

VARNER CREEK UTILITY DISTRICT
OF
BRAZORIA COUNTY, TEXAS
P. O. BOX 265
WEST COLUMBIA, TEXAS 77486

DATE: July 20, 2022
TO: All Builders – Columbia Lakes
FROM: Varner Creek Utility District Board of Directors
SUBJECT: Fees for Water and Sewer Taps in Columbia Lakes

Due to the increase in cost for water tap materials and labor, the District has adopted new rates for Water & Sewer taps as outlined in the table below.

Please note that if it is necessary to bore under the roadway to access the water main, the water tap fee is higher. The District Operator (Ryder & Company) or the District Administrator, (1st Capital Business Services) will be able to tell you whether or not a bore will be required.

Water	<u>Standard ¾” meter and supply line</u>	
	Short (no boring required)	\$1,200.00
	Long (boring required)	\$2,000.00
	<u>1” meter and supply line</u>	
	Short (no boring required)	\$1,300.00
	Long (boring required)	\$2,100.00
Sewer	Tap fee	\$700.00
	Inspection fee	\$50.00

Builders are also now required to pay a \$75 deposit to establish water service. The deposit will be applied to the final bill and any excess deposit will be refunded. Updated tap fee packets are available on the District’s website www.varnercreekutilitydistrict.org on the Water Service tab.

If you have any questions, please call Debra Lanehart at (979) 345-6008.

Sincerely,

VCUD Board of Directors

**WATER SERVICE AGREEMENT WITH
VARNER CREEK UTILITY DISTRICT**

- I. **PURPOSE.** **Varner Creek Utility District** is responsible for protecting the drinking water supply from contamination or pollution that could result from improper plumbing practices. The purpose of the service agreement is to notify each customer of the plumbing restrictions that are in place to provide this protection. The utility enforces these restrictions to ensure the public health and welfare. Each customer must sign this agreement before Varner Creek Utility District will begin service. In addition, when service to an existing connection has been suspended or terminated, the water system will not re-establish service unless it has a signed copy of the agreement.
- II. **PLUMBING RESTRICTIONS.** The following undesirable plumbing practices are prohibited by State regulations.
- A. No direct connection between the public drinking water supply and a potential source of contamination is permitted. Potential sources of contamination shall be isolated from the public water system by an