



WATER METER INSTALLATION PROCEDURE

1. Obtain a plumber. HE/SHE MUST OBTAIN A PLUMBING PERMIT from the Building Department located at City Hall.
2. Get the receipt of the Plumbing Permit from the plumber. Bring the permit to the Lowell Water to pay for the irrigation meter.
Please Note: Currently City of Lowell only takes checks or money orders as form of payment

METER SIZE	SPACING END TO END	PRICE
1" meter	11 inches	\$580.88
5/8" meter	7 ¾ inches	\$424.02

Payment can be made at the Lowell Regional Water Utility building located at 815 Pawtucket Blvd.

3. Immediately upon completion of the necessary work for the installation, (tail pieces must be installed), PLUMBER must call the Plumbing Inspector at (978) 674-1457 to schedule an appointment to have the work inspected. **NO BYPASS (JUMPER) ALLOWED.**
4. After the plumbing inspection has been completed and the meter has been paid for, call the Water Utility at (978) 674-4242 to make an appointment for the Water Utility to install the meter. **PASSING OF THE ROUGH INSPECTION DOES NOT CONSTITUTE METER INSTALLATION.**

Residential or Commercial properties with irrigation systems requiring meters larger than 1" must purchase and install their own water meter and follow all the inspection procedures stated above. **AT NO TIME SHOULD ANY IRRIGATION SYSTEM BE INSTALLED WITHOUT FIRST NOTIFYING THE BUILDING DEPARTMENT AND THE WATER UTILITY.** All required backflow prevention devices (purchased at owner's expense) must be installed prior to any water meters being installed.

POSSIBLE ADDITIONAL FEES

- ❖ Service fee, \$75
Staff cannot complete a meter installation due to the above criteria not being met or if they cannot gain access to the property.
- ❖ Tampering Fee, \$300
Includes but is not limited to customers that receive unauthorized, unmetered water, customers that have intentional damage or tampering done to their meters, meter locks, radio readers, wires, or any equipment that is property of the City of Lowell.

BACKFLOW DEVICES

- ❖ RPZ's must be installed at a minimum of 36 inches above ground and not more than 48 inches. Also must remain at least 12 inches from any wall.
- ❖ Pressure vacuum breakers must be at least 6 inches above the flood rim level of the fixture they serve and must be subject to back pressure.
- ❖ BACKFLOW DEVICES ARE REQUIRED FOR ALL CONSTRUCTION AND MAJOR REHAB WORK

*****FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THESE PROCEDURES MAY RESULT IN NOTIFICATION TO THE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND PENALTIES/FINES*****

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FOR PLUMBING CONTRACTORS

1. Cross Connection/Backflow Device is required on water service projects to protect potable water supply. Backflow devices must be state approved.
2. All pipes from the service through the irrigation meter end (3) feet past the Backflow device must be copper or brass material. **NO PLASTIC, GALVANIZED, or CAST IRON is ALLOWED.**
3. All irrigation systems must comply with all local and state landscape irrigation regulations and restrictions including the City of Lowell Cross Connection Control Plan (CCCP).
4. New and Existing dwellings may split service connection for irrigation with backflow device with a "T" or split to separate domestic and irrigation meter.
 - a. Lowell Regional Water Utility is not responsible for pressure loss or consumption of volume issues resulting from split connections.
5. Service lines with two meter will have five valves. A full port ball valve on the service line and a valve in front of and behind each meter. No "T's" with plugs before the backflow prevention device. No sill cocks or boiler drains before the backflow device. Unprotected or improperly protected cross-connections are prohibited under the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Drinking water Regulations governing cross connections. (310 CMR 22.22)
6. Meters need to be 12 inches and installed horizontally.
7. Meters need to be at least 12 inches above the floor and not more than 48 inches above the floor. Meters need to be installed horizontally and require PROPER support that will sustain the weight of the meter.
8. All meters must be accessible for repair work and for the homeowner to be able to read the meter.
9. Please Note: installation of meters during the winter months MUST be in a heated area. Meters will not be installed in buildings without heat.
10. The town supplies all meters that are one inch or below. They must be paid for in advance.
11. Meters over 1" must be Badger meters ordered through Ti Sales. Meters not approved by the city may be subject to removal. New meter will be at the expense of the property owner.

