Public Service Commission of Wisconsin

Thorp Municipal Water and Sewer Utility

Public Fire Protection Service

The annual charge for public fire protection service to the City of Thorp shall be $138,514.

This service shall include the use of hydrants for fire protection service only and such quantities of water as may be demanded for the purposes of extinguishing fires within the service area. This service shall also include water used for testing equipment and training personnel. For all other purposes, the metered or other rates set forth, or as may be filed with the Public Service Commission, shall apply.

Public Service Commission of Wisconsin

Thorp Municipal Water and Sewer Utility

Private Fire Protection Service - Unmetered

This service shall consist of permanent or continuous unmetered connections to the main for the purpose of supplying water to private fire protection systems such as automatic sprinkler systems, standpipes, and private hydrants. This service shall also include reasonable quantities of water used for testing check valves and other backflow prevention devices.

Quarterly Private Fire Protection Service Demand Charges:

2-inch or smaller connection	$	36.00
3-inch connection	$	66.00
4-inch connection	$	111.00
6-inch connection	$	219.00
8-inch connection	$	351.00
10-inch connection	$	525.00
12-inch connection	$	699.00

Billing: Same as Schedule Mg-1.

Public Service Commission of Wisconsin

Thorp Municipal Water and Sewer Utility

General Service - Metered

Quarterly Service Charges:

⅝ - inch meter - $	43.26	3 - inch meter - $	401.70
¾ - inch meter - $	43.26	4 - inch meter - $	438.78
1 - inch meter - $	98.88	6 - inch meter - $	516.03
1¼ - inch meter - $	129.78	8 - inch meter - $	618.00
1½ - inch meter - $	154.50	10 - inch meter - $	772.50
2 - inch meter - $	250.29	12 - inch meter - $	927.00

For PSC use only: base 5/8-inch meter charge for SRC purpose -

Plus Volume Charges:

First	25,000	gallons used each quarter - $4.36 per 1,000 gallons
Next	75,000	gallons used each quarter - $3.43 per 1,000 gallons
Next	200,000	gallons used each quarter - $2.58 per 1,000 gallons
Over	300,000	gallons used each quarter - $2.22 per 1,000 gallons

Billing: Bills for water service are rendered quarterly and become due and payable upon issuance following the period for which service is rendered. A late payment charge of 1 percent per month will be added to bills not paid within 20 days of issuance. This late payment charge will be applied to the total unpaid balance for utility service, including unpaid late payment charges. The late payment charge is applicable to all customers. The utility customer may be given a written notice that the bill is overdue no sooner than 20 days after the bill is issued. Unless payment or satisfactory arrangement for payment is made within the next 10 days, service may be disconnected pursuant to Wis. Adm. Code ch. PSC 185.

Combined Metering: Volumetric meter readings will be combined for billing if the utility for its own convenience places more than one meter on a single water service lateral. Multiple meters placed for the purpose of identifying water not discharged into the sanitary sewer are not considered for utility convenience and shall not be combined for billing. This requirement does not preclude the utility from combining readings when metering configurations support such an approach. Meter readings from individually metered separate service laterals shall not be combined for billing purposes.

Public Service Commission of Wisconsin

Thorp Municipal Water and Sewer Utility

Other Charges

A $29.00 charge will be applied to the customer's account when a check rendered for utility service is returned for non-sufficient funds. This charge may not be in addition to, but may be inclusive of, other non-sufficient funds charges when the check was for payment of multiple services.

Billing: Same as Schedule Mg-1.

Public Service Commission of Wisconsin

Thorp Municipal Water and Sewer Utility

General Service - Suburban

Water customers residing outside the corporate limits of the City of Thorp shall be billed at the regular rates for service (Schedule Mg-1) plus a 25 percent surcharge.

Billing: Same as Schedule Mg-1.

Public Service Commission of Wisconsin

Thorp Municipal Water and Sewer Utility

Public Service

Water service supplied to municipal buildings, schools, sewer treatment plants, etc., shall be metered and the regular metered service rates applied.

