

Tiverton Wastewater District Deduction Meter Policy

Effective Date

This policy supersedes the policy documentation "Tiverton Wastewater District Deduction Meter Policy For Use with Town of Tiverton Permitted Irrigation System Only" that was adopted at the regular Tiverton Wastewater District (TWWD) Board meeting On May 27, 2015. It is effective upon approval until another policy is enacted.

Approval

This policy has been approved by the Tiverton Wastewater District (TWWD) Board at their regular meeting on <u>January 27, 2025.</u>

Background

Operations, Maintenance and Administration (OMA) fees and sewer usage fees are based on water usage. Some of the water that is used by customers does not end up in the sewer, and so does not require conveyance or treatment within the wastewater system. Customers who have irrigation systems that have completed the permitting process by the town of Tiverton can apply for and receive credit for deduction meters installed at the property owner's expense. Only irrigation systems are eligible for this deduction. Other outdoor water use is not eligible for consideration for deduction meters. TWWD has determined that the high potential for fraud or abuse with deduction meters for other outdoor use makes them ineligible for deduction from usage on sewer bills.

Program Requirements

- Deduct meters may only be installed within homes or businesses that have a town permitted irrigation system.
- Meters must be installed on the pipe that feeds the irrigation system before the irrigation system backflow preventer and as close as is practical. The meter must be installed to only measure consumption of water going out to the irrigation system. Additional taps off the pipe after the point of the meter are not allowed.
- Meters must be installed by a licensed plumber. Meters must pass inspection by the Town of Tiverton and TWWD upon completion of the work. We advise your plumber to contact the Town of Tiverton prior to doing any work to 1) obtain a plumbing permit and 2) confirm the correct configuration with the inspector. A copy of the permit with the final inspection signoff must be provided with this application.
- Deductions of irrigation water use from sewer usage will only start AFTER the meter has been inspected and approved by TWWD staff or their designee AND the TWWD initial application and inspection fee is paid.
- Residents must report meter readings to TWWD quarterly to coincide with billing cycles:
 Readings are due:
 - January 1
 - April 1
 - July 1



- October 1
- Readings received on or before the due date on time will receive credit during the current billing cycle.
- Readings received within 30 days after the due date may receive credit in the following billing cycle.
- Readings not received after 90 DAYS will receive NO credit.
- Residents must email a picture of their meter with the meter reading to the TWWD office.
 info@twwd.org.
- Residents who fail to provide a meter reading for more than 9 months forfeit their deduction and must reapply.
- Property owners must arrange for and allow TWWD to inspect the irrigation system deduction meter every 2 years.
- TWWD will reserve the right to inspect the meter at any time.

List of Costs and Fees:

All fees are listed on the TWWD Schedule of Fees posted on the TWWD website. Fees are reviewed annually.

Initial Set up and application costs		
Item Meter*	Cost Customer is responsible for purchasing meter	Description Manufacturer: Badger Model 25 with Manual Register, 5/8 in x ¾ in. Or suitable equivalent. Examples include Hunter HC Flow meter, ME-PD NTEP Approved Positive Displacement Water Meter, Neptune model T-10 and Assured Automation model WM-NLC-075.
Town of Tiverton Plumbing Permit	See Town of Tiverton Website for current fee.	Required by the town for any plumbing alterations
TWWD initial application and inspection fee	See schedule of Fees for current fee.	This pays to set up a deduction account and inspect the meter after initial installation.
Licensed Plumber Installation	The property owner is solely responsible for hiring a licensed plumber and paying all associated costs. TWWD does not secure plumbing services and is not responsible for any plumbing costs in the event the work does not pass Town or TWWD inspection.	
Ongoing Fees		
Deduct meter fee	Quarterly- See Schedule of Fees for current fee.	Paid to TWWD to cover additional administrative work and onsite inspections to monitor the program.

^{*} Make and model must be approved by TWWD.



Penalties

If TWWD finds the meter and/or plumbing have been tampered with, or readings have been falsely reported, TWWD can impose fines of up to \$500 plus unreported usage fees. These customers will not be allowed to participate in the program in the future.