# GREENVILLE WATER DISTRICT RATES, RULES AND REGULATIONS

ADOPTED BY THE EXECUTIVE BOARD OF THE GREENVILLE WATER DISTRICT

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**REVISED AS OF MAY, 2015** 

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# GENERAL INFORMATION

This publication gives general guidelines for consumers with regard to their general obligations to the district. A technical manual is available to contractors and developers with specific information regarding main installation.

## Main Office

The main office of the Greenville Water District (hereinafter sometimes referred to as "the District", "GWD", or "Water District"), is located at 630 Putnam Pike in Greenville, RI 02828.

# Office Hours

Office hours daily, except Saturdays, Sundays and holidays: from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

#### Information and Complaints

Any information about water services, rates, rules, etc., may be had by calling 231-1433. Complaints of a minor nature may be made by phone. Major complaints should be made in writing and addressed to the Greenville Water District, P.O. Box 595, Greenville, RI 02828. All complaints will receive careful consideration.

## **Emergency** Calls

The department maintains emergency service twenty-four (24) hours a day, including Saturdays, Sundays and Holidays. Any emergency may be reported day or night by calling 231-1433.

#### Servicemen, Inspectors and Meter Readers

Do not allow any person claiming to be an employee of this district to enter your premises unless he or she can show proper identification. Authorized employees will possess official identification issued by the Greenville Water District. Any imposter should be reported at once.

#### Interruption of Service

The GWD is not liable for interruption in service or damage resulting from the failure to have proper vacuum breakers or check valves.

# THE GREENVILLE WATER DISTRICT WAS ESTABLISHED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AT ITS JANUARY 1955 SESSION

THE EXECUTIVE BOARD HEREBY ORDAINS the following rules and regulations and all subsequent changes, amendments and additions thereto, shall constitute a part of the contract with every person, corporation and property owner supplied with water from the Greenville Water System. Every person, corporation and property owner using such supply shall be considered as consenting to be bound thereby. Copies will be made available upon payment of reasonable costs, and all persons are requested to read the rules carefully because failure to know the rules and regulations will not excuse anyone from the consequences of neglect of such rules and regulations.

# SECTION 1

#### RATES AND SURCHARGES

The GWD Board has adopted a five-year plan to maintain the financial integrity of the district in order to prepare for expansion in water use while maintaining a balanced budget. The board has also adopted a

capital budget to provide for emergencies that would otherwise deplete financial reserves. At the same time, the Board has evaluated line cost items and is providing for smaller incremental rate increases.

The purpose for the rate study was to adopt rates consistent with state guidelines while at the same time encouraging conservation. By simplifying the rate design, it also eliminated subsidization by various ratepayer classes.

The Greenville Water system supplies water to all premises through a meter only, and at the following prescribed rates, which were adopted and approved by the Greenville Water District.

#### What your water rates pay for:

The following is a rate structure, which shall apply to water costs. The Greenville Water District receives no tax revenues and must rely on rate revenues to cover operational expenses. Ratepayer money is also used to pay the debt service (interest and principal) on revenue bonds, and adequately maintain and replace facilities as needed. Every five years, private consultants examine our expenses of operation and repaying of revenue to determine our water rates. The district is also audited every year by an outside accounting firm. Operational expenses are day-to-day expenses for operating and maintaining the water system. Improvements to facilities provide money for keeping up with increasing demand by expanding the facilities and replacing outdated and worn equipment. Debt service on revenue bonds is the repayment of loans used to acquire water system improvements.

#### RATE STRUCTURE

Fiscal Year	*Customer Charge Quarterly	Wholesale Rate Increases	Price Per Thousand Gallons of Water	IFR Charge
2014	\$20.00	**See below	\$3.28	\$.50 per thousand gallons
2015	\$20.40	**See below	\$3.35	\$.50 per thousand gallons
2016	\$20.80	**See below	\$3.42	\$.50 per thousand gallons
2017	\$21.20	**See below	\$3.49	\$.50 per thousand gallons
2018	\$21.60	**See below	\$3.56	\$.50 per thousand gallons

\*Residential only, a complete table listing all rate classifications can be found in the Rate Section of the web site.

\*\*As the Providence Water Supply Board receives permission to increase water rates from the Public Utilities Commission, those proportional rate increases will be passed along to consumers and will be denoted as such on your bill.

In addition to the above charges GWD will need to continue charging the following:

- □ \$1.50 per connection for Rhode Island Department of Health (State Mandated)
- □ Water Quality Protection Charge \$.0292 per 100 gallons (State Mandated)
- **FHA Charge of \$144 per year to appropriate customers**
- □ Sales tax to commercial customers

#### **RESIDENTIAL DISTRICTS:**

The Greenville Water District is divided into four sections for quarterly billing and meter reading purposes. The district is currently bills all residential customers quarterly and estimates two of the quarters. Residential customers with radio read meters are billed actual usage all four quarters and when all customers are radio read, there will be no dividing sections, the entire district will be billed as one area.

The District is divided as follows:

<u>Section A</u> - April 1 Extending from Slacks Pond and including the southwest side of Putnam Pike and White Shoppe Plat. <u>Section B</u> - July 1 North side of Putnam Pike, Wood's Plat and Apple Valley Section. <u>Section C</u> - October 1 Pleasant View Avenue and streets off of same.

Section D - January 1

Austin Avenue and Smith Avenue and streets off of same.

HYDRANT RENTAL CHARGES TO THE TOWN are billed annually on a calendar year basis.

#### SPECIAL CHARGES

In certain circumstances, the district engineer may require improvements (e.g., booster pumps, system looping, pumping stations, main extensions) to certain areas of the water system to ensure proper operation. Installation of these devices will result in additional charges that shall be borne by the customers that benefit from the improvements. These charges shall include costs related to installation, continuing use, including maintenance and future replacement costs.

## SECTION 2

#### WATER BILLS

Information Regarding Bills:

Bills are prepared by the Water District and are filed at the District Office for collection.

Requests for information regarding bills or notices should be made either personally or preferably by letter to the main office of the Water District. Water bills are rendered to the owner of the property supplied.

Large industrial, manufacturing and commercial accounts are billed quarterly; and, domestic accounts are billed annually.

