurtenances on the premises at time of making application. The plans will remain the property of the Water Works Division.

The applicant also agrees to furnish the Water Works Division with drawings showing revisions to piping or appurtenances whenever the same are made.

**Charges:**

The Quarterly charge for this service shall be made in accordance with the following schedule, based upon the size of the service connection.

For each service connection from the main --

<u>Size</u>	<u>Per Quarter</u>
4"	call
6"	call
8"	call

***Installation to be approved by Water Works Division:***

The Water Works Division expressly reserves the right to determine the necessity for and the advisability of, granting any application for this special service, and the right to determine the size of service pipe which will be granted; depending upon the size of the saree main, the available pressure on the main, and the nature and capacity of the fire protection equipment within the building.

***Connection to Domestic Service Prohibited:***

No connection shall be made at any time between the fire supply system and the regular water supply to the premises. Valves placed on the system shall be of the style that can be sealed by the department.

***Number of Services:***

One service only will be allowed to any one building or premises; unless, in the opinion of the Water Works Division, more than one is absolutely necessary for the proper protection of the premises. All fire protection equipment connected to the city service shall be confined within

the building or on the premises named in the application; and where two or more connections are made for one building or premises, they shall be kept separated, unless special permission is obtained from the Water Works Division to connect the same in a manner to be approved by said authority.

***Use of Service:***

No water shall be drawn from the fire service pipes for any purpose whatever except for the extinguishment of fire. This paragraph is not to be construed as prohibiting a reasonable use of water for fire drills, draining of system to prevent freezing, or other reasonable use in connection with proper fire protection. Whenever water is used for this purpose, either by the owner or the insurance inspector making the test, the owner shall obtain a reading on the meter before and after the test and forward this information, together with a brief description of the operations resulting in the use of water, to the Water Works Division.

***Cross Connections:***

Any fire protection system supplied with water from the city service shall be supplied exclusively with such water, and no connection will be allowed with any other system drawing its supply from any other source

whereby the city water supply may be subjected to contamination.

Any fire protection system using water from any other source than the city service shall be kept entirely separate from any such system supplied from the city service.

***Inspection:***

All fire services shall be subject to periodic inspections by inspectors from this department. The owner shall give the inspectors all reasonable facilities for making the survey and any information concerning same that they may require. Care will be taken that inspections will be made with as little inconvenience to the owner as possible.

***Illegal Use:***

When the owners or occupants of any premises are found to be using water from a fire service for other purposes than fire protection, the water shall be shut off from same until the offenders shall give reasonable assurance before the Water Works Division that the offense will not be repeated. Water used for such other purposes shall be charged at the normally applicable rates.

**Meters:**

All fire supplies shall be metered and conform to the provisions of Section 2 entitled "Meters", with the following exceptions:

A. The owner may purchase and install a fire line compound meter as directed by the Water Works Division, provided it is a type approved by said Board and the National Board of Fire Underwriters.

B. The owner may purchase and install a detector check valve with meter in by-pass, provided it is a type approved by the Water Works Division and the National Board of Fire Underwriters; but the Water Works Division reserves the right at any time to require the owner to install a fire line compound meter as described in the preceding paragraph (a).

**Valves:**

On the inlet and discharge side of each fire line compound meter or detector check valve, the owner shall install a gate valve manufactured to conform in all respects with the American Water Works Specifications for

Gate Valves for Ordinary Water Works Service as amended to date.

The valves shall be of a type that meets the requirements of the National Board of Fire Underwriters.

On detector check valve installation with meter in by-pass, the owner shall install a gate valve on the inlet side of the by-pass meter that conforms in all respects with Federal Specifications WW-V-54 Type 1 Class A as amended to date. On the discharge side of the by-pass meter, the owner shall install a horizontal bronze swing check valve with metal disc, designed for a working pressure of 125 pounds per square inch for steam or 200 pound per square inch for water, oil or gas.

***Violation of Rules:***

For any violation of the rules governing fire supplies, the Water Works Division may discontinue the service immediately.

## **SECTION 7**

### **Fire Hydrants**

The Water Works Division shall install public fire hydrants wherever required for fire protection, subject, however, to all the provisions described in Section No. 5 entitled "Main Pipe".

#### **Hydrants are Property of Water Works Division:**

All public fire hydrants and their connections are installed and maintained by the department and remain a part of the water works system. No connection charge is placed against the installation of hydrants. The use of hydrants for public fire protection shall be paid for by the areas serviced outside the city limits at the rate of (call) per hydrant per year.

#### **Obstructing Fire Hydrants:**

No person shall obstruct the access to any fire hydrant by placing or permitting any snow, debris, building material or other obstruction to remain on or about the hydrant which will in any manner interfere with its immediate use.

