

CASS COUNTY WATER SYSTEM

CALVIN, JEFFERSON, LAGRANGE AND PENN TOWNSHIPS **DIAMOND AND DONNELL LAKES WATER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT** **WATER CONNECTION PROCEDURES** **DATED: MARCH 31, 2011**

- 1) After you are notified that the water system is available for your connection, obtain the application for the required local plumbing permit to connect from the City of Dowagiac Building Department, 241 South Front Street, Dowagiac, MI 49047, (269) 782-8427; or on the City's website at www.cityofdowagiac.com. The cost of the permit is \$85.00 for residential connections plus additional inspections as required by the plumbing code, payable to the City of Dowagiac. The permit may be obtained by the homeowner or their authorized agent. After the permit is issued, the water service should be installed. The entire length of the water service cannot be backfilled until after the final inspection by the plumbing inspector. After the service has been inspected proof of the inspection must be sent to Dowagiac Building Department, 241 South Front Street, Dowagiac, MI 49047, (269) 782-8427.

The Dowagiac Department of Public Services will furnish and install the meter and readout register; however, the customer must obtain the meter horn ("copper horn", or meter setting) from the Department of Public Services for installation. The customer must furnish all valves: two (2) valves are required, one upstream and one downstream of the meter. There will be no meter charge for customers who submitted a meter coupon prior to November 1, 2010 and who will complete connection prior to November 15, 2012. After that date, actual meter costs, estimated to be \$200.00, must be paid to the City of Dowagiac prior to installation of the meter. The meter will be installed, tested, and maintained by the Department and shall remain the property of and under control of the Department. Remote reader and meter locations must be pre-approved by the Plumbing Inspector. If a customer so chooses, the meter may be installed in a pit. The pit must be obtained from the Dowagiac Department of Public Services at actual material cost, which is estimated at \$380.00. Pits may only be installed if ground conditions allow it. Access to the residence is normally not required for pit installations. Backflow preventers per the Michigan Plumbing Code will be required on all commercial connections.

Note: Actual meter costs will be determined at the time of inquiry, and are revised periodically based on fluctuating material costs.

2) Pipe Materials and Construction Methods

All service lines shall be installed in an approved manner at the customer's expense. The plumbing system in or on the premises in connection therewith must conform in character, design and quality to the laws of the State of Michigan and the State Plumbing Code. All newly installed service connections and service lines shall be constructed of materials in accordance with the Michigan Plumbing Code. No service connection or

service line of less than one inch diameter will be permitted. All service connections and service lines must be laid on solid ground not less than five (5) feet below finished grade (or no less than depth of curb stop).

No person shall obstruct or interfere in any way with any service connection or other appurtenance of the system, including meters, by placing in, on or about said service connection, meter, or other appurtenance, building materials, rubbish, shrubbery, flowers, or otherwise hindering the easy and free access thereto.

A single service connection shall not serve more than one (1) premise, even though the ownership of the adjacent premises may be the same. All excavation for service connection installation shall be adequately guarded with barricades and lights so as to protect the public from hazard. Streets, sidewalks, parkways and other public property disturbed in the course of the work shall be restored in a manner satisfactory to the Township at the customer's expense.

3) Private Water Wells

Existing water wells on premises to be connected to the water system may be used for lawn watering, irrigation, automobile or equipment washing, as a source of water for a building's heating and cooling system or for similar purposes not involving human consumption or prolonged bodily contact with such non-potable water and to the extent permitted by the Cass County Health Department, agricultural processing.

Piping connected to a private water well shall be physically and completely separate from all plumbing used for public water. If you do not plan to use your existing water well after connecting to the public water system, it must be abandoned in accordance with State and County well abandonment procedures.

Your cooperation and compliance is greatly appreciated.