#### Property Owners are Responsible for Water Bills:

To insure proper rendering of bills the property owner shall notify the office of the Water District of any changes in the mailing address. Failure to receive a bill does not relieve the property owner from the obligation of its payment or the payment of additional interest.

#### Responsibility for Water Charges:

Customers and property owners shall be responsible for all charges occurring for water service until written notice has been given to the Water District Office by the owner of the property served to discontinue the service or (in case of a change in ownership of the premises) until notice has been given the Water District Office of the change of ownership of the premises served and the new owner has filed with the Water District a written application for transfer of water service. A transfer fee of fifty (\$50.00) dollars shall be paid at the time of transfer. A final meter reading shall be done by the GWD. New owners using water at their premises without filing the proper application for water service shall be (1) liable and responsible for all water service provided and water used during their ownership of the premises, (2) subject to the penalties provided by law for the unauthorized use of water. In such cases, the Water District reserves the right to discontinue water services to any property for which the recorded owner has not filed an application for water services at all premises shall become responsible for all

outstanding charges for water theretofore furnished to said premises. See Section 39-15-12 of the General Laws.

The owner of property is ultimately responsible for the costs attendant to water usage even though there are multiple downstream meters on a single parcel of property. It shall be the responsibility of the district to notify the property owner when a bill is 30 days in arrears.

## Payment:

All water bills are payable by mail or at the office of the District and must be paid within thirty (30) days from the billing date marked on the bill.

## Liens and Charges:

Within (90) days after payment is due and unpaid, the district is authorized and empowered to file a lien against the title to property which has received district service and which property is owned by a customer of the Greenville Water District. If the lien is filed, the customer shall be liable for an additional charge of \$100.00 for such filing and an additional \$50.00 charge for removal of the lien.

If the customer does not own the property that receives the water service, the district is authorized and empowered to terminate service after giving written notice of its intention to terminate service.

## Interest on Unpaid Bills and Liens:

If bills remain unpaid for thirty (30) days after they are rendered, the District shall assess interest on the delinquent payments at a rate of not more than twelve (12%) percent per annum on the charges for gallons of water already used by the owner or occupant of the house, building, tenant, or estate. Interest shall not be assessed for surcharges. The District is authorized to file a lien for unpaid water usage.

## Termination of Service:

If bills remain unpaid for (60) days after they are rendered, the District shall terminate water service to the property. If service is terminated, a \$50.00 turn-on fee shall be assessed before the service is turned on.

#### Customer Bankruptcy:

The district has adopted a policy prohibiting it from discriminating against a customer who has petitioned the Bankruptcy Court for protection against creditors. However, the bankrupt must within twenty (20) days after filing such petition give the district adequate assurance of payment for future water service. The district shall consider whatever security will protect the district for future water use. If the district and the customer cannot come to agreement as to adequate assurance of payment, the customer shall petition the court for further relief.

#### Courtesy Notices:

It is the intention of the Water District to send courtesy notices of increased consumption or delinquency in payment of bills, but failure to do this does not relieve the customer of his or her responsibility to repair leaky fixtures or pay water charges promptly.

# SECTION 3

#### METERS

#### All Water Metered:

All water from the Greenville Water System will be supplied and billed through one primary meter for each separate service. Commercial properties will be billed through one primary meter. All water passing through such meters will be billed to the owner of the property supplied, as the same appears in the records of the Water District, whether the water is used or wasted. Customers are advised to read their meters frequently in order to prevent leaks or waste, which if detected, will eliminate large water bills.

## Ownership of Meters:

Meters, except as otherwise provided in Sections 6 and 8, are installed by the Water District at the expense of the property owner and become his/her property when paid for in full. The District reserves the right to designate the size and type of meter to be installed on any service.

## Location of Meters:

The property owner shall furnish a proper place for the meter, which is to be installed in a horizontal position immediately after the point of entry of the service pipe through the building wall. The meter shall be located in the building nearest to the street line, provided that this building is not more than ninety (90) feet from the curb line. In the event that the nearest building is located more than ninety (90) feet from the curb line, the meter shall be installed just inside the property line in a suitable housing or water pit approved by the GWD, provided and maintained at the expense of the property owner.

## Accessibility:

Meters must be easily accessible at all times so that they may be examined and read by employees of the District. They must not be exposed to danger from frost or contamination.

## By Whom Set:

The installation, repair and disconnection of all meters are to be performed by employees of the Water District only, except as hereinafter provided.

# Damaged Meters or Meter Settings:

In case of breakage, stoppage or other irregularity or if <u>the</u> meters are damaged by frost, hot water, or external causes, either by carelessness or neglect by the owner or occupant of the premises or his/her agents, the Water District, except as hereinafter provided, shall repair or replace the meter and setting and the owner must reimburse the Water District for all cost of repairs or replacement. In case of breakage, stoppage or any other irregularity in the meter, the property owner is to notify the District immediately.

#### Remote Reading Water Meters:

All newly installed meters shall be the Remote Reading type equipped with receptacles for remote reading from the outside. The outside receptacle shall be securely attached to the exterior of the house or building and connected to the encoder register by a multiple cable conductor. The cost of the entire assembly consisting of the register, outside receptacle and multiple cable conductors shall be included in the price of the meter. The applicant shall arrange to install the remote receptacle and the multiple cable conductors in a location approved by the Water District. Only the employees of the Water District shall perform actual connections of the cable to the register and the remote receptacle.

On an existing meter installation the property owner shall be required, upon written notice from the Water District, to purchase a complete new Remote Reading Meter Assembly from the Water District to replace the register on their present meter or their present meter assembly. This will include the encoder type of

register, the outside receptacle and the multiple cable conductors if feasible. The inside reader will be used to determine the amount of water use and the property owner will be responsible for any balance due. If the outside reader is not compatible with the inside encoder register, the property owner shall be responsible for replacing the meter also. The employees of the Water District shall make the installation of all necessary components for the property owner.

The occupant, owner, or his/her agents shall be responsible for the protection of all the components of the remote reading water meters and shall be subject to the stipulations as set forth in that paragraph entitled, "Damaged Meters or Meter Settings".

