

CHAPTER 20

WATER

- Art. I. In General, {{20-1 - 20-15**
- Art. II. Transfer of Water, {{20-16 - 20-32**
- Art. III. The Standards for Outdoor Watering of Landscape {{20-33 - 20-36**

ARTICLE I.

IN GENERAL

Sec. 20-1. Rates.

The residential city water rates shall be as follow:

	<u>Inside City</u>	<u>Outside City</u>
0 to 2,100 gals. (min.)	9.00	17.75
Over 2,100 gals. per 1,000	2.87	4.68

The commercial city water rates shall be as follows:

	<u>Inside City</u>	<u>Outside City</u>
0 - 2,100 gals. (Minimum)	12.75	23.50
Over 2,100 gals per 1,000	3.28	5.15

Additionally all Water rates charged will increase each year by the amount of 2%, effective with each July billing.

(Revised Ord of 3-09-09; Revised Ord of 7-11-2016)(Revised 7-01-2017)

Sec. 20-2 Damaging Meters

Prohibited. It shall be unlawful for any person to interfere with or disturb in any manner or form any water meter, locks, cutoffs, seals or other devices of the utility, or to use any water after service has been cut off for nonpayment or other cause. Furthermore, it shall be unlawful to keep any water meter from registering properly.

Damaged equipment. Customers are responsible for the safeguard and protection of any water meter and any other related equipment furnished by the utility. If damage to the equipment is the result of careless and/or negligence on the part of the customer, the customer will be liable for the expense of the repair or replacement of the equipment.

Cost to replace damaged meter. Refer to Section 20-23 “Service Charge for Meter Taps” for cost of replacing damaged water meters.

(Ord. of 1/09/2017)

Damaged Equipment is added a list of City water equipment and the associated costs to repair or replace the same. The list is as follows:

- 1- Meter Locks- \$100.00
- 2- Meter Box Lids- \$30.00
- 3- Meter Box- \$60.00
- 4- Valve Boxes-\$80.00
- 5- Valve Box Lids-\$30.00
- 6- Fire Hydrants-\$2000.00

(Added by Ordinance #2020-2 dated: 6/08/2020)

Sec. 20-3 - 20-15. Reserved.

ARTICLE II.

TRANSFER OF WATER

Sec. 20-16. Furnishing water to other person - Use for human consumption.

It shall be unlawful for any person to sell, furnish or supply to any other person's residence or place of business, water that will be used for human consumption. (Ord. of 5-26-58)

Sec. 20-17. Same - Regardless of payment.

It shall be unlawful for any person to supply another's residence, other than his own, with water by piping, hauling or otherwise conveying such water to such other person's residence, irrespective of whether such person supplying the water receives payment or whether such supplying is without charge. (Ord. of 5-26-58)

Sec. 20-18. Same - One owner.

It shall be unlawful for any property owner of residential property to pipe, haul, or convey water or permit water to be piped, hauled or conveyed from one dwelling house owned by such property owner to another dwelling house owned by such property owner or by another. (Ord. of 5-26-58)

Sec. 20-19. Same - Multiple users generally.

It shall be unlawful for any person to sell, supply or furnish, with or without payment, by piping, hauling or conveying or by permitting the piping, hauling or conveying of water to more than one residence or to more than one place of business, or to one residence and one place of business from the same water well or other source of water supply. (Ord. of 5-26-58)

Sec. 20-20. Authority for Tap Extension.

It shall be unlawful for any person to extend any water main or use a meter, or to have a waterline for use, whether within or without the City, except by authority of the City. (Ord. of 3-14-83)

Sec. 20-21. Meters and appurtenances from street through meter box declared City property; refunds prohibited.

The water meter and all appurtenances from the street through the meter box shall belong to and remain the property of the City, and no refunds shall be made in connection with any installations hereafter made. (Ord. of 3-14-83)

Sec. 20-22. Water department to control meters.

All water meters shall be under the exclusive control of the water department. No one but an authorized employee of the water department shall be allowed to put in, take out, or in any way handle the meters. (Ord. of 3-14-83)

Sec. 20-23. Service charge for meter taps.