Water used on an intermittent basis for flushing sewers, street sprinkling, flooding skating rinks, drinking fountains, etc., shall be metered where meters can be set to measure the service. Where it is impossible to measure the service, the superintendent shall estimate the volume of water used based on the pressure, size of opening, and period of time water is allowed to be drawn. The estimated quantity used shall be billed at the rate of $2.50 per 1,000 gallons.
Billing: Same as Schedule Mg-1.

Public Service Commission of Wisconsin

Thorp Municipal Water and Sewer Utility

General Water Service - Unmetered

Where the utility cannot immediately install its water meter, service may be supplied temporarily on an unmetered basis. Such service shall be billed at the rate of $80.07 per quarter. This rate shall be applied only to single-family residential and small commercial customers and approximates the cost of 9,000 gallons of water per quarter under Schedule Mg-1. If it is determined by the utility that usage is in excess of 9,000 gallons of water per quarter, an additional charge per Schedule Mg-1 will be made for the estimated additional usage.

Billing: Same as Schedule Mg-1.

Public Service Commission of Wisconsin

Thorp Municipal Water and Sewer Utility

Seasonal, Emergency, or Temporary Service

Seasonal customers* shall pay an annual seasonal service charge equal to four times the applicable service charge in Schedule Mg-1. Water use in any billing period shall be billed at the applicable volume rates in Schedule Mg-1 and the charge added to the annual seasonal service charge.

In addition, customers who have an additional meter pursuant to Schedule Am-1 shall also pay an annual seasonal rental charge equal to four times the applicable additional meter rental charge in Schedule Am-1.

Further, if service has been disconnected or a meter removed, a charge under Schedule R-1 shall be applied at the time of reconnection or meter reinstallation.

*Seasonal customers are general service customers whose use of water is normally for recurring periods of less than a year. This includes service under Schedule Mg-1 and/or Schedule Am-1.

Billing: Same as Schedule Mg-1.

Building and Construction Water Service

For single-family and small commercial buildings, apply the unmetered rate (Schedule Ug-1).

For large commercial, industrial, or multiple apartment buildings, a temporary metered installation shall be made and general metered rates (Schedule Mg-1) applied.

Billing: Same as Schedule Mg-1.

Public Service Commission of Wisconsin

Thorp Municipal Water and Sewer Utility

Bulk Water

All bulk water supplied from the water system through hydrants or other connections shall be metered, or at the direction of the utility, estimated. Utility personnel or a utility-approved party shall supervise the delivery of water.

Bulk water sales are:

A. Water supplied by tank trucks or from hydrants for the purpose of extinguishing fires outside the utility's immediate service area;

B. Water supplied by tank trucks or from hydrants for purposes other than extinguishing fires, such as irrigation or the filling of swimming pools; or,

C. Water supplied from hydrants or other temporary connections for general service type applications. (Water supplied for construction purposes - see Schedule Mz-1.)

A charge for the volume of water used will be billed to the party using the water at $4.23 per 1,000 gallons. A service charge, in addition to the volumetric charge, will be $35.00. In addition, for meters that are assigned to bulk water customers for more than 30 days, the applicable service charge in Schedule Mg-1 will apply after the first 30 days.

The water utility may require reasonable deposits for the temporary use of its equipment under this and other rate schedules. The deposit(s) collected will be refunded upon return of the utility's equipment. Damaged or lost equipment will be repaired or replaced at the customer's expense.

Billing: Same as Schedule Mg-1.

Public Service Commission of Wisconsin

Thorp Municipal Water and Sewer Utility

Additional Meter Rental Charge

If a customer requests the installation of an additional meter* to receive credit for clear water not discharged into the sanitary sewer system, or if a sewerage service customer who is not a customer of the water utility requests the installation of a meter to determine the volume of sewage discharged into the sanitary sewer system, the utility shall furnish and install this additional meter. This rate applies to single-family residential and small commercial customers. At utility discretion, it may also be applied to other customers. A rental fee shall be charged for the use of this meter and the following rates shall apply.

⅝ -inch meter	-	$ 12.00 per quarter
¾ -inch meter	-	$ 12.00 per quarter
1 -inch meter	-	$ 15.90 per quarter
1¼ -inch meter	-	$ 18.90 per quarter
1½ -inch meter	-	$ 22.00 per quarter
2 -inch meter	-	$ 30.00 per quarter

Initial Meter Installation Charge - $35.00

Billing: Same as Schedule Mg-1.

