

Jeff Davis Water & Sewer Commission #1

Theft of Services and Tampering Policy Statement

Theft defined

1. Tampering with water utility equipment or stealing service will be grounds for discontinuance of utility service. Theft of services shall include, but not to be limited to the following.
 - a) Opening valves at the curb or meter that have been turned off by water utility personnel.
 - b) Breaking, picking or damaging cut-off locks.
 - c) By-passing water meters in any way.
 - d) Taking unmetered from hydrants by anyone other than an authorized official of recognized fire department, fire insurance company or utility for any purpose other than fighting, testing or flushing of hydrants.
 - e) Use of sprinkler system water service for any purpose other than fire protection.
 - f) Removing, disabling or adjusting water meter registers.
 - g) Connecting to or intentionally damaging water lines, valves or other appurtenances for the purpose of stealing or damaging utility equipment.
 - h) Moving the water meter or extending service without permission of the Water Authority of Jeff Davis Water & Sewer Commission #1.
 - i) Any other intentional act of defacement, destruction or vandalism to utility property or act that affects utility property.
 - j) Any intentional blockage or obstruction of utility equipment

Notice of violation

2. A "Notice of Violation" may be mailed or otherwise deliver at the discretion of the Plant/Operations Manger of Jeff Davis Water & Sewer Commission #1 if:
 - a) Evidence suggests the possibility of theft of water utility at the customer's premises;
 - b) The violation does not constitute an immediate threat of safety or equipment integrity to the system.
 - c) The customer will be ordered to immediately cease any unlawful practice.
3. A *Notice of Violation* will be mailed or delivered and customer service and customer service is subject to immediate cut-off in any following situations:
 - a) In the opinion of the Plant/Operations Manager for Jeff Davis Water & Sewer Commission #1, theft of service is clearly evident on the customer's premises; or
 - b) When in the opinion the customer of the Jeff Davis Water & Sewer Commission #1 a situation exists that may endanger public health.
4. In addition, the customer will be subject to a \$250.00 violation fee as well as service call charges, labor and replacement parts as detailed by the Jeff Davis Water & Sewer Commission #1.

5. If Jeff Davis Water & Sewer Commission #1 determines theft of service has occurred, it reserves the right to adjust the customer's bill and the bills for the past twelve (12) months usage. If the approximate amount of service that was stolen cannot be reasonably determined, the customer's usage will be set at two to four times the minimum bill as set on a case by case basis by Jeff Davis Water & Sewer Commission #1 according to the facts of each case.
6. Service will not be restored until all payments for the following are received by Jeff Davis Water & Sewer Commission #1;
 - a) Adjusted payment for water utility service;
 - b) Violation payment (see Section 4 above)
 - c) All service call charges;
 - d) Labor;
 - e) Replacement parts
 - f) Reinstatement of service
7. Service will be instated only during regular hours, 7:30 a.m. – 4:00 pm. Monday through Friday, except in the case of an emergency.
8. Discontinuance of service by Jeff Davis Water & Sewer Commission #1 shall not release the customer from liability for payment for service already or from liability from payments that thereafter become due under the minimum bill provisions or other provisions of the customer's contract....
9. Jeff Davis Water & Sewer Commission #1 shall not be liable for any loss or damage resulting from the discontinuance of service.
10. The customer(s) whose name(s) appear (s) on the application form for service is (are) the customer(s) responsible for payment of all charges. That customer is also responsible for any rules or policy violations that occur regarding Jeff Davis Water & Sewer #1 service to that property. Personal participation by the customer in any such violation shall not be necessary to impose personal responsibility on the customer.
11. In the event any customer fails to pay any Jeff Davis Water & Sewer Commission #1's fee or charge, the customer shall pay all costs of collection including court costs and reasonable attorney's fees incurred by Jeff Davis Water & Sewer Commission #1 in collecting such sums.
12. Jeff Davis Water & Sewer Commission #1 shall have the right to refuse to render service to an applicant or to any member of an applicant's household who is living at the same address whenever such person(s) is (are) delinquent on any payment to Jeff Davis Water & Sewer or had his or her service discontinued because of a violation of the regulations or policies of Jeff Davis Water & Sewer Commission #1.
13. In the event that the customer fails to pay said fees and charges as listed above, Jeff Davis Water & Sewer Commission #1 will prosecute the customer to the fullest extent of the law.