

CITY OF KALAMAZOO  
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICES

## SANITARY SEWER CONNECTIONS

The following information pertains to connections within the corporate limits of the City of Kalamazoo only. Residents of Township Areas should obtain specific connection information from their Township office.

### **Construction of Property Leads:**

Any property lead construction work within the public right-of-way in the City of Kalamazoo will be performed by the City of Kalamazoo, Department of Public Services Field Operations Division. This is applicable to new construction and to repairs of existing property leads.

Information regarding the existence of the property lead and its location may be obtained at the Department of Public Services, Engineering Division, 415 Stockbridge Avenue.

### **Connection Fees:**

A \$100.00 advance deposit at the time of application before the construction begins. This deposit must be paid at the Treasurer's Office, 241 W. South Street. The balance shall be due thirty (30) days from the date of billing.

Interest of 1% per month is charged after due date.

Charges for sanitary sewer connections are as follows:

(only for residential units. For commercial and industrial units, the construction charge is based on time and material)	
Connections Installed During Main Construction .....	\$1,340.00/connection
Connections Installed Separately.....	\$2,900.00/connection

### **Plumbing Permit:**

A plumbing permit to connect from the house to the existing lead at the property line must be obtained from the City Plumbing Inspector, Buildings Division, 415 Stockbridge Avenue. **IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT A LICENSED PLUMBER OBTAIN THE PERMIT.** Questions regarding connections should be addressed to the Plumbing Inspector, (269) 337-8026.

Outside the City of Kalamazoo, plumbing permits must be obtained at the appropriate township office.

### **Maintenance and Repair:**

The maintenance of the sanitary sewer property lead (or connection) from the property line to the structure on the private property is and shall be the sole responsibility of the property owner served.

Property owners or their agents are prohibited from placing or allowing to be placed into any sewer or property lead any material or substance which will obstruct the free flow of the sewers or damage them in any way. If, during repair construction, it is determined that a material or substance not normally found in a sanitary sewer lead is causing an obstruction, it will be the sole responsibility of the property owner, or their agents, to pay for the construction cost. The City, at its expense, will make such repairs to the property lead when necessitated because of faulty original construction or by reason of root intrusion, but only to that section which lies within the public right-of-way.

Questions regarding installation and maintenance outside the City of Kalamazoo should be directed to the appropriate township office.

The Kalamazoo Department of Public Services maintains the main sewers both within the City of Kalamazoo and surrounding townships. Persons are available, or on call, 24 hours a day to check the main sewer lines for possible obstructions and to perform emergency maintenance if necessary. When a customer experiences sanitary sewer drainage problems, Utility personnel are available in order to determine if the problem that exists is in the main sewer or in the property lead or private connection. **PLEASE CALL US FIRST BEFORE CONTACTING A PLUMBER OR ROTO ROOTER SERVICE. OUR TELEPHONE NUMBER IS (269) 337-8148.**

### **Billing Methods:**

**Charges for wastewater discharge shall commence at the time a permit to connect to the sanitary sewer system is obtained.** If the property is currently connected to Kalamazoo City water, wastewater charges will be included with the water bill based on metered water usage. If the property is not presently connected to Kalamazoo City water, wastewater charges shall either be a flat-rate quarterly fee or in some instances special sewer metering will be required. Rate schedules for water and wastewater charges are available at the Treasurer's Office, 241 W. South Street. The phone number for general billing information is (269) 337-8149.

**Bruce Merchant  
Public Services Director**

## STANDARD WATER SERVICE EXTENSIONS RATES AND REGULATIONS

The policies and rates included here include only extensions of standard services for residential accounts. They will normally be limited to the former Milwood service area, or cases where a meter box was installed and conditions have changed so that the meter can be moved to an acceptable area inside the building.

A "service" is the pipe that delivers water from the public distribution main to the water meter at the property being served. Where the meter is located in an outdoor box or pit near the property line, the service may be extended into the basement of the building and the meter relocated there; this is only possible under the conditions mentioned in the preceding paragraph.

### **Service and Meter Location:**

The service extension will enter the building at or near the front of the structure and will not be placed under porches, garages, etc. Preferred location for the meter is in the basement at the point nearest the street. Locations in fuel bins are prohibited; locations in storage rooms are discouraged. Meters must not be covered with goods, cupboards, or shelves in any manner. *METERS MUST BE ACCESSIBLE TO READERS AND SERVICEMEN AT ALL TIMES.*

### **Installation and Future Maintenance:**

All service extensions and service maintenance are under the control of the Water Utility, at the request of the property owner or his authorized representative. However, **any changes to the site or building subsequent to the installation which hazard the operation or maintenance of the service shall be rectified at the expense of the owner; the Utility is not liable for any resultant damage.** No buildings are permitted on top of the service. The customer is responsible for providing a heated space for the meter location. He must pay the cost of repairs for any frozen meters. The Utility will maintain the service line up to and including the water meter, but beyond that point, maintenance is the responsibility of the property owner.

### **Remote Meter Reading Device:**

A remote reading dial is provided with all new installations. The device permits reading of the water meter from outside the house. This reading device is provided at no extra charge. If an outside remote reader is not installed initially, this can be scheduled by our Meter Shop Supervisor upon request.

### **Payment**

The advance deposit for standard service extensions must be made when the service is ordered. The order can be placed at our office at 241 W. South Street. After the service is installed, the charges will be billed, less the advance deposit. This balance is due within 30-days of the invoice date. Interest of 1% per month on the outstanding balance is charged after the due date.

Every effort will be made to have emergency extensions done within 48 hours (excluding weekends) after receipt of the order.