*For the Schedule Am-1 rate to apply, the additional meter must be installed on the same service lateral as the primary meter. Also, if the metering configuration is in the Addition Method, the Schedule Am-1 rate will apply only if the additional meter is ¾-inch or less. If the additional meter is larger than ¾-inch in the Addition Method, then Schedule Mg-1 rates apply to the primary meter and the additional meter as separate accounts.

Public Service Commission of Wisconsin

Thorp Municipal Water and Sewer Utility

Remote Reading Register Meter Attachment

A remote register meter attachment will be installed upon request of a customer for such installation. Where the register is to be attached to the outside of the building in which the meter is located, the customer will be charged for each meter attachment at the following rate.

Each remote register - $35.00

Public Service Commission of Wisconsin

Thorp Municipal Water and Sewer Utility

Reconnection Charges

	During Normal Business Hours	After Normal Business Hours
Reinstallation of meter, including valving at curb stop	$ 35.00	$ 50.00
Valve turned on at curb stop	$ 30.00	$ 45.00

Note: No charge for disconnection.

Billing: Same as Schedule Mg-1.

Public Service Commission of Wisconsin

Thorp Municipal Water and Sewer Utility

Water Lateral Installation Charge

Subdivision developers shall be responsible, where the main extension has been approved by the utility, for the water service lateral installation costs from the main through the curb stop and box.

When the cost of a utility main extension is to be collected through assessment by the municipality, the actual average water lateral installation costs from the main through the curb stop and box shall be included in the assessment of the appropriate properties.

The initial water service lateral(s), not installed as part of a subdivision development or an assessable utility extension, will be installed from the main through the curb stop and box by the utility, for which the actual cost will be charged.

Billing: Same as Schedule Mg-1.

Public Service Commission of Wisconsin

Thorp Municipal Water and Sewer Utility

Mobile Home Meter Deposits

Customers requesting water utility service to a mobile home shall make a water meter deposit of $50.00. Customers shall pay this deposit in full upon commencement of service or shall make arrangement with the utility to pay five monthly installments of $10.00 each.

A full refund of the meter deposit shall be made to the customer upon termination of service, contingent upon the meter being in good working order. Customers failing to notify the utility prior to moving their mobile home or failing to protect the meter from frost or other physical damage, will forfeit all or the portion of the deposit necessary to repair or replace the meter.

All meter deposit refunds shall be made with interest pursuant to s. PSC 185.36(5), Wis. Adm. Code.

Public Service Commission of Wisconsin

Thorp Municipal Water and Sewer Utility

Water Main Extension Rule

Water mains will be extended for new customers on the following basis:

A. Where the cost of the extension is to immediately be collected through assessment by the municipality against the abutting property, the procedure set forth under Wis. Stat. § 66.0703 will apply, and no additional customer contribution to the utility will be required.

B. Where the municipality is unwilling or unable to make a special assessment, the extension will be made on a customer-financed basis as follows:

1. The applicant(s) will advance as a contribution in aid of construction the total amount equivalent to that which would have been assessed for all property under A.

2. Part of the contribution required in B.1. will be refundable. When additional customers are connected to the extended main within 10 years of the date of completion, contributions in aid of construction will be collected equal to the amount which would have been assessed under A. for the abutting property being served. This amount will be refunded to the original contributor(s). In no case will the contributions received from additional customers exceed the proportionate amount which would have been required under A., nor will it exceed the total assessable cost of the original extension.

C. When a customer connects to a transmission main or connecting loop installed at utility expense within 10 years of the date of completion, there will be a contribution required of an amount equivalent to that which would have been assessed under A.

Public Service Commission of Wisconsin

Thorp Municipal Water and Sewer Utility

Water Main Installations in Platted Subdivisions

Application for installation of water mains in regularly platted real estate development subdivisions shall be filed with the utility.

If the developer, or a contractor employed by the developer, is to install the water mains (with the approval of the utility), the developer shall be responsible for the total cost of construction.