#### **Use of Hydrants:**

Public fire hydrants are installed for the sole purpose of fire protection; and, with the exception of the members of the Fire Department operating the same for the legitimate purpose of extinguishing fires, no other use of such hydrants shall be made without the written consent of the Water Works Division.

## **SECTION 8**

### ***General***

#### ***Cross Connections Prohibited:***

No licensed plumber or others shall cause a physical connection to be

made between the City of Woonsocket water supply and any other water supply for commercial, domestic, sanitary, fire protection or boiler feed purposes, or for any other purpose whatsoever.

No watercloset, urinal bowl, or any other fixture shall be supplied directly from the City water system through a flushometer or other valve unless such valve is set above the water closet or urinal bowl or other fixture in such a manner as to prevent any possibility of back siphonage or pollution.

No plumbing fixture, device or construction shall be installed which will provide a cross-connection between the City supply and a drainage system, soil or waste pipe, so as to permit or make possible the back flow of sewage or waste into the supply system. Drawoff pipes for draining sprinkler systems shall not be connected into a drainage system shall not be connected into a drainage system or a submerged pit.

If the City water supply is delivered to a tank which is also supplied with water from any source other than the public water supply; such tanks shall be open to atmospheric pressure and the City water supplied above the maximum level in the tank. The tank shall be equipped with an overflow pipe of ample size to fix definitely the maximum level of water. There shall be at least 6 inches between the invert of the pipe supplied with

City water and the maximum level.

If the City water supply is delivered to a tank in which there are chemicals, dyestuffs, or other materials used in processing, the pipe supplied with City water shall not be submerged. There shall be ample clearance between the invert of the City supply and the top of the tank to prevent back siphonage into the public supply.

All structures supplied with water through meters sizes 2 inch and larger as well as all medical facilities, wastewater facilities, and other facilities deemed by the superintendent to represent a backflow contamination hazard shall be equipped with an approved reduced pressure zone high hazard backflow prevention device provided with sufficient, reliable drainage.

The device shall be inspected and serviced by a licensed tester annually and the findings of such annual inspections shall be forwarded to the Water Division

***Pump Connection:***

No pump shall be directly connected to any City main or service for the purpose of increasing the water pressure in the City's or owner's system unless prior written authorization and approval has been obtained

from the Water Works Division.

***Lawn and/or Garden Watering Systems:***

Underground or concealed lawn and/or garden watering systems of any type shall not be installed on any premises unless approved by the Water Works Division. Applications for water service which include the installation of such a system shall be accompanied by two (2) sets of plans showing complete and accurate details of the installation to be made.

The system shall be designed or laid out in zones in such a manner that not more than one (1) zone of sprinkler or spraying heads shall exceed a discharge rate of forty (40) gallons per minute. A control valve shall be installed which shall prevent the operation or use of more than (1) zone at at any one time. An approved type of vacuum breaker of the same size as the supply line or lines in a location not less than twelve (12) inches above the highest elevation of the sprinkling and/or spraying discharge point, and a check valve shall be installed in the supply line between the vacuum breaker and the water meter.

The plans submitted for approval shall designate the size, type and length of pipe in the system, the size, type, make and discharge rate of all sprinkler or spraying heads, the size, type, make and location of the

vacuum breaker and check valve, and the size, type and make of control valve.

***Dishwashing and Laundry Machines:***

Direct water supply to dishwashing and laundry machines shall be equipped with an approved vacuum breaker and a check valve located between the vacuum breaker and the fixture. The vacuum breaker shall be located at least four (4) inches above the highest elevation of the machine.

***Water Works Division is not Liable for interruption in Service or Damage***

***Resulting Therefrom:***

The Water Works Division of the City of Woonsocket furnishes water and not pressure, and does not guarantee a continuous supply. No responsibility will be assumed for any damage to any apparatus in any house or building due to the shutting off of water without notice, either for repairs on account of a break in the pipe lines or other necessary operations.

No person shall be entitled to damages, nor to have any portion of a payment refunded, for any stoppage of supply occasioned by accident to any portion of the works; nor for stoppage for purposes of additions or

repairs; nor for non-use occasioned by absence or any other reason.

***Notice of Interruption of Service Not Required:***

While it is the intention to give notice, as far as possible, in advance of any work which must be done that will necessitate interruption of the supply, such notice is to be considered a courtesy only and not a requirement on the part of the Water Works Division. In case of a break in pipe lines, water will be shut off at any time without notice.

Failure of tenant or property owner to receive notice of interruption of service shall entail no responsibility on the part of the Water Works Division or its employees. Property owners must so install range boilers, hot water tanks and other installations connected with the water supply system, with adequate safeguards, so that damage will not occur if the water is shut off without notice.

