

HYDRANT METERS FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What is a fire hydrant meter and what is it used for?

A fire hydrant meter is typically installed on a Olympic View Water & Sewer District-owned fire hydrant and always includes a backflow preventer. They are generally used to provide water for construction projects. They are not designed to provide potable water in place of installing a permanent water service.

Who is eligible to apply for a fire hydrant meter?

Anyone without a past due balance owed to the District may request a fire hydrant meter.

Can I request more than one fire hydrant meter?

Yes. There is no limit to the quantity of fire hydrant meters requested. However, each meter requires payment of separate deposits and monthly fees.

What are the fees associated with a fire hydrant meter?

Fees typically include a deposit to cover the cost of the devices, installation of meter/backflow and testing of the backflow preventer, monthly base fee, commodity charge for water used, relocation charge (when applicable), and read/removal. Fees are set by Resolution and approved by the District's Board of Directors. For a current fee structure, contact the District at (425) 774-7769.

How do I request the installation of a fire hydrant meter?

All requests for a fire hydrant meter must be made in person at our Main Office located at 8128 228th St SW, Edmonds, WA between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Monday – Friday.

After the payment of applicable fees, the request for installation will be released to field staff.

How much time should I allot to have a fire hydrant meter installed?

Once the request is released to the field, it normally takes up to the next business day to have the meter installed and the backflow preventer certified. It is up to you to determine the best timing to request a meter for your project needs.

Do I need to use the backflow preventer at all times?

YES! The backflow preventer protects the drinking water system from potential contamination. If you are found using a fire hydrant water meter without the supplied backflow preventer, the District may pull the meter and terminate the contract agreement.

When can I begin using the fire hydrant meter?

You may begin using the fire hydrant meter once it and the backflow preventer have been installed, and the backflow preventer has been certified.

Operation of the Meter and Security

A hydrant wrench is the only tool acceptable for turning the hydrant on or off. Any regulating of water is to be done with the gate valve attached to the backflow preventer.

It is important to slowly open and close the fire hydrant when operating. Rapidly opening or closing the hydrant may cause water hammer and damage other portions of the water distribution system, for which you will be held financially responsible.

Once installed, the fire hydrant meter and the backflow preventer are not to be removed. It is at your discretion whether or not to secure the meter and backflow preventer. However, the meter register and fire hydrant must be accessible at all times.

Can I have an installed fire hydrant meter relocated to a different location/fire hydrant?

Upon request, only District staff may relocate the fire hydrant meter and backflow preventer.

Additional connections made to the fire hydrant meter or backflow preventer must be taken off prior to the relocation. Failure to do so may result in these parts being discarded.

Once the request is released to the field, it normally takes up to one business day to have a fire hydrant meter relocated and backflow preventer certified.

Contact the District at (425) 774-7769 and provide the details regarding the desired new location.

A fee will be added to the next billing statement for each relocation.

I am finished with the fire hydrant meter – how do I have it picked up?

It is your responsibility to notify the District at (425) 774-7769 when the fire hydrant meter is to be removed. As long as the meter is installed, the account will continue to be billed and the customer remains responsible for the meter, backflow preventer, water use and any damages.

Additional connections to the fire hydrant meter or backflow preventer must be taken off prior to it being picked up. Failure to do so may result in these parts being discarded.

Once a request is released to the field, it normally takes up to the next business day to remove the temporary water meter and the backflow preventer.

Upon removal and inspection of the meter, backflow preventer and fire hydrant for damage, the deposit will be applied to all outstanding charges and a refund will be issued, if applicable.

What if I only need a fire hydrant meter for one or two days?

If you are planning to fill a tank, water truck, etc. and only need a hydrant meter for a maximum of two days, the District can provide a meter for fill up at their main office 8128 228th St SW Edmonds, WA. Contact the District for fees associated with this.

What if I have additional questions?

Contact Olympic View Water & Sewer District at (425) 774-7769 with any other questions.