## Meter Testing:

Every water meter is carefully tested before it is first installed and also before it is reset after being removed for repairs or other purposes. Periodic tests of each meter will also be made as often as the Water District may deem necessary. Should a property owner at any time question the accuracy of the meter on his/her service, it may be tested (preferably in his/her presence) after the District has received the request in writing. A deposit of fifty (\$50.00) dollars will be required before the meter is disconnected. Should the test show that the meter has been over-registering in excess of two (2%) percent, the deposit will be refunded. If the test is within this limit or does register in favor of the consumer, the deposit will be retained by the District to cover cost of removal and test.

## Adjustments:

If the testing of a meter as hereinbefore provided shows that it fails to register correctly within two (2%) percent, the charge to the consumer shall be adjusted accordingly as the registration varies from one hundred (100%) percent and such adjustment shall apply to the current period only, unless it is apparent to the Water District that previous periods of consumption have also been affected by the same error.

## Repairs to Large Meters:

At the written request of the Water District, property owners shall return the meters two (2) inches or larger in diameter to the factory for necessary and complete repairs. If the owner does not take action within fifteen (15) days, the District shall remove the meter for repair. If the owner takes the action, he/she shall notify the district when the meter will be removed for repairs, and will also notify the factory to forward directly to the Water District a certified copy of the test on the meter before repairs are made, and another certified copy of the test after completing repairs. All expenses covering the repairs are to be borne by the property owner.

#### Billing Non-Registering Meters:

In case a meter fails to register or has been removed for repairs, testing or other purposes during the billing period, the bill shall be issued, based on the average daily rate of consumption as shown by the meter after it has been returned to service and is in proper working order. If the meter has not been returned to service, the bill shall be issued based on the average daily rate of consumption for the previous three (3) year period.

# Unserviceable Meters or Outside Registers:

The Water District reserves the right at all times to remove, test, repair and replace any meter or outside register; and if such meter or outside register is found to be economically unserviceable, require another meter to be substituted in its place at the expense of the property owner.

# Tampering or Defacing Meters:

The Greenville Water District shall prefer charges in accordance with Section 11-35-6 of the General Laws, against every person who shall tamper or deface a meter to prevent the proper registration of the water

consumed by altering the register index or otherwise, or for the breaking of any seal placed by the District for the protection of any meter, valve or fitting.

## Spot Check of Meters:

The Greenville Water District reserves the right to have a representative of GWD spot check any meter at any time during the course of a working day.

#### Meter Replacement Program:

In conformance with Rhode Island state law, meters generally have a ten year life expectancy for efficiency and accuracy. GWD has a meter replacement program, which may require participation by owners.

# SECTION 4

## SERVICE PIPES

#### Easements:

Water mains shall be installed in public roads and not in private easements. The Executive Board may consider exceptions to this rule as determined necessary.

## Application for Service Pipes:

An application for the installation of new services or the renewal of old services shall be made by the owner of the property or his/her authorized agent on forms supplied at the offices of the Water District. A fee of \$50.00 shall be payable to the district for installation of meter and inspection services.

Applications for water must state fully and truthfully the purposes for which the water is to be used, together with the proper description of the property (Plat and Lot Number), the official name of the town street and the number of the premises to be supplied.

#### Connection Charges for Service Pipes

Service pipes are installed by the Water District from the distribution main in the street to the curb stop located one foot behind the curb. The cost of installation shall be at the prevailing rate for labor and materials as determined by the Greenville Water District. The Service Pipe Charge is a connection charge and any service pipe connection in excess of thirty-six (36) feet shall bear an excess charge. This connection charge must be paid for in advance of installation.

#### Paving Repairs:

The Service Pipe Charge does not include any charges to be made for the repairs or replacement of pavement openings. The District shall be responsible to obtain a permit to open the street from the proper town or state agency that is responsible for maintaining the street, road or highway; and any cost for the permit or replacing the pavement shall be borne by the property owner.

# Ownership and Purpose of Service Pipe:

The service pipe from the distribution main to the curb stop is owned and maintained by the District. The portion of the service pipe beyond the curb stop is the property of the customer and is installed and maintained by the owner through a plumber licensed by the State of Rhode Island.

Service pipes for domestic use are for the purposes of supplying water for the domestic use of the property to which connection is made only and not for any other residence. No person shall cause or permit a physical connection to be made to any service pipe from any GWD main.

## New Service Pipe from Building to Distribution Main:

The service pipe from the curb to the building shall be laid by a licensed plumber and the installation completed for <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> inch, 1 inch, 1 <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> inch and 2 inch sizes before the District installs its portion of the service from the main to the curb line. In service sizes of six (6") inches in diameter or larger, the District shall install the section from the street main to the curb first, and then the licensed plumber shall connect into the building.

The licensed plumber must lay his/her portion of the service in a straight line from the curb to inside the building and at a right angle to the street line. The service pipe shall be inspected and approved by a representative of the Water District before being covered.

Service pipes must have five (5) feet of cover to avoid freezing.

#### Location:

The location where the service is to enter the property must be distinctly marked by the property owner and approved by the District. *Material for Service Pipes:* 

All service pipes <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> inch in diameter to and including 2" inches in diameter shall be type "K" extra heavy, soft temper cold drawn, seamless, deoxidized copper tubing, having a minimum ultimate tensile strength of not less than 30,000 lbs. per square inch.

Service pipes six (6") inches through twelve (12") inches in diameter shall be class 52 cement mortar lined ductile iron pipe AWWA C 151-71 or PVC pipe (AWWA C-900) as amended to date.

#### Inspection:

Service pipes shall be tested for water tightness in the presence of a representative of the Water District before being covered up. No service pipe shall be laid in the same trench with a building drain or sewer pipe. NOR SHALL THE WATER PIPE BE CLOSER TO A SEWER THAN TEN (10) FEET AT ANY HORIZONTAL POINT IN AN AREA SERVED BY A PUBLIC SEWER SYSTEM. IN UNSEWERED AREAS, WATER SERVICE PIPE SHALL BE LAID AT A MINIMUM OF TEN (10) FEET FROM THE SEPTIC TANK AND A MINIMUM OF TWENTY-FIVE (25) FEET FROM A CESSPOOL SEEPAGE PIT, DISPOSAL TRENCH OR BED. All service pipes shall be installed in accordance and as defined in the publication "10 State Standards" as adopted by the Rhode Island Department of Health.