If the utility or its contractor is to install the water mains, the developer shall be required to advance to the utility, prior to the beginning of the construction, the total estimated cost of the extension. If the final costs exceed estimated costs, an additional billing will be made for the balance of the cost due. This balance is to be paid within 30 days. If final costs are less than estimated, a refund of the overpayment will be made by the water utility.

Water Utility Operating Rules

Compliance with Rules

All persons now receiving water service from this water utility, or who may request service in the future, shall be considered as having agreed to be bound by the rules and regulations as filed with the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin.

Establishment of Service

Application for water service may be made in writing on a form furnished by the water utility. The application will contain the legal description of the property to be served, the name of the owner, the exact use to be made of the service, and the size of the service lateral and meter desired. Note particularly any special refrigeration, fire protection, or water-consuming air-conditioning equipment.

Service will be furnished only if (1) the premises have a frontage on a properly platted street or public strip in which a cast iron or other long-life water main has been laid, or where the property owner has agreed to and complied with the provisions of the water utility's filed main extension rule, (2) the property owner has installed or agrees to install a service lateral from the curb stop to the point of use that is not less than 6 feet below the surface of an established or proposed grade and meets the water utility's specifications, and (3) the premises have adequate piping beyond the metering point.

The owner of a multi-unit dwelling has the option of being served by individual metered water service to each unit. The owner, by selecting this option, is required to provide interior plumbing and meter settings to enable individual metered service to each unit and individual disconnection without affecting service to other units. Each meter and meter connection will be treated as a separate water utility account for the purpose of the filed rules and regulations.

No division of the water service lateral to any lot or parcel of land shall be made for the extension and independent metering of the supply to an adjoining lot or parcel of land. Except for duplexes, no division of a water service lateral shall be made at the curb for separate supplies for two or more separate premises having frontage on any street or public service strip, whether owned by the same or different parties. Duplexes may be served by one lateral provided (1) individual metered service and disconnection is provided and (2) it is permitted by local ordinance.

Buildings used in the same business, located on the same parcel, and served by a single lateral may have the customer’s water supply piping installed to a central point so that volume can be metered in one place.

The water utility may withhold approval of any application where full information of the purpose of such supply is not clearly indicated and set forth by the applicant property owner.

Water Utility Operating Rules

Reconnection of Service

Where the water utility has disconnected service at the customer's request, a reconnection charge shall be made when the customer requests reconnection of service. See Schedule R-1 for the applicable rate.

A reconnection charge shall also be required from customers whose services are disconnected (shut off at curb stop box) because of nonpayment of bills when due. See Schedule R-1 for the applicable rate.

If reconnection is requested for the same location by any member of the same household, or, if a place of business, by any partner of the same business, it shall be considered as the same customer.

Temporary Metered Service, Meter, and Deposits

An applicant for temporary water service on a metered basis shall make and maintain a monetary deposit for each meter installed as security for payment for use of water and for such other charges which may arise from the use of the supply. A charge shall be made for setting the valve and furnishing and setting the meter. See Schedule BW-1 for the applicable rate.

Water for Construction

When water is requested for construction purposes or for filling tanks or other such uses, an application shall be made to the water utility, in writing, giving a statement of the amount of construction work to be done or the size of the tank to be filled, etc. Payment for the water for construction may be required in advance at the scheduled rates. The service lateral must be installed into the building before water can be used. No connection with the service lateral at the curb shall be made without special permission from the water utility. In no case will any employee of the water utility turn on water for construction work unless the contractor has obtained permission from the water utility.

Customers shall not allow contractors, masons, or other persons to take unmetered water from their premises without permission from the water utility. Any customer failing to comply with this provision may have water service discontinued and will be responsible for the cost of the estimated volume of water used.

Water Utility Operating Rules

Use of Hydrants

In cases where no other supply is available, permission may be granted by the water utility to use a hydrant. No hydrant shall be used until the proper meter and valve are installed. In no case shall any valve be installed or moved except by an employee of the water utility.

Before a valve is set, payment must be made for its setting and for the water to be used at the scheduled rates. Where applicable, see Schedule BW-1 for deposits and charges. Upon completing the use of the hydrant, the customer must notify the water utility to that effect.

