



Town of Woodstock Water Theft Policy

Applicability:

The purpose of this policy is to protect against the theft of water from the Town's distribution system. The increase in residential and commercial growth has resulted in the theft of water through various means by contractors, sub contractors, lawn maintenance personnel, and others.

Policy:

1. Upon complaint of possible water theft the Woodstock Police Department shall investigate and file a formal report with the Town Manager's Office. Any jumper or other device used to illegally remove water from the town system will be confiscated.
2. Based upon the report of the Woodstock Police Department the Town Manager's Office shall begin a formal assessment to determine if damages have resulted based on the theft of water.
3. Fines for tampering with a meter or theft of water will be assessed as follows:

* First Offense	\$1,000.00
* Second Offense	\$1,500.00
* Third and Subsequent Offense	\$2,000.00
4. In addition to the fines for tampering, the offending company will be billed for all water estimated by the Town Manager's Office to have been potentially withdrawn from the Town system. Both water and sewer usage will be calculated in determining the estimated. Any staff time utilized in investigating the incident will also be incorporated into the estimate.
5. The Town reserves the right to pursue criminal charges where warranted in addition to fines and actual cost associated with the theft.
6. The Town Council upon investigation may determine to withdraw water service to an offending contractor after repeated violations or a threat to public health or safety.
Adopted: _____