#### Main Shut-Off Valve:

On every new service pipe, immediately after its entry into the building, there shall be an angle meter stop supplied by the Water District. Existing service pipes not equipped with the above type of meter stop when renewed or replaced shall conform with the requirement for "New Service Pipes" and "Horizontal Meter Settings".

# Horizontal Meter Setting:

All small meters on new installations shall be set approximately twelve (12) inches above the floor, in a horizontal position, immediately after the angle meter stop and immediately after where the service pipe enters the building. The plumber shall provide an approved support for the meter. Large meters may be set directly on the floor, and current type meters shall have a straight length of pipe at least eight (8) times the pipe diameter before the meter. Small meter settings for 3/4" and 1" meters shall be equipped with a non-return valve and stop with waste, as is provided by the District. Check valves 2" or larger shall be supplied by the owner and approved by the district.

Whenever it is necessary to renew or replace a meter or service pipe, the meter shall be reset to conform to the requirements for new installations.

# Back Flow Preventative Valves:

The need to furnish reliable and inexpensive back-siphonage and backpressure protection for individual residences resulted in the debut of the residential double check valve. Protection of the main potable supply from household hazards such as home photograph chemicals, toxic insect and garden sprays, termite control pesticides used by exterminators, etc. reinforced a true need for such a device.

It is sized for 3/4" and 1" service lines and is installed immediately downstream of the water meter. The uses of plastic check modules and elimination of test cocks and gate valves keeps the cost reasonable while providing good, dependable protection.

All new residential buildings will be required to install a residential dual check device immediately downstream of the water meter. Installation of this residential dual check device on a retrofit basis on existing service lines may be instituted at a time and at a potential cost to the homeowner as deemed necessary by the district.

The owner must be aware that installation of a residential dual check valve results in a potential closed plumbing system within the residence. As such, provisions may have to be made by the owner to provide thermal expansion within this closed loop system: i.e., the installation of thermal expansion devices and or pressure relief valves.

All commercial and industrial enterprises using water in the production process or in providing a service shall within one (1) year of the promulgation of these rules install back flow preventative valves to maintain the integrity of the GWD system.

## Tapping Mains:

No person, except an authorized representative of the Water District, shall be allowed, under any circumstances, to tap the mains or distribution pipes, insert corporation stops therein, set or remove meters on service pipes, or interfere with water gates or curb stops. No person shall cause a physical connection to be made between the Water District supply and any other water for commercial, domestic, sanitary, fire protection or boiler feed purposes or for any other intent whatsoever.

# Repairs to Property Owner's Service Pipe and Fixtures:

Property owners must keep their own pipes and all water fixtures connected thereto in good repair and protected from frost at their own expense. In case of a break in that section of the service pipe between the curb stop and the meter, the property owner shall immediately obtain the services of a licensed plumber to make the necessary repairs. Failure to make repairs at once or to obtain the necessary permits covering these repairs shall be sufficient cause to shut off the supply. Restoration of service shall require payment of a fifty (\$50.00) dollar water turn-on fee.

#### Sidewalk Permits:

No sidewalk or other public place shall be opened for the installation of service pipes until an appropriate permit is obtained from the proper state or town agency.

# SECTION 5

#### **TEMPORARY SERVICES**

## For Building and Other Construction Purposes:

Contractors, Builders, etc., requiring water for construction purposes, shall make application for a temporary service, and will be subject to the same rules and regulations as apply to regular service installations. A meter will be installed on the temporary service by the District and the cost of the meter, plus the cost of setting same, shall be borne by the applicant. Temporary services shall be subject to the connection charge described in Section 4, plus the cost of removing the service.

All charges, including the connection charge, cost of installing and/or removing the service, cost of setting and/or removing the meter, and setting the meter, shall be paid in advance. In addition, the applicant will be required to deposit a sufficient sum of money with the District to cover the cost of the estimated amount of water to be used in conjunction with the work. If, at any time during the course of construction, the estimated amount of water covered by the deposit is below the actual consumption shown on the meter, the applicant will be required to deposit additional sums with the District Office. After completion of the work, if the actual consumption registered on the meter is below the estimated amount, the District will arrange to refund the difference.

# SECTION 6

## FIRE SUPPLIES

The Water District may authorize the installation of a special fire service to private property for private fire protection purposes.

Application must be made by the owner of the property or his/her authorized agent and will be subject to all provisions, including the connection charge described in Section 4 entitled "Service Pipes (General)" as far as they apply to this type of service.

#### Drawings:

The applicant must furnish two complete and correct drawings or sets of drawings showing the location of all valves, pipes, hydrants, and tanks, sprinkler heads and other appurtenances on the premises at the time of making application. The plans will remain the property of the Water District.

The applicant also agrees to furnish the Water District with drawings showing revisions to piping or appurtenances whenever the same are made. All drawings furnished must be evidenced, first, by the stamp of a professional engineer who has been duly registered and licensed by the Rhode Island State Board of Registration of Professional Engineers and, secondly, must be approved and signed by the local fire chief or his/her authorized agent.

#### Annual Charges:

The annual charge for this service shall be made in accordance with the annual fire service charges as determined by the Greenville Water District. The annual charge will be based upon the size of the service connection.

Charges for fire service supplies shall be payable in advance of the date of installation, pro-rated for the remainder of the billing year, and then annually in advance on the regular billing period for the District.

The annual charge for this service shall be based upon the size of the service connection. For each service connection from the main:

# Fire Service Schedule of Annual Charges

Fiscal Year	4" service	6" service	8" service	10" service	12" service
2014	\$355.00	\$375.00	\$490.00	\$590.00	\$690.00
2015	\$375.00	\$450.00	\$590.00	\$710.00	\$830.00
2016	\$380.00	\$540.00	\$710.00	\$850.00	\$995.00
2017	\$390.00	\$650.00	\$850.00	\$1020.00	\$1195.00
2018	\$395.00	\$780.00	\$1020.00	\$1225.00	\$1435.00

# Installation to be approved by Board:

The water district expressly reserves the right to determine the necessity for and the advisability of, granting any application of this special service, and also the right to determine the size of service pipe which will be granted; depending upon the size of the street main, the available pressure on the main, and the nature and capacity of the fire protection equipment within the building.