Operation of Valves and Hydrants and Unauthorized Use of Water - Penalty

Any person who shall, without authority of the water utility, allow contractors, masons, or other unauthorized persons to take water from their premises, operate any valve connected with the street or supply mains, or open any fire hydrant connected with the distribution system, except for the purpose of extinguishing fire, or who shall wantonly damage or impair the same, shall be subject to a fine as provided by municipal ordinance. Utility permission for the use of hydrants applies only to such hydrants that are designated for the specific use.

Refunds of Monetary Deposits

All money deposited as security for payment of charges arising from the use of temporary water service on a metered basis, or for the return of a hydrant valve and fixtures if the water is used on an unmetered basis, will be refunded to the depositor on the termination of the use of water, the payment of all charges levied against the depositor, and the return of the water utility's equipment.

Service Laterals

No water service lateral shall be laid through any trench having cinders, rubbish, rock or gravel fill, or any other material which may cause injury to or disintegration of the service lateral, unless adequate means of protection are provided by sand filling or such other insulation as may be approved by the water utility. Service laterals passing through curb or retaining walls shall be adequately safeguarded by provision of a channel space or pipe casing not less than twice the diameter of the service connection. The space between the service lateral and the channel or pipe casing shall be filled and lightly caulked with an oakum, mastic cement, or other resilient material and made impervious to moisture.

In backfilling the pipe trench, the service lateral must be protected against injury by carefully hand tamping the ground filling around the pipe. There should be at least 6 inches of ground filling over the pipe, and it should be free from hard lumps, rocks, stones, or other injurious material.

Water Utility Operating Rules

Service Laterals (continued)

All water service laterals shall be of undiminished size from the street main into the point of meter placement. Beyond the meter outlet valve, the piping shall be sized and proportioned to provide, on all floors, at all times, an equitable distribution of the water supply for the greatest probable number of fixtures or appliances operating simultaneously.

Replacement and Repair of Service Laterals

The service lateral from the main to and through the curb stop will be maintained and kept in repair and, when worn out, replaced at the expense of the water utility. The property owner shall maintain the service lateral from the curb stop to the point of use.

If an owner fails to repair a leaking or broken service lateral from the curb to the point of metering or use within such time as may appear reasonable to the water utility after notification has been served on the owner by the water utility, the water will be shut off and will not be turned on again until the repairs have been completed.

Abandonment of Service

If a property owner changes the use of a property currently receiving water service such that water service will no longer be needed in the future, the water utility may require the abandonment of the water service at the water main. In such case, the property owner may be responsible for all removal and/or repair costs, including the water main and the utility portion of the water service lateral.

Charges for Water Wasted Due to Leaks

See Wis. Admin. Code § PSC 185.35.

Thawing Frozen Service Laterals

See Wis. Admin. Code § PSC 185.88.

Curb Stop Boxes

The curb stop box is the property of the water utility. The water utility is responsible for its repair and maintenance. This includes maintaining, through adjustment, the curb stop box at an appropriate grade level where no direct action by the property owner or occupant has contributed to an elevation problem. The property owner is responsible for protecting the curb stop box from situations that could obstruct access to it or unduly expose it to harm. The water utility shall not be liable for failure to locate the curb stop box and shut off the water in case of a leak on the owner's premises.

Water Utility Operating Rules

Installation of Meters

Meters will be owned, furnished, and installed by the water utility or a utility-approved contractor and are not to be disconnected or tampered with by the customer. All meters shall be so located that they shall be protected from obstructions and permit ready access for reading, inspection, and servicing, such location to be designated or approved by the water utility. All piping within the building must be supplied by the owner. Where additional meters are desired by the owner, the owner shall pay for all piping. Where applicable, see Schedule Am-1 for rates.

Repairs to Meters

Meters will be repaired by the water utility, and the cost of such repairs caused by ordinary wear and tear will be borne by the water utility.

Repair of any damage to a meter resulting from the carelessness of the owner of the premises, owner's agent, or tenant, or from the negligence of any one of them to properly secure and protect same, including any damage that may result from allowing a water meter to become frozen or to be damaged from the presence of hot water or steam in the meter, shall be paid for by the customer or the owner of the premises.

