

## **Cherokee County Rural Water District #1**

### **Tampering Policy**

1. Only authorized representative and employees of Cherokee County Rural Water District #1 are permitted to connect or disconnect the service lateral to the water main, or to turn the services on or off at the water meter without the permission of the district.
2. Each customer shall be responsible for the safeguarding all District property to that customer. Customer is responsible for all damages to the District property regardless of fault or attribution.
3. Each customer shall exercise reasonable care to prevent loss or damage to District property, excluding ordinary wear and tear. The customer shall be responsible for loss of or damage to the District property on the customer's premises arising from neglect, carelessness, or misuse and shall reimburse the District of the cost of necessary repairs or replacements.
4. Tampering with any service lateral or water meter is a violation of these Rules and Regulations. Any unauthorized attempt by any Customer to alter, divert, modify or otherwise tamper with any water meter, valves, piping or appurtenances belonging to the District and/or to attempt to use, install or otherwise place into service a noncompliant water reading meter is a violation of these Rules and Regulations. Any such attempts shall be subjected to the following enforcement provisions:
  - i. First Offense: Customer having been found to have made unauthorized tampering may be subject to the following enforcements provisions:
    - a. A fine of two-hundred fifty dollars (\$250) payable within thirty (30) days upon written notice of a tampering violation to the last known address of the Benefit Unit owner.
    - b. After the 30 days and if fine is not paid, the District shall pull/remove the water meter following ten (10) day notice of tampering violation to the last known address of the Benefit Unit owner.
    - c. Upon receipt of payment District shall reinstated water services and reinstall water meter.

- d. If the District elects to remove water meter, the Customer shall pay all reasonable expenses for the removal and reinstallation of the water meter.

ii. Second Offense: Customer having been found to have made a second unauthorized tampering may be subject to the following enforcement provisions:

- a. District shall pull/remove the water meter following ten (10) day notice of tampering violation to the last known address of the Benefit Unit owner and forfeit their Membership Benefit Unit.
- b. Customer shall pay all reasonable expenses necessary for the removal.

5. Water furnished by the District shall be used on the customer's premises and shall not be resold to any other person. Customer having been found to have made an unauthorized resale of water shall be subject to the following enforcement provisions:

- a. A fine of one-thousand dollars (\$1,000) payable within sixty (60) days of notice of violation to the last known address of the Benefit Unit owner.
- b. Discontinuance of water service and forfeiture of the Benefit Unit.
- c. Removal of the water meter.
- d. Customer shall be required to purchase a new Benefit Unit, pay the above referenced fine, paying all reasonable expenses for the removal of the water meter and reconnection of said water meter prior to being entitled to resumption of water service from the District.

**This policy does NOT mean you cannot turn your water meter off to repair a leak or if you are leaving/winterizing your property for a length of time.**