# Connection to Domestic Service Prohibited:

No connection shall be made at any time between the fire supply system and the regular water supply to the premises. The only exception is a district approved combined fire/domestic system. Valves placed on the system shall be of a style that can be sealed by the Water District.

# Number of Services:

One service only will be allowed to any one building or premises; unless, in the opinion of the Water District, more than one is absolutely necessary for the proper protection of the premises. All fire protection equipment connected to the Water District service shall be confined within the building or on the premises named in the application, and where two or more connections are made for one building or premises, they will be kept separated, unless special permission is obtained from the Water District to connect the same in a manner to be approved by the Board.

# Use of Service:

No water shall be drawn from the fire service pipes for any purpose whatever except for the extinguishing of fires. This paragraph is not to be construed as prohibiting a reasonable use of water for fire drills, draining of the system to prevent freezing or other reasonable use in connection with proper fire protection. Whenever water is used for this purpose, either by the owner or the insurance inspector making the test, the owner shall notify the Water District office prior to making any test and forward this information, together with a brief description of the operations resulting in the use of the water, to the Water District.

# Cross Connections:

Any fire protection system supplied with water from the Greenville Water District shall be supplied exclusively with that water and no connection will be allowed with any other system drawing its supply from any other source whereby the District's water supply may be subjected to contamination.

Any fire protection system using water from any source other than the District's service shall be kept entirely separate from the water system supplied from the Water District's service.

# Inspection:

All fire services shall be subject to periodic inspection by inspectors from this District. The owner shall give the inspectors all reasonable facilities for making the survey and any information concerning the fire services that they may require. Care will be taken that inspections will be made with as little inconvenience to the owner as possible.

# Vacant Buildings:

If any building with a fire protection system should become vacant, all required sprinkler systems shall be maintained in operating condition during the period of time that the building is vacant. At no time will the district be able to turn off the supply of water without the written permission of the Smithfield Fire Department.

# Illegal Use:

At no time shall the owner of any premise use water from a fire service for uses other than fire protection and applicable testing of the system. Water used for purposes other than the aforementioned permitted uses shall be billed at a flat rate per thousand gallons as determined by the Greenville Water District and additional charges may be assessed.

# Meters:

All fire supplies shall be metered and conform to the provisions of Section 3 entitled "Meters", with the following exceptions:

- a. The owner may purchase and install a fire service meter assembly as directed by the Water District, provided it is a type approved by the Board and the National Board of Fire Underwriters.
- b. The owner may purchase and install a double check valve back flow preventer with a metered bypass, provided it is a type approved by the Water District and the National Board of Fire Underwriters. The Water District reserves the right, at any time, to require the owner to install a fire service meter assembly as described in the preceding paragraph (a).

# Valves:

On the inlet and discharge side of each fire service meter assembly or double check valve back flow preventer, the owner shall install an OS&Y gate valve, manufactured to conform in all respects with the American Water Works Specifications for Gate Valves for Ordinary Water Works Service as amended to date. The valves shall be a type that meets the requirements of the National Board of Fire Underwriters.

On a double check valve back flow preventer installation with a metered bypass, the owner will be required to install a gate valve on the inlet side of the by-pass in conformance with all respects with Federal Specifications WW-V-54 Type 1, Class A, as amended to date. On the discharge side of the by-pass meter, the owner shall install a double check valve back flow preventer equipped with NRS gate valves and ball type test cocks with bronze strainer (Watts # S-709) or approved equal, designed for a working pressure of 175 pounds per square inch.

# Violations of Rules:

For any violation of rules governing fire supplies, the Greenville Water District may discontinue the service immediately. Restoration of service shall require payment of a \$50.00 water turn-on fee.

# SECTION 7

## FIRE HYDRANTS

Annual Hydrant Rental Schedule:

Fiscal Year	Hydrants
2014	\$350.00
2015	\$400.00
2016	\$450.00
2017	\$500.00
2018	\$550.00

#### Authorization of Hydrant Installations:

The Water District shall install public fire hydrants whenever written requests are received from the proper town authority or their location has been approved by the local fire department on new main extensions, and approved by the Water Board subject, however, to all the provisions described in Section 6 entitled "Main Pipe".

#### Hydrants are the property of the District:

All public fire hydrants and their connections are installed and maintained by the District and remain part of the water works system. The use of all hydrants for public fire protection shall be paid for in advance by the local town authority at the prevailing rate per hydrant per year as determined by the Greenville Water District.

## Obstructing Fire Hydrants:

No person shall obstruct the access to any fire hydrant by placing or permitting any snow, debris, building material or other obstruction to remain on or about the hydrant which will in any manner interfere with its immediate use. *Use of hydrants:* 

Public fire hydrants are installed for the sole purpose of fire protection, and with the exception of the members of the Fire Department operating the same for the legitimate purpose of extinguishing fires, no other use of such hydrants shall be made without the written consent of the GWD Board.

#### Hydrant/Main Extension:

The GWD shall include, in all price quotations for main extension, the cost of installing all hydrants at 500foot intervals along main extensions.

# SECTION 8

# CONDOMINIUM RULES AND REGULATIONS

The condominium owners (hereinafter referred to as the "Owner") shall purchase and install a master meter assembly with back flow device, which is UL (Underwriters Laboratory) listed & FM (Factory Mutual) approved for fire service use, and approved by the district, which shall be owned and maintained by the Owner. The Master Meter shall be installed in a district approved pit at least five (5) to six (6) feet in depth at the front property line giving the District full and ready access to it. Master meter pits shall be equipped with a Post Reader type remote reader box approved by the district; purchased and installed by the owner.

The Owner shall have the District install individual meters for each condominium unit; the Owner and its successors or assigns shall grant to the District the right of access to read, improve and or repair each individual meter. Every individual meter shall have individual shut off valves and curb stops to be installed according to specifications of the District. If there is any difference between the total consumption on the Master Meter and individual meters, the overage shall be charged to the Owner.

The Owner shall supply fire hydrants according to the District Plans and Specifications. Such fire hydrants shall be owned and maintained by the owner. The Smithfield Fire Department shall approve the location of such fire hydrants.

The Owner shall pay to the District an annual fire service charge of whatever the District establishes in accordance with the rates, rules and regulations of the District.