Service Piping for Meter Settings

Where the original service piping is installed for a new metered customer, where existing service piping is changed for the customer's convenience, or where a new meter is installed for an existing unmetered customer, the owner of the premises at his/her expense shall provide a suitable location and the proper connections for the meter. The meter setting and associated plumbing shall comply with the water utility's standards. The water utility should be consulted as to the type and size of the meter setting.

Turning on Water

The water may only be turned on for a customer by an authorized employee of the water utility. Plumbers may turn the water on to test their work, but upon completion must leave the water turned off.

Water Utility Operating Rules

Failure to Read Meters

Where the water utility is unable to read a meter, the fact will be plainly indicated on the bill, and either an estimated bill will be computed or the minimum charge applied. The difference shall be adjusted when the meter is again read, that is, the bill for the succeeding billing period will be computed with the gallons or cubic feet in each block of the rate schedule doubled, and credit will be given on that bill for the amount of the bill paid the preceding period. Only in unusual cases shall more than three consecutive estimated or minimum bills be rendered.

If the meter is damaged (see Surreptitious Use of Water) or fails to operate, the bill will be based on the average use during the past year, unless there is some reason why the use is not normal. If the average use cannot be properly determined, the bill will be estimated by some equitable method.

See Wis. Admin. Code § PSC 185.33.

Complaint Meter Tests

See Wis. Admin. Code § PSC 185.77.

Inspection of Premises

During reasonable hours, any officer or authorized employee of the water utility shall have the right of access to the premises supplied with service for the purpose of inspection or for the enforcement of the water utility's rules and regulations. Whenever appropriate, the water utility will make a systematic inspection of all unmetered water taps for the purpose of checking waste and unnecessary use of water.

See Wis. Stat. § 196.171.

Vacation of Premises

When premises are to be vacated, the water utility shall be notified, in writing, at once, so that it may remove the meter and shut off the water supply at the curb stop. The owner of the premises shall be liable for prosecution for any damage to the water utility's property. See "Abandonment of Service" in Schedule X-1 for further information.

Deposits for Residential Service

See Wis. Admin. Code § PSC 185.36.

Water Utility Operating Rules

Deposits for Nonresidential Service

See Wis. Admin. Code § PSC 185.361.

Deferred Payment Agreement

See Wis. Admin. Code § PSC 185.38.

Dispute Procedures

See Wis. Admin. Code § PSC 185.39.

Disconnection and Refusal of Service

See Wis. Admin. Code § PSC 185.37.

The following is an example of a disconnection notice that the utility may use to provide the required notice to customers.

DISCONNECTION NOTICE

Dear Customer:

The bill enclosed with this notice includes your current charge for water utility service and your previous unpaid balance.

You have 10 days to pay the water utility service arrears or your service is subject to disconnection.

If you fail to pay the service arrears or fail to contact us within the 10 days allowed to make reasonable deferred payment arrangement or other suitable arrangement, we will proceed with disconnection action.

To avoid the inconvenience of service interruption and an additional charge of (amount) for reconnection, we urge you to pay the full arrears IMMEDIATELY AT ONE OF OUR OFFICES.

If you have entered into a Deferred Payment Agreement with us and have failed to make the deferred payments you agreed to, your service will be subject to disconnection unless you pay the entire amount due within 10 days.

If you have a reason for delaying the payment, call us and explain the situation.

Disconnection and Refusal of Service (continued)

DISCONNECTION NOTICE (continued)

PLEASE CALL THIS TELEPHONE NUMBER, (telephone number), IMMEDIATELY IF:

1. You dispute the notice of delinquent account.
2. You have a question about your water utility service arrears.
3. You are unable to pay the full amount of the bill and are willing to enter into a deferred payment agreement with us.
4. There are any circumstances you think should be taken into consideration before service is discontinued.
5. Any resident is seriously ill.

Illness Provision: If there is an existing medical emergency in your home and you furnish the water utility with a statement signed by either a licensed Wisconsin physician or a public health official, we will delay disconnection of service up to 21 days. The statement must identify the medical emergency and specify the period of time during which disconnection will aggravate the existing emergency.

Deferred Payment Agreements: If you are a residential customer and, for some reason, you are unable to pay the full amount of the water utility service arrears on your bill, you may contact the water utility to discuss arrangements to pay the arrears over an extended period of time.

