

Oak Bluffs Water District  
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## RULES AND REGULATIONS

### APPLICATION FOR SERVICE

All Applications for water service (attached) must be made in writing on the Application Provided by the Oak Bluffs Water District (OBWD). Application must include an engineered site plan (including appurtenances), all other utilities, driveway and septic or sewage plan. All applications must be reviewed and approved by the Superintendent.

No agreement will be entered into by the district with any applicant until all arrears and charges due by the applicant at any premises now and heretofore occupied by them shall have been paid.

A System Development Charge (SDC) has been established to offset future debt and interest expenses and system expansion items such as gravel packed wells and pumping stations. The SDC is a one-time application fee that does not include any charges for work done in association with the project.

A minimum SDC of \$1300.00 (1" service line-5/8" meter) is required at the time this application is submitted to the OBWD. The SDC is based on the size of the line/meter (see Attached). Existing customers requesting a larger sized line/meter will be required to pay a difference in the SDC for an upgrade.

### SERVICE CONNECTIONS

A street service is a pipe, valves and fittings that lay in public or private right of way to the property line and is property of OBWD. All street service lines will be installed by the OBWD or its' designee. Commercial services will be limited to **1, 1 ½, 2, 3, 4, 6, 8 and 12** inches with sizing and materials to be determined by the OBWD. The property service is pipe, valves and fittings that lie beyond the district's curb stop. Ownership of property service lines will remain with the property owner.

**A separate service line is required for each free-standing building on the property (see attached).** The applicant must have authority on behalf of the property owner to apply for water service.

A water main must abut the owner's property to be eligible for municipal water service. If a water main does not exist adjacent to the property, the owner requesting service will be responsible for all costs associated with the main extension. No line shall run through another property without a legal easement.

An on-property water valve (Jerky Valve) must be installed on the owner's property and must comply with the OBWD requirements. Residential services will be limited to **1" Class 250psi / C901** polyethylene, copper tube size water tubing or K-type copper. A larger line would need prior approval by OBWD. New services must have plastic sleeves for protection if poured in foundation floor or wall. All pipes and valves must be buried a minimum of **4 ½ to 5** feet. Fittings must be no lead (NL) compression type. Pro-press fittings, Radiator clamps, insert fittings and soldered joints are **not allowed**.

**Blue water tape must be laid the entire length of the trench and buried to a depth of 18".  
Tracer Wire is optional.**

**No other utilities will be allowed in the water line trench. The water line trench must be separated by a minimum of 5 feet in all directions for utilities, 10 feet in all directions for septic systems and/or sewer pipes. Utilities crossing each other must be sleeved or encased for protection of water supply.**

In extreme cases, trench separation regulations will be waived at the discretion of the Water Superintendent. All property service lines **must** be inspected by a representative of the OBWD prior to back fill with a minimum of twenty-four hours notification.

**If a trench is backfilled prior to inspection, it will need to be re-exposed for inspection.  
NO EXCEPTIONS!**

Service lines will be tied into the main on a first-come, first-served basis with a minimum two weeks after application is submitted. Curb valves will NOT be used by the customer or their agent for turning on or off the water supply. Curb valves are for district use only.

### **METERED SERVICE**

**All water service lines must be metered.** Oak Bluffs Water District will install a water meter upon approval of the service line installation. The plumber is responsible for flushing the water line prior to meter installation. All residential, commercial and fire service lines will be required to install OBWD approved backflow devices. All meter installations will require a check valve (NL) & meter ball valve (NL). The owner will be responsible for providing adequate protection for hot water tanks by providing relief valves as per the State Plumbing Code.

All meters are to have a hand valve before the meter and a check valve after the meter. The quantity of water recorded by the meter shall be accepted as conclusive by both the customer and the district, except when the meter has been found to be reading incorrectly or has ceased to read. In any such case the usage may be determined by the average reads of the meter for the past 3 years during the same period. If it is found that the meter was tampered with, or removed and reinstalled backwards, the district will invoice the customer for a service charge of \$200.00 (plus the cost of any parts needed) to correct the inappropriately installed meter.

All meters found to have frozen will be replaced at the customer's expense.

Water turn-on and shut off is by appointment only and must be scheduled in advance, except in case of an emergency. All invoices must be paid before water is turned on.

The property owner shall pay for all water passed through the meter for any reason. Under this section, the property owner may contest usage in writing to the Superintendent and Board of Water Commissioners. The Board shall consider all requests for abatement on a case-by-case basis.

### **WATER SERVICE LEAKS**

In accordance with OBWD Policy #O-14 (7/14/20), the Board of Water Commissioners requires all customers to maintain their water services and replace them when necessary to minimize waste and unaccounted for water.

If a water service has 1 leak and the existing service line is found to not meet the standards of the OBWD, then the water service shall be replaced to meet the service line standards at the owner's cost. This replacement may include at the discretion of the Superintendent a meter pit and accessories purchased at a cost from the OBWD. Failure to do so may result in termination of service.

## **PAYMENT FOR SERVICE**

Each bill for service will be rendered to the property owner of record who will be responsible for all invoices applied to the account. Water bills will be rendered quarterly and will include a **Ready to Service** charge paid in advance for the next quarter and a usage charge based on the meter read for the previous quarters water usage. Water bills are payable by the due date on the bill. Bills for water merchandise (meters, valves etc.), jobbing and repairs shall be rendered to the customer promptly after the merchandise is obtained or the job is completed. Such bills are due upon receipt.

## **OBWD reserves the right to discontinue service for any account for non-payment.**

The district is not liable for damages or inconvenience caused by discolored, rusty, tainted or cloudy water.

The district will not permit its mains or service pipes to be connected to any other source of supply, nor will the District permit its mains or service pipes to be connected in any way to any pipes, tanks, vats or other apparatus for water containing liquid chemicals or other pollution which can flow back into the District's mains and consequently damage the Towns water supply.

The district reserves the right to cut off the water supply to make repairs, changes or connections to its mains and other equipment. The district will make reasonable efforts to notify customers in advance of such discontinuance of service but in time of emergency may not be able to do so.

**Oak Bluffs Water District is an equal opportunity employer and provider.**