

CITY OF ALPENA

COUNCIL POLICY STATEMENT

General Subject:	IRRIGATION METERS	Policy No.	<u>24</u>
Specific Subject:	WATER AND SEWER RATES	Date Issued	<u>4-15-96</u>
		Effective Date	<u>4-16-96</u>
		Revised Date	<u>11-05-96</u>
		Revised Date	<u>3-06-00</u>
		Revised Date	<u>2-16-04</u>

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Copies: City Council, City Manager, City Clerk/Treasurer/Finance Director,  
Department Heads, City Attorney, ETOS, File

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STATEMENT OF POLICY:

I. Purpose: The purpose of this policy is to establish procedures to utilize in implementing an irrigation meter program within the City of Alpena for residential customers, commercial and governmental and recreational facilities that are affiliated with or supported by the City of Alpena.

- A. All requests for irrigation meters shall be directed to the utility administrative office at the Water Recycling Plant.
- B. The requesting party shall be the owner of the property for which an irrigation meter is requested. If the requesting party is not the owner of the property he/she shall provide the owner's written approval for implementation of the irrigation meter.
- C. All past due charges for utility service at the property for which an irrigation meter is requested shall be paid in full prior to implementation of an irrigation meter at that site.
- D. At the time of application the requesting party shall pay all costs associated with the installation of an irrigation meter including, but not limited to, the cost of the meter, all permit connection and inspection fees, installation costs, turn-on costs, plus any overhead or additional material costs. The requesting party shall be provided internal plumbing specifications, which must be inspected and approved prior to meter installation.

The requesting party shall pay all associated tap-in fees, inspection fees, permit fees, backflow prevention devices, and meter pit installation costs, if required, related to installation of the irrigation connection. The City shall indicate the connection point where the irrigation tap-in will be made. No additional road openings will be permitted for the purpose of installation of an irrigation line if an existing service line is available which can meet the needs.

The City of Alpena shall require the requesting party to provide a Best Management Plan for the irrigation process, the purpose of which is to indicate the method proposed to conserve water used for irrigation purposes, which shall include, at minimum, the following:

- The area to be irrigated
- The anticipated volume of water to be used
- The times that irrigation will occur

As guidelines the City will only permit the irrigation of Commercial, Governmental, or recreational facilities between the hours of 5 a.m. and 10 a.m. or as indicated by the water production plant.

The Best Management Plan shall be approved by the City Manager prior to approval of the irrigation connection.

- E. The meter shall remain the property of the City of Alpena and would fall under the same ordinance language as a water meter installed for domestic consumption monitoring.
- F. The requesting party shall have no interest in the irrigation meter and shall not be due any refund upon its return or removal.
- G. At any such time as an irrigation meter should need replacement, at the discretion of the utility operator, all costs associated with the replacement of that irrigation meter shall be billed to the property owner.
- H. A separate billing shall be generated and issued for each irrigation meter installed. This separate billing shall include the standard service charge for all customers.
- I. A minimum quarterly usage of 6,000 gallons or 2,000 gallons per month for each irrigation meter shall be utilized in establishing a minimum billing for irrigation meters.
- J. Should the property owner elect to have the irrigation meter disconnected during non-irrigation months (winter), the established turn-on/turn-off charge shall be utilized at the time the irrigation meter is turned off and again when service is turned back on.
- K. All requests for irrigation meter installation shall be honored, if so warranted, on the basis of the date the request was first received at the utility billing office or at the discretion of the utility operator.
- L. Any evidence to the utility operator that the irrigation meter was utilized for domestic water consumption (fraudulent use) shall warrant the utility operator to assess both water and sewerage commodity charges on the volume of water utilized through the irrigation meter from the time of its original installation.

The City of Alpena reserves the right to regulate the usage of irrigation systems installed under this program including but not limited to restrictions of quantity, restrictions of time, and non-use of irrigation systems connected to the municipal water supply in times of extreme demand on the water system.