

**CHAPTER 13.07  
WATER REGULATIONS**

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13.07.010 Water Conservation, Restrictions, and Rationing:

- A. Conservation: To designate the months of July and August as mandatory months of water conservation. Addresses with odd numbers shall be allowed to irrigate and wash vehicles on odd-number calendar days. Addresses with even numbers will be allowed to irrigate and wash vehicles on even-numbered calendar days. Properties with irrigation meters that are two inches (2") and larger will be restricted to irrigate from midnight to 8:00 a.m. or on a schedule approved by the Municipal Services Director. After a warning for the first offense, the second offense will incur a C-13 penalty as outlined in the Fee Schedule of MLMC Chapter 1.08. A third offense will subject to a C-7 penalty.
- B. Notice to Begin Water Restrictions: The Municipal Services Director will place a notice in the local newspaper and provide a public announcement on the city's social media as well as to the radio stations that are in the area. The notice will state the requirements for individuals or organizations for irrigating and washing vehicles. Water restrictions will be effective immediately upon publication and broadcast.
- C. Restrictions: Water restrictions may be necessary when the Municipal Services Director determines that the City water system is insufficient to meet the forecasted demand for any water distribution zone of the City water system. Addresses with odd numbers shall be allowed to irrigate and wash vehicles on odd-number calendar days. Addresses with even numbers will be allowed to irrigate and wash vehicles on even-numbered calendar days. Properties with irrigation meters that are two inches (2") and larger will be restricted to irrigate from midnight to 8:00 a.m. or on a schedule approved by the Municipal Services Director. After a warning for the first offense, the second offense will incur a C-13 penalty as outlined in the Fee Schedule of MLMC Chapter 1.08. A third offense will subject to a C-7 penalty. Further infractions will be a C-4 penalty.
- D. Rationing: Water rationing will be implemented during emergency conditions as determined by the City Manager and Municipal Services Director.
- E. Notice to End Water Restrictions, and Rationing: The Municipal Services Director will place a notice in the local newspaper and provide a public announcement on the city's social media as well as to the radio stations that are in the area that states water rationing is no longer required. (Ord 2904, 6/26/2018); Ord 2737, 11/11/14; Ord 2207, 5/24/05)

13.07.020 Connection to City Water System:

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- A. Purpose: The requirement to connect to the City water system is to reduce the need for Group A and B water systems; and to reduce well bore holes, which are potential contamination sources.
- B. New Buildings: All newly constructed buildings that will have human occupancy, as defined in the building code, shall be connected to the City water system.
- C. Existing Buildings: Owners of all existing buildings that have human occupancy, as defined by the building code, that are within two hundred feet (200') of the City water system shall be required to connect to the City water system within six (6) months of City notification; provided that, single and duplex residences will not be required to connect if the cost of making the connection exceeds nine thousand dollars (\$9,000). All connections shall be at the owner's expense.
- D. Private Water Systems: Properties that are connected to a private water system that is approved by the Department of Health are exempt from MLMC Chapter 13.07. (Ord. 2737, 11/11/14; Ord. 2396, 5/27/08; Ord. 2207, 5/24/05)

13.07.030 Water Main Extensions: When water mains are extended, the water mains shall be installed at the expense of the prospective user, and the water mains shall be installed for the full frontage of property being served. All water main extensions are required to be constructed per construction plans that are provided by the prospective user, as submitted by a professional engineer, and approved by the Municipal Services Department. (Ord. 2207, 5/24/05)

13.07.040 Water Service Turn On and Off: Water services shall not be turned on until all system development charges, tapping fees, reimbursement, and other fees due to the City have been paid in full; any necessary extraterritorial agreements have been signed; and all zoning and building codes are met. The City may turn off water services that do not conform with any of the aforementioned requirements. (Ord. 2737, 11/11/14; Ord. 2207, 5/24/05)

13.07.050 Ownership:

- A. City Ownership of Water Mains: The City shall have ownership of all water mains that are located within right-of-way or a municipal easement, provided that the water mains have been accepted by the City Council. City ownership for water mains that extend onto private property without a municipal easement terminates at the downstream side of the isolation valve located in right-of-way, or at the right-of-way line when there is no isolation valve.
- B. City Ownership of Service Lines: City ownership extends from the water main to the downstream side of the meter tile when the meter tile is located within right-of-way or a municipal easement. City ownership extends from the water main to the isolation valve in the right-of-way when the meter is located on private property; or to the right-of-way line when there is no isolation valve in the right-of-way.
- C. City Ownership of Meters: The City shall own all meters regardless of whether they are located within right-of-way or on private property.
- D. Private Ownership of Water Mains, Service Lines, and Appurtenances: All water mains, service lines, and appurtenances that are not described in A and B of this section are privately owned. All maintenance, repairs, and operations on private water mains and service lines are the owner's responsibility. (Ord. 2207, 5/24/05)