# SECTION 9

# ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

## Cross Connection Prohibited:

No licensed plumber or others shall cause a physical connection to be made between the Greenville Water District supply and any other water supply for commercial, domestic, sanitary, fire protection or boiler feed purposes, or for any other fixture be supplied directly from the District water system through a flush meter or other valve unless such valve is set above the water closet or urinal bowl or other fixture in such a manner as to prevent any possibility of back siphonage or pollution.

No plumbing fixture, device or construction shall be installed which will provide a cross-connection between the District supply and a drainage system, soil or waste pipe, so as to permit or make possible the back flow of sewage or waste into the water supply system. Draw-off pipes for draining sprinkler systems shall not be directly connected into a drainage system or a submerged pit.

If the District water supply is delivered to a tank that is also supplied with water from any source other than the public water supply, such tanks shall be open to atmospheric pressure and the District's water supplied above the maximum level in the tank. The tank shall be equipped with an overflow pipe of ample size to fix definitely the maximum level of water. There shall be at least six (6") inches between the invert of the pipe supplied with District water and the maximum tank level.

If the District water supply is delivered to a tank in which there are chemicals, dyestuffs, or other materials used in processing, the pipe supplied with District water shall not be submerged.

There shall be ample clearance between the invert of the District supply and the top of the tank to prevent back-siphonage into the public supply.

In cases where premises may have (1) internal cross-connections that cannot be permanently corrected, or (2) intricate plumbing and piping arrangements or where entry to all portions of the premises is not readily accessible for inspection purposes, making it impracticable or impossible to ascertain whether or not potentially dangerous cross-connections exist, the public water supply system shall be protected against back-flow from the premises by installation of a backflow prevention device in the service line, on the customer's side of the meter of a type approved by the Water District dependent upon the degree of hazard that exists and at the customer's expense. It shall be the responsibility of the owner to have backflow prevention devices tested and approved by the district. A written copy of the test results must be submitted to the water district for final approval.

## Pump Connection:

No pump shall be directly connected to any main or service for the purpose of increasing the water pressure in the Owner's system unless prior written authorization and approval has been obtained from the Water District.

## Lawn and/or Garden Watering Systems:

The District reserves the right to approve any underground or concealed lawn and/or garden system. The district requires that a residential dual check valve or a commercial double check back flow preventer shall be installed in the water supply line immediately downstream of the water meter.

The GWD reserves the rights to inspect and have the owner initiate any steps that may be necessary for proper compliance.

#### Dishwashing and Laundry Machines:

District water supply to dishwashing and laundry machines shall be equipped with an approved vacuum breaker and a check valve located between the vacuum breaker and the fixture. The vacuum breaker shall be located at least four (4) inches above the highest elevation of the machine. *The GWD is not liable for interruption in service or damage resulting from the failure to have proper vacuum breakers or check valves.* 

## Interruption of Water Supply:

The Greenville Water District furnishes water and not pressure, and does not guarantee a continuous supply. No responsibility will be assumed for any damage to any apparatus in any house or building due to the shutting off or turning on of water without notice, either for repairs or on account of a break in the pipe lines or other necessary operations.

No person shall be entitled to damages, nor to have any portion of a payment refunded, for any stoppage of supply occasioned by accident to any portion of the works or for the stoppage for purposes of additions or repairs; or for non-use occasioned by absence or for any other reason.

# Notice of Interruption of Service Not Required:

While it is the intention to give notice, in advance of any work which must be done that will necessitate interruption of the supply, such notice is to be considered a courtesy only and not a requirement on the part of the Water District. In case of a break in the pipelines, water will be shut off at any time without notice.

Failure of tenants or property owners to receive notice of interruption of service shall entail no responsibility on the part of the Water District or its employees. Property owners must install boilers, hot water tanks and other installations connected with the water supply system, with adequate safeguards, so that damage will not occur if the water is shut off without notice.

# Unauthorized Use of Water:

The Greenville Water District will prefer charges in accordance with Section 11-35-7 of the General Laws, as amended, against every person who shall without proper authorization from the Water District, tap or make any connection with any street main or service or other distributing pipe connected with the water system; or who shall without such authorization open any gate or valve connected with the water system so as to obtain water from the system or for the purpose of obtaining such water; or who shall in any way or by any device obtain the use of such water without authorization. The GWD may estimate the cost of such water use and charge fees and costs to recover such money. Greenville Water District is authorized to immediately shut off such water supply without recourse to its consequences.

#### *Re-Sale of Water:*

No consumer, except with the written consent of the GWD Board previously obtained, will be allowed to furnish water to other persons or property or to suffer such persons to take it themselves. Violations of this regulation may cause the supply to be shut off and the water rate already paid forfeited.

## Water Charges to One Person:

When water shall be supplied to more than one party, through a single service, the bill for the whole supply furnished through such service will be made to either the owner of the property or to some one tenant who shall agree to be responsible therefor. In case of non-payment, the water may be shut off, notwithstanding one or more parties may have paid the proportion due from him/her or them.

## Water Waste:

Water must not be allowed to waste through any faucet or fixture to prevent freezing, or kept running any longer than necessary in its proper use. The District is required to restrain and prevent any and all wastage of water; and, to that end, may, when necessary, turn off the water or take such other action as in its judgment may be proper. *Rights to Make Inspection:* 

Inspectors of this District, or any person authorized by the Water District, must have free access at all reasonable hours to all parts of every building, for the purpose of inspecting, removing or replacing meters, examining water fixtures, and observing the manner in which the water is used.

# Request for "Turn On":

After service has been shut off for any reason except repairs, it shall not be reestablished unless the owner or his/her authorized agent gives the District a written order. Also, for such turn-on, a charge of fifty (\$50.00) dollars will be levied to the owner of the property or to some one tenant who shall agree to be responsible therefor. *Refusal to Give Service:* 

No water shall be furnished to any property which is indebted to the Greenville Water District for water service.

# Penalty for Violation of Rules:

If the owner, agent, lessee, tenant, or person in charge of any premises, shall violate any rule or regulation of the Greenville Water District affecting said premises, and shall fail to remove any violations or comply with any written order of the District pertaining thereto, within thirty (30) days after such order shall have been sent by mail to the last known address of such person, the GWD Board may discontinue service to such premises.