(a) All water meter taps shall be made and installed on the basis of a non-refundable service charge, which shall be as follows (Ord of 3/10/08; Revised Ord of 7/11/2016):

	<u>RESIDENTIAL</u>		<u>COMMERCIAL</u>	
	<u>Inside City</u>	<u>Outside City</u>	<u>Inside City</u>	<u>Outside City</u>
3/4" Meter	\$350.00	\$450.00	\$450.00	\$550.00
1" Meter	\$450.00	\$650.00	\$550.00	\$750.00
2" Meter	QUOTE	QUOTE	QUOTE	QUOTE
Moving Meter	75% Cost of Meter		75% Cost of Meter	
Replacing Meter	75% Cost of Meter		75% Cost of Meter	
Replace Damaged Meter	100% Cost of Meter		100% Cost of Meter	

(Ord. of 1/09/2017)

(b) In the event it is necessary to cut the street pavement in order to make a water tap, a charge of \$250.00 for a partial street cut and \$500.00 for a full street located inside the city and \$350.00 for a partial street cut for residential and \$350.00 for a partial street cut for commercial and \$ 500.00 for a full street cut for residential and \$550.00 for a full street cut for commercial located outside the city in addition to those named in subsection (a) will be made for the purpose of paying for re-paving the pavement. (Ord of 3/10/08;

Revised Ord 7/11/2016)

Sec. 20-24. Water rates for multiple users of one meter.

All apartments, mobile home parks, or residences with more than one family using only one water meter shall pay on the basis of one water customer with the total amount of water used being the meter reading less a credit of two thousand one hundred (2,100) gallons for all units in excess of one. The water bill will be figured on adjusted meter reading plus the minimum bill of \$9.00 times the number of housing units in excess of one for residential and the minimum bill of \$12.75 times the number of housing units in excess of one for commercial inside the city. (Ord. of 3-14-83) (Amended: Ord of 3/09/09 (Amended: Ord of 7/11/2016)

Sec. 20-25. Payment of bills; penalty.

All bills for water shall be due and payable at the office of the City Clerk on the first day of each month, and if said bills are not paid by the tenth of the month, a ten (10%) percent delinquency penalty shall be added. If said bills are not paid by the twentieth of the month, a \$10.00 late fee will be added and a past due notice will be sent to each delinquent customer, giving an additional five (5) days before services will be disconnected. If said bill is still unpaid after the additional fifth (5th) day on past due notice, services will be disconnected and an additional \$25.00 will be added to delinquent account regardless of disconnection. Provided, however, that when the first, tenth, or twentieth of the month falls on a Saturday, Sunday or legal holiday, said bills shall become due, said penalty shall be attach or said service shall be discontinued on the next succeeding business day after the first, tenth, or twentieth. (Amended Ord. of 9/12/2016)

Sec. 20-26. Landlords responsible for payment.

Landlords and their agents shall be responsible for the water rents, and shall give the superintendent written notice of the non-use of water. (Ord. of 3-14-83)

Sec. 20-27. Deposits required for certain customers.

Any person desiring any utility service furnished by the City shall make a utility deposit according to the following chart:

	Inside City	Outside City
RESIDENTIAL		
Water Only	40.00	60.00
Garbage Only	30.00	60.00
Sewer Only	40.00	65.00
Water & Garbage	70.00	120.00
Water & Sewer	80.00	125.00
Garbage & Sewer	70.00	125.00
Water, Sewer & Garbage	110.00	185.00
COMMERCIAL		
Water Only	75.00	110.00

Sewer Only	75.00	95.00
Garbage (Cart)	55.00	75.00
Garbage (Dumpster)	1 Month Garbage Fee	1 Month Garbage Fee
Water & Garbage (Cart)	130.00	185.00
Water & Garbage (Dumpster)	75.00 + 1 Month Garbage Fee	100.00 + 1 Month Garbage Fee
Sewer & Garbage (Cart)	125.00	165.00
Sewer & Garbage (Dumpster)	75.00 + 1 Month Garbage Fee	100.00 + 1 Month Garbage Fee
Water, Sewer & Garbage (Cart)	200.00	275.00
Water, Sewer & Garbage (Dumpster)	100.00 + 1 Month Garbage Fee	150.00 + 1 Month Garbage Fee

(Amended Ord. of 9/12/2016) (Amended Ord. 1/09/2017)

Sec. 20-28. Cross-connections.