This time payment agreement will require:

1. Payment of a reasonable amount at the time the agreement is made.
2. Payment of the remainder of the outstanding balance in monthly installments over a reasonable length of time.
3. Payment of all future water utility service bills in full by the due date.

In any situation where you are unable to resolve billing disputes or disputes about the grounds for proposed disconnection through contacts with our water utility, you may make an appeal to the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin by calling (800) 225-7729.

(WATER UTILITY NAME)

Water Utility Operating Rules

Collection of Overdue Bills

An amount owed by the customer may be levied as a tax as provided in Wis. Stat. § 66.0809.

Surreptitious Use of Water

When the water utility has reasonable evidence that a person is obtaining water, in whole or in part, by means of devices or methods used to stop or interfere with the proper metering of the water utility service being delivered, the water utility reserves the right to estimate and present immediately a bill for unmetered service as a result of such interference, and such bill shall be payable subject to a 24-hour disconnection of service. If the water utility disconnects the service for any such reason, the water utility will reconnect the service upon the following conditions:

A. The customer will be required to deposit with the water utility an amount sufficient to guarantee the payment of the bills for water utility service.

B. The customer will be required to pay the water utility for any and all damages to water utility equipment resulting from such interference with the metering.

C. The customer must further agree to comply with reasonable requirements to protect the water utility against further losses.

See Wis. Stat. §§ 98.26 and 943.20.

Repairs to Mains

The water utility reserves the right to shut off the water supply in the mains temporarily to make repairs, alterations, or additions to the plant or system. When the circumstances will permit, the water utility will give notification, by newspaper publication or otherwise, of the discontinuance of the water supply. No credit will be allowed to customers for such temporary suspension of the water supply.

See Wis. Admin. Code § PSC 185.87.

Duty of Water Utility with Respect to Safety of the Public

It shall be the duty of the water utility to see that all open ditches for water mains, hydrants, and service laterals are properly guarded to prevent accident to any person or vehicle, and at night there shall be displayed proper signal lighting to insure the safety of the public.

Water Utility Operating Rules

Handling Water Mains and Service Laterals in Excavation Trenches

Contractors must call Digger's Hotline and ensure a location is done to establish the existence and location of all water mains and service laterals as provided in Wis. Stat. § 182.0175. Where water mains or service laterals have been removed, cut, or damaged during trench excavation, the contractors must, at their own expense, cause them to be replaced or repaired at once. Contractors must not shut off the water service laterals to any customer for a period exceeding 6 hours.

Protective Devices

A. Protective Devices in General: The owner or occupant of every premise receiving water supply shall apply and maintain suitable means of protection of the premise supply and all appliances against damage arising in any manner from the use of the water supply, variation of water pressure, or any interruption of water supply. Particularly, such owner or occupant must protect water-cooled compressors for refrigeration systems by means of high and/or low pressure safety cutout devices. There shall likewise be provided means for the prevention of the transmission of water ram or noise of operation of any valve or appliance through the piping of their own or adjacent premises.

B. Relief Valves: On all "closed systems" (i.e., systems having a check valve, pressure regulator, reducing valve, water filter, or softener), an effective pressure relief valve shall be installed at or near the top of the hot water tank or at the hot water distribution pipe connection to the tank. No stop valve shall be placed between the hot water tank and the relief valve or on the drain pipe. See applicable plumbing codes.

C. Air Chambers: An air chamber or approved shock absorber shall be installed at the terminus of each riser, fixture branch, or hydraulic elevator main for the prevention of undue water hammer. The air chamber shall be sized in conformance with local plumbing codes. Where possible, the air chamber should be provided at its base with a valve for water drainage and replenishment of air.

Cross-Connections

Every person owning or occupying a premise receiving municipal water supply shall maintain such municipal water supply free from any connection, either of a direct or of an indirect nature, with a water supply from a foreign source or of any manner of connection with any fixture or appliance whereby water from a foreign supply or the waste from any fixture, appliance, or waste or soil pipe may flow or be siphoned or pumped into the piping of the municipal water system.

See Wis. Admin. Code § NR 811.09.