If water service shall be so discontinued, it shall not be resumed until the rule or regulation so violated shall have been complied with to the satisfaction of said District and a fifty (\$50.00) dollar fee paid to the Greenville Water District for the service in turning the water off and a fifty (\$50.00) dollar fee for turning the water on.

The Water District reserves the right to make such amendments to the rules and regulations as may be necessary for the preservation and protection of the Greenville Water District water supply system.

# SECTION 10

# CONSERVATION PROGRAM

The GWD Board has adopted a water conservation program. Among some of the topics covered are meter accuracy, waste and detection of water leakage.

#### Meter Accuracy:

Water meters are made with great care and precision and should, with reasonable care, give years of satisfactory service. A defective meter will invariably under register, or work in favor of the consumer. All meters before being set have been carefully checked and tested for accuracy, and when placed in service are sealed. THE CONSUMER MUST NOT BREAK THIS SEAL.

## Waste and Leakage of Water:

If a meter suddenly shows an increase in consumption, with no apparent cause, one of two things has happened; a leak has started, or water has been allowed to run to waste.

Waste and leakage of water is an economic waste, not only to the customer, who pays much large water bills than he/she should, but to the water District as well, which must provide a system of sufficient capacity to meet demands resulting from leakage and waste in addition to the requirements of the customers.

Conservation of water results in indirect savings to the consumer. It eliminates large capital expenditures required in expanding the supply, either at its source or in the distribution system, to meet usual demands from leakage and waste.

## Detection of Leakage:

The flow of water from all fixtures supplied by the meter should be shut off, and the pointer on the circle observed for a period of ten (10) or fifteen (15) minutes. If the pointer moves, a leak is indicated, the size of which may be determined by timing the pointer.

If the leak cannot be located, a licensed plumber should be called, as the Water District is not authorized to do the work on private property.

The formal water conservation program is as follows:

# WATER CONSERVATION PROGRAM

*Introduction:* The Greenville Water District Board is presenting, within this document, a conservation program supporting the wise use of our water resource in order to insure an adequate supply of water, even during drought conditions, for the consumers of our service area. The Greenville Water District Board believes that water should not be wasted, as even minor shortages may cause inconveniences to life-styles and be a deterrent to economic growth and activities. Water is essential to life and health and the protection of property against fire. Conservation of water will assist in reducing energy demand and in reducing the strain on sewage treatment facilities. The objective of the Greenville Water District Board in this plan is to manage and protect the Greenville Water District system to its fullest potential into the foreseeable future. In meeting this objective, the Greenville Water District Board will utilize every effective vehicle to prevent waste and maximize the supply, while promoting the wise use of water.

# I. SUPPLY MANAGEMENT TECHNIQUES

# A. METERING

1. POLICY

- a. It is the Greenville Water District Board's policy that all services shall be accurately and efficiently metered. This has been and will continue to be strictly enforced.
- 2. GOAL

# The metering program is to account for the water used as completely as possible, optimize revenues through accurate metering and promote the wise use of water.

- 3. PROGRAM
  - a. Study the need for implementing a residential testing program and the feasibility of implementing a specific testing program for commercial customers.
  - b. Implement an installation schedule for remote readers and backflow devices.
  - c. Evaluate the frequency of meter readings and billing by computer.
  - d. Provide adequate training and supervision of meter personnel in manual and computer training.
- 4. SCHEDULE
  - a. Establishment of a meter testing program and subsequent evaluation will commence in....
  - b. Installation of remote readers and backflow devices as needed will begin....

# B. LEAK DETECTION AND REPAIR

- 1. POLICY
  - a. Leakage of water is a waste of the resource as well as an economic waste, to the customer who pays a larger water bill than necessary, and to the water utility, who must provide a plant of sufficient capacity to meet unnecessary demands. A leak detection program can reduce water loss and waste, and decrease operating costs.
  - b. The Greenville Water District Board shall monitor non-accounted for water within the system.
- 2. GOAL

# Historically the GWD has kept non-accounted for water, due to leakage, at a minimum. Through a formal leak detection program it is expected to reduce non-accounted water to as little as possible.

- 3. PROGRAM
  - a. The GWD shall determine if there is an unaccounted quantity of water and will use the leak detection equipment to locate any leaks in the system for repair.
  - b. The GWD shall continue the policy of looping dead ends and pipeline maintenance wherever feasible to eliminate the use of bleeders and blow-offs.
- 4. SCHEDULE

The leak-detection program shall continue.

# C. PRESSURE REDUCTION

1. POLICY

The GWD shall investigate the feasibility of pressure reduction in areas where pressure is 80 psi or more.

2. GOAL

The goal <u>of</u> a pressure reduction program is to reduce unnecessarily high pressures and reduce excess water use in those areas.

3. PROGRAM

Due to the cost of installing pressure reducing valves and the limited number of areas for their application, this program is seen as one for long term, low percentage reduction

4. SCHEDULE

Small sections of a service area, particularly suitable, shall be evaluated for the future installation of a pressure-reducing valve.

# D. DISTRICT MANAGEMENT

1. POLICY

The GWD policy is to maintain the highest quality of water possible through well planned professional district management.

- 2. GOAL
  - a. To protect supplies against contamination.
  - b. To improve recharge flows to supplies.
- 3. PROGRAM
  - a. Continued implementation <u>of</u> all facets of our Water Quality Protection Plan. Revise and keep up to date as appropriate.
  - b. Promote Zoning to limit or prohibit inappropriate land use.
  - c. Continue monitoring program to insure water quality parameters which meet or exceed E.P.A. standards under the Safe Drinking Water Act.

- d. Continue interaction with appropriate officials on Federal, State and Local levels to educate the consumers to provide input to key issues, including waste disposal, septic systems, salt storage, development, road construction, agricultural activities, etc.
- 4. SCHEDULE

Many of the district management programs outlined are ongoing and shall continue.

# E. FUTURE PLANNING

1. POLICY

The GWD is committed to planning for the future needs of the system.

2. GOAL

# To ensure an adequate supply of water into the future as well as a reliable system for distribution.

- 3. PROGRAM
  - a. The GWD shall conduct a water audit. In order to balance supply with demand, the GWDB will maintain a water management network.
  - b. Encourage and support statewide planning and the identification of capacities.
  - c. Assess the adequacy of the system before expanding the system or approving proposed development, including new hookups. Develop a contingency plan in order to balance supply and demand, if demand were to equal or exceed safe yield, evaluating the need for future mandatory restrictions and moratoriums on service connections.
- 4. SCHEDULE

The GWD has initiated a water audit to commence during this fiscal year beginning July, 1991, and will be revised annually.