13.07.051 Access Onto Private Property: Before privately owned water mains and service lines connect to the City's water system, a perpetual access easement, dedication on a plat, or other legal device approved by the City Attorney is required to be accepted by the City Council to allow City staff to access City owned meters and electronic devices. (Ord. 2658, 10/9/12)

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13.07.060 Water Use:

- A. Wasting water as a result of leaking pipes and using water for purposes other than what would be normally used to service the property is prohibited. The prohibition on wasting water shall be enforced by the Utility Service Supervisor pursuant to Chapter 1.20.
- B. No connection will be made to allow supplying water from one property to another property. (Ord. 2737, 11/11/14; Ord. 2329, 6/12/07; Ord. 2207, 5/24/05)

13.07.070 Water Service Connection:

- A. All water service connections shall be metered. All irrigation meters serving the planter areas within City right-of-way shall be connected to the City water system. Each lot or tax parcel shall be served individually from the City water system. All buildings shall be separately connected to the City water system; except
  - 1. Separate buildings that are under single ownership and are on one lot, or within a binding site plan, or planned unit development may be served by a master meter serving the property.
  - 2. Buildings within a binding site plan or a planned development district where private water mains are approved, or a commercial or industrial development where private mains are approved may connect the service lines to the private water main. The meters shall be on the private property at locations approved by the Municipal Services Director.
- B. The property owner is responsible to supply and install the service line, saddle, setter, tile, ring, lid, and all fittings for connecting to the water main per Community Street and Utility Standards. It shall be the responsibility of the property owner to schedule the actual tap to the water main and the installation of the meter with the Water Division.
- C. Should water consumption exceed the rated capacity of the water meter, the City may replace the meter with a larger meter. Costs assessed shall be as listed in Moses Lake Municipal Code Chapter 3.58.
- D. Meters larger than two inches (2") shall be purchased and installed by owner, consistent with the Community Street and Utility Standards.
- E. The charges listed in Moses Lake Municipal Code Chapter 3.58 shall be made on newly constructed water mains for water purity samples, filling and flushing mains, and connecting to existing mains.
- F. The charges listed in Moses Lake Municipal Code Chapter 3.58 for a water service connection, shall be paid in full before a connection is made to the City-owned meter. (Ord. 2737, 11/11/14; Ord. 2396, 5/27/08; Ord. 2207, 5/24/05)

13.07.080 Private Use of Fire Hydrants: The Municipal Services Director may approve fire hydrants to be used as a temporary source of water for construction work, for filling swimming pools, and for special events. Fire hydrants shall not be approved for irrigation, for businesses, or for long-term usage. All water users who are approved for temporary use of a fire hydrant shall obtain a hydrant meter from the Water Division, or use a meter that has been approved by the Water Division. This meter shall be used whenever a connection is made to the fire hydrant. In the event that the Water Division does not have a water meter available and the user does not have their own, the Water Division shall issue a placard that indicates the dates that the user can use the fire hydrant. The approved user shall attach the placard to the fire hydrant when using the fire hydrant. All hydrant users shall follow the guidelines for hydrant use per the City of Moses Lake Community Street and Utility Standards. (Ord. 2207, 5/24/05)

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- 13.07.090 Insufficient Water Supply: The City reserves the right at any time, without notice, to shut off the water supply for repairs, extension, nonpayment of rate, or for any other reason; and the City shall not be responsible for any damage such as bursting of boilers supplied by direct pressure, the breaking of new pipes or fixtures, any damage to property caused by fire on account of insufficient water supply or pressure, or for any other damage resulting from the shutting off of water or from the insufficiency of the supply of water or pressure. (Ord. 2737, 11/11/14; Ord. 2207, 5/24/05)
- 13.07.100 Tampering with System: Tampering with or connecting to the City water or sewer system and their appurtenances is not authorized without written approval from the City. Approval may be obtained by making a request on forms that are provided by the City. (Ord. 2207, 5/24/05)
- 13.07.110 Liability for Expense or Damage:
- A. Damage resulting from an accident, from unauthorized use, or from improper use of the City water facilities shall become an obligation against the agency or person causing such damage.
  - B. Additionally, any person violating any of the provisions of this chapter shall become liable to the City for all expense, loss, or damage occasioned to the City by reason of such violation. The City shall be compensated for such loss within thirty (30) days of notification to the violator of the costs. If not satisfied by that time, the costs shall be filed as a lien against the property. (Ord. 2737, 11/11/14; Ord. 2207, 5/24/05)
- 13.07.120 Notice to Cease Violation: Any person found to be violating any provision of this chapter shall be subject to a Notice of Violation and Order to Correct or Cease Activity issued by the Municipal Services Director. The offender shall permanently cease all violations within the period of time stated in such notice. (Ord. 2310, 3/27/07; Ord. 2207, 5/24/05)
- 13.07.130 Penalty for Continued Violation: Failure or refusal to comply with the Notice and Order provided in Section 13.07.120 shall constitute grounds for discontinuing water service to the premises until the Municipal Services Director determines that such requirements have been satisfactorily met. (Ord. 2310, 3/27/07; Ord. 2207, 5/24/05)