<b>The Following Rates Apply:</b>			
<b>Size</b>	<b>Base Charge</b>	<b>Charge Per Foot</b>	<b>Advance Deposit Required</b>
¾"	\$751.00	\$15.45	\$100.00
1¼"	\$751.00	\$16.00	\$100.00
2" or larger	BASED ON TIME AND MATERIALS		

The Footage is measured from the curb box location to the new meter location in the basement. Ditches will be left in reasonable condition. Any exceptional lawn work is the owner's responsibility.

**Bruce Merchant,  
Public Services Director**

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## WATER SERVICE CONNECTIONS RATES AND REGULATIONS

The service connection is that pipe from the public water distribution main to the water meter that delivers water to the property being serviced. The customer pays for the installation of this service, based upon size. The charges for standard connections are as follows:

Charge Per Foot:				
Size	Charge for 1 <sup>st</sup> 25 Feet	Charge Per Foot, For Additional Footage	Advance Deposit Required	Extra for Outdoor Meter Box
1¼"	\$1,117.00	\$16.00	\$100.00	\$397.00
1¼" Blind	\$985.00	Pit by Owner		
2" or Larger	Based on Full Cost			

The footage for the standard service (1¼") is measured from the center of the right-of-way, when in a public street, to the meter.

Special services, 2 "or larger, are installed at actual costs to the customer. An estimate of the cost is available upon request.

Ditches will be left in reasonable condition: **Any exceptional lawn work is the owner's responsibility.** Extra charges for winter construction may be added when the service is installed at the customer's insistence at times and places when the frost is over 12" thick.

### REGULATIONS APPLYING TO SERVICE CONNECTIONS

**SERVICE APPLICATIONS:** Applications for service are taken at our office at 241 W. South Street. **In addition to your \$100.00 advance deposit, signatures, and a refundable customer deposit are usually required upon application.** For customers in the township areas, a permit from your township officials is required prior to making your application.

**PAYMENT:** The advance deposit for standard services will be made when the service is ordered. After the service is installed, the charges will be billed, less the advance deposit. This balance is due within 30-days of the invoice date. Customers requesting special services, 2 "and above, are required to pay in advance at the time the service is requested. Interest of 1 % per month on the outstanding balance is charged after the due date.

**INSTALLATION AND MAINTENANCE:** All service installations and maintenance are under the control of the Water Utility, at the request of the property owner or their authorized representative. However, any changes to the site or building subsequent to the installation, which hazard the operation or maintenance of their service, shall be rectified at the expense of the owner; the Utility is not liable for any resultant damage. No buildings or structures are permitted on top of the service. The Utility will maintain the service line from the distribution main to and including the water meter but not beyond that point.

**SERVICE SIZE:** Recommendation for size can be obtained upon application. The following are some helpful guidelines:

- 1¼" - Homes with heavier usage, particularly zoned lawn and garden watering or two baths or a long distance from the street; this will provide approximately 25-30 gallons per minute at usable pressure.
- 2" - Only the largest homes with a large, non-zoned lawn sprinkling system or other heavy usage.

**SERVICE AND METER LOCATIONS:** The location of the service and meter is subject to the approval of the Department of Public Utilities. The service shall be laid in a reasonably straight, direct line from the water main and should terminate as close as possible to the street, reasonably providing for future maintenance. Preferred location is in the basement at the point nearest the street. The customer is responsible for providing a heated space for the meter location. The customer is also responsible for all repair costs associated with a frozen water meter due to inadequate heat. Locations in fuel bins are prohibited; locations in storage rooms are discouraged. Meters must not be covered with goods, cupboards, or shelves in any manner. **METERS MUST BE ACCESSIBLE TO READERS AND SERVICE WORKERS AT ALL TIMES.** If there is no such convenient location, it will be necessary for the owner to provide for an outdoor meter pit (see charges). The meter pit must be located on the owner's property within 5 feet of the public sidewalk or property line. **ALL OUTDOOR METER BOX AND PIT INSTALLATIONS MUST MEET THE DESIGN AND REQUIREMENTS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC UTILITIES.**

**REMOTE METER READING DEVICES:** A remote reading device is provided with all new installations. The device permits reading of the water meter from outside the house or without lifting outdoor meter box lids. For all meter box and pit installations where the pit will be inaccessible, the customer shall be responsible for installation of a 3/4 " PVC electrical conduit from the box or pit to the building for the remote reading device, otherwise a remote reading device will be attached to the pit lid. The remote reading device is provided at no extra charge. If an outside remote is not installed with the meter initially, you will be contacted by our office to schedule an installation date.

**CUSTOMER'S RESPONSIBILITY:** The customer is responsible for providing location of any underground obstacles within the customer's property. Obstacles such as septic tanks, drainage fields, sprinkler lines, etc., that intersect or are in the approximate vicinity of the proposed path of the new water service must be located by the customer. Responsibility for any damages, that may occur as a result of the customer's failure, either to locate, or to provide the accurate location of any underground structures, will be the customer's.

**PLUMBING CONNECTIONS:** The Utilities work on the water service ends at the valve on the discharge side of the meter. Though we install the discharge side valve to assure that one is in place, future maintenance is the responsibility of the customer. The piping from that point must be installed or rearranged by your plumber. If you have a well or jet-operated sump, **THOSE MUST BE DISCONNECTED AND REMAIN PHYSICALLY SEPARATE FROM THE CITY WATER SERVICE. ABSOLUTELY NO "CROSS CONNECTION" CAN BE MADE TO OUR SYSTEM.**

**SYSTEM PRESSURE:** During the time of installation, the distribution system pressure will be checked. If the distribution system pressure exceeds the International Plumbing Code Standard of 80 PSI, a red tag will be attached to the meter. **THE CUSTOMER IS RESPONSIBLE FOR INSTALLING A PRESSURE REDUCING VALVE AT THE DISCHARGE SIDE OF METER.**

**Bruce Merchant  
Public Services Director**