# II. DEMAND MANAGEMENT TECHNIQUES

# A. PRICING

1. POLICY

The GWDB shall develop a reasonable rate structure which shall reflect the full cost of service and encourage efficient use.

2. GOAL

The goal is to minimize the inefficient use of water as people develop a true appreciation for the monetary value of our water resources.

3. PROGRAM

The rate structure shall be reviewed every five years by a private consultant.

4. STRUCTURE

GWD shall review the rate structure on a continuing basis.

# B. PUBLIC EDUCATION

1. POLICY

The GWD feels public education is important to the conservation effort.

Education will improve consumer understanding of the purpose of conservation while soliciting the public's cooperation.

2. GOAL

This program will aid in minimizing consumer waste while promoting the efficient use of water.

- 3. PROGRAM
  - a. The GWD shall have education materials available in the form of pamphlets and brochures.
  - b. The GWD shall notify customers that personal conservation of water is vital and conservation kits will be made available upon request.
  - c. The GWD shall solicit the support and advice of interested groups or individuals including elected officials, representatives of local economic groups.
- 4. SCHEDULE

Most aspects of the Public Education program have been implemented in varying degrees and are currently ongoing.

# C. **REGULATION & LEGISLATION**

1. POLICY

The board's policy is to encourage, support and educate the need for appropriate regulation beneficial to efficient water usage and water quality.

2. GOAL

To reduce unnecessary use of water through building codes and plumbing regulations supportive of the use and future development of efficient plumbing fixtures.

- 3. PROGRAM
  - a. The GWD intends to actively support new legislation requiring the installation of low water using appliances.
  - b. The GWD shall introduce regulation if appropriate, for consideration by governing authorities on issues including restriction of specific water uses, time for specific uses, specific uses by permit only etc.
- 4. SCHEDULE

This program is ongoing

# D. RETROFIT PROGRAM

1. POLICY

The board's policy is to encourage the wise use of water through the use of efficient plumbing fixtures, while not causing a change in the quality of life.

2. GOAL

Through a passive program, water efficient fixtures shall be installed replacing existing less efficient fixtures thereby reducing water use measurably.

- 3. PROGRAM
  - a. The GWD shall initiate a passive program through education of the public and by informing users of the benefits of becoming actively involved in a retrofit program.
  - b. The GWD shall investigate the potential for expanding the retrofit program to public buildings and local industry.
- 4. SCHEDULE

The GWD shall continue these programs and review them annually.

# E. REUSE / RECYCLE SYSTEMS

1. POLICY

The board's policy is to match the end use of our water to the appropriate quality necessary for a particular purpose insofar as it would be realistically and economically feasible. It is important, however, that this be done in close conjunction with an active cross-connection control program to guarantee public health and safety standards.

2. GOAL

To substitute recycled or reuse water for non-potable uses in industrial processes thereby reducing, at least in part, potable water consumption to these processes. This would be implemented only as technology and public health considerations permit.

- 3. PROGRAM
  - a. The GWD shall institute a program to aid and encourage industry in developing recycling and reuse systems where such realistic and safe opportunities might exist.
- 4. SCHEDULE

Establishment of this program shall begin during the fiscal year commencing....

# F. PEAK USAGE REDUCTION

1. POLICY

The GWD believes that it is important to have contingency plans in place to reduce peak demand during extended heat waves and emergency conditions and during periods of drought. The GWD recognizes that reduction of peak usage for water is useful in reducing capital investment and prolonging the use of the source of supply.

2. GOAL

The goal of a peak reduction program would be to reduce peak usage in order to better maintain sufficient levels in the storage areas.

3. PROGRAM

The GWD shall publicize the need to reduce peak usage when necessary. The program would consist of odd/even alternating days for outside watering and hour restrictions as needed.

4. SCHEDULE

The peak reduction program shall be ongoing.

# SECTION 11

# THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

The GWD Board conducted a study that considered the present resources available to the District and planned for its anticipated growth in the future. It was determined that the plan should consider providing the proper tools for the staff to perform their respective jobs for the people of the District. The study also considered that before obsolescence overtakes the parts which make up the Greenville Water System plans must be made for the replacement or improvement of the equipment which provides the water service. This can only be done by implementing a carefully planned capital improvement program which anticipates growth and prepares for problems before they occur. As a result, the Capital Improvement Program plans for the following list of capital additions:

- Building Addition / New Building
- □ Alarm System
- Rate Study
- Capital Reserve
- Operation Reserve
- Building Improvement
- Meter Improvement
- □ Valve Improvement
- Hydrant Replacement
- Leak Detection Program
- Flow Control Devices
- D Main Repair / Main Replacements / Main Extensions
- District Properties

# SECTION 12

# STATE SURCHARGE EXEMPTION FOR THE ELDERLY

Any customer 65 years of age and older purchasing water for personal consumption may apply for a State Surcharge exemption upon forms to be supplied by the District. This law applies to single-family homes only.

# SECTION 13

## FINANCES

The GWD is authorized and empowered to tax the real estate within the district to allow for the purchase of real estate or any other property or any rights, for any current expenses of the District, or for payment of any indebtedness that has been incurred by the District.

The District is authorized to issue notes in anticipation of revenues for any proper corporate purpose.

Any property, including, but not limited to, real estate, pumping stations, storage facilities, and other appurtenances, owned by the District for the purpose of providing water shall not be subject to taxation by any municipality.

# SECTION 14

#### WATER SUPPLY MANAGEMENT PLAN

The GWD Board adopted a Water Supply Management Plan, which plans for the future growth of the District. Incorporated in the plan are the conservation plan, the capital expenditure plan, and the water supply management plan.

The plan also incorporates such information as is necessary to plan for the future water needs of the State. Some of the subjects covered by the plan are a description of the system, growth and conservation tracking, water supply demand considerations, DEM and health department considerations, supply augmentation and joint activities, an emergency/contingency plan, financial management, and a capital expenditure plan.