***Unauthorized Use of Water:***

The Water Works Division of the City of Woonsocket will prefer charge in accordance with Section 11-35-7 of the General Laws of Rhode Island, 1956, against every person who shall, without proper authorization from the Water Works Division, tap or make any connection with street main or

service or other distributing pipe connected with the water system; or who shall, without such authorization, open any gate or valve connected with said system or for the purpose of obtaining such water; or who shall in any way or by any device obtain the use of such water without authorization.

***Re-Sale of Water:***

No consumer, except with the written consent of the Water Works Division previously obtained, will be allowed to furnish water to other persons or property or to suffer such persons to take it themselves.

Violations of this regulation may cause the supply to be shut off and the water rate already paid forfeited.

***Water Charges to One Person:***

When water shall be supplied to more than one party, through a single service, the bill for the whole supply furnished through such service will be made either to the owner of the property or to some one tenant who shall agree to be responsible therefor. In case of non-payment, the water may be shut off, notwithstanding one or more parties may have paid the proportion due from hem or them.

***Water Waste:***

Water must not be allowed to waste through any faucet or fixture to prevent freezing, or kept running any longer than necessary in its proper use. The Water Works Division is required to restrain and prevent any and all wastage of water; and, to that end, may, when necessary, turn off the water or take such other action as in its judgment may be proper.

***Right to Make Inspection:***

Inspectors of this department, or any person authorized by the Water Works Division, must have free access at all reasonable hours to all parts of every building, for the purpose of inspecting, removing or replacing meters, examining water fixtures, and observing the manner in which the water is used.

***Request for Turn On:***

After service has been shut off for any reason except repairs, it shall not be reestablished unless a written order is given the department by the owner or his authorized agent.

***Refusal to Give Service:***

No water shall be furnished to any property which is indebted to the City of Woonsocket for water service.

***Penalty for Violation of Rules:***

If the owner, agent, lessee, tenant or person in charge of any premises, shall violate any rule or regulation of the Water Works Division affecting said premises, and shall fail to remove any violations or comply with any written order of said Water Works Division pertaining thereto within thirty days after such order shall have been sent by mail to the last known address of such person, said Water Works Division may discontinue service to such premises.

If water service shall be so discontinued, it shall not be resumed until the rule or regulation so violated shall have been complied with to the satisfaction of said Water Works Division, and a reasonable fee paid to the City Treasurer for the service in turning the water off and on.

## ***The Water Meter***

Consumers are advised to learn to read the meter order that they may verify the meter reading appearing on the bill. The meter will not tell how the water was used; but it will honestly tell, if consulted at any time, how much is being used or wasted. Its function is to protect the City against the enormous loss from wast or extravagant use, and to fix the charge to consumers according to the services received.

All meters used throughout the City of Woonsocket system read in cubic feet only. One hundred cubic feet of water is equivalent to 748 gallons.

## ***How to Read Water Meters***

Meter dials are of the straight reading or circular reading type. A straight reading dial type of meter is read exactly as an automobile speedometer is read. A circular reading dial type of meter is read in the same manner as the register of a gas or electric meter.

In reading meters of the circular dial type, when a pointer is between two figures, the lesser of the two must always be taken. If there is any doubt as to the correct reading of any dial, refer to the dial of next lower denomination; for unless its pointer has passed "0", the pointer

which is being read has not completed the division upon which it may appear to rest, and the last figure which it has entirely passed should be taken as the reading.

### ***Meter Accuracy***

Water meters are made with great care and precision and should, with reasonable care, give years of satisfactory service. A defective meter will invariably under register, or work in favor of the consumer. All meters before being set have been carefully checked and tested for accuracy, and when placed in service are sealed. This Seal Must Not be Broken by the Consumer.

### ***Waste and Leakage of Water***

If a meter suddenly shows an increase in consumption, with no apparent cause, one of two things has happened; a leak has started, or water has been allowed to run to waste.

Waste and leakage of water is an economic waste, not only to the customer, who pays much larger bills than he should; but to the water

department as well, who must provide a plant of sufficient capacity to meet water demands resulting from leakage and waste in addition to the normal requirements of its consumers. Conservation of water results in indirect savings to the consumer. It eliminates large capital expenditures required in expanding the supply, either at its source or in the distribution system, to meet unusual demands from leakage and waste.

### ***Detection of Leakage***

The flow of water from all fixtures supplied by the meter should be shut off, and the pointer on the circle marked "one foot" observed for a period to ten or fifteen minutes. If the pointer moves, a leak is indicated, the size of which may be determined by timing the pointer.

If the pointer moves one-fourth of the way around in fifteen minutes, it represent a waste of 24 cubic feet per day, or 8,760 cubic feet per

year.

If the leak cannot be located, a licensed plumber should be called as the Water Works Division is not authorized to do work on private property.