It shall be unlawful to maintain a cross-connection or any other kind of arrangement whereby the City's public water system is or may be connected directly or indirectly with any other source of water, including private wells, or any non-potable water system or non-permitted water systems, sewer, drain, conduit, pool, storage reservoir, plumbing fixture or other device which contains or may contain, contaminated water, liquid, gasses, sewerage or other waste of unknown or unsafe quality which may be capable of imparting contamination to the public water system as the results of backflow, bypass arrangements, jumper connections, removable sections, swivel or change-over devices, or other temporary, permanent or potential connections through which or because of which back-flow or back siphon age could or would occur. (Ord. of 3-14-83)

Sec. 20-29. Water Meter - Installation or replacement.

It shall be a requirement that for any new water meter which is installed (or the replacement of any old water meter) that there be installed simultaneously with the new water meter a double-check valve. Installation of a new water meter or the replacement of an old water meter without a double-check valve shall be unlawful. (Ord. of 3-14-83)

Sec. 20-30. Reduced Pressure Valve.

It shall be unlawful for any business which uses chemicals, harsh soaps, or other agents, including any industrial waste or hazardous waste, to operate without first installing a reduced pressure valve. (Ord. of 3-14-83)

Sec. 20-31. Outside Water Users.

All outside water users serviced by a 6" line or larger shall pay a minimum fee of \$300.00 per month for water, or the actual cost, whichever is greater.

Sec. 20-32. Penalties.

Any violation of the provisions of this chapter by any person, firm or corporation shall be

punished, upon conviction of said offense, as is provided in the City Charter. (Ord. of 3-14-83)

ARTICLE III

THE STANDARDS FOR OUTDOOR WATERING OF LANDSCAPE

Sec. 20-33. Restriction on Outdoor Water of Landscape.

Outdoor watering for purposes of planting, growing, managing, or maintaining ground cover, trees, shrubs, or other plants may occur only between the hours of 4:00 p.m. and 10:00 a.m.; provided, however, that this limitation shall not create any limitation upon the following outdoor water uses:

- (A) Commercial raising, harvesting, or storing of crops; feeding, breeding, or managing livestock or poultry; the commercial production or storing of feed for use in the production of livestock, including, but not limited to, cattle, calves, swine, hogs, goats, sheep, and rabbits, or for use in the production of poultry, including, but not limited to, chickens, hens, ratites, and turkeys; producing plants, trees, fowl, or animals; or the commercial production of aqua-cultural, horticultural, dairy, livestock, poultry, eggs, and apiarian products or as otherwise defined in O.C.G.A. § 1-3-3;
- (B) Capture and reuse of cooling system condensate or storm water in compliance with applicable ordinances and state guidelines;
- (C) Reuse of gray water in compliance with O.C.G.A. § 31-3-5.2 and applicable local board of health regulations;
- (D) Use of reclaimed waste water by a designated user from a system permitted by the Environmental Protection Division of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources to provide reclaimed waste water;
- (E) Watering personal food gardens;
- (F) Watering new and replanted plant, seed, or turf in landscapes, golf courses, or sports turf fields during installation and for a period of 30 days immediately following the date of installation;
- (G) Drip irrigation or irrigation using soaker hoses;
- (H) Hand watering with a hose with automatic cutoff or handheld container;
- (I) Use of water withdrawn from private water wells or surface water by an owner or operator of property if such well or surface water is on said property;
- (J) Watering horticultural crops held for sale, resale, or installation;

- (K) Watering athletic fields, golf courses, or public turf grass recreational areas;
- (L) Installation, maintenance, or calibration of irrigation systems; or
- (M) Hydro-seeding.

Sec. 20-34. Enforcement.

- (A) No person shall use or allow the use of water in violation of the restrictions on outdoor water use contained in ordinance.
- (B) The shall be the enforcement authority for this ordinance. The county/city manager may also authorize other departments as may be deemed necessary to support enforcement.
- (C) Criminal and alternative penalties. Any violation of this section may also be enforced by a citation or accusation returnable to the magistrate court/municipal court or by any other legal means as set forth in this Code.

Sec. 20-35. Repealer.

All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict with this ordinance are repealed.

Sec. 20-36. Effective Date.

This ordinance shall go into effect on this 13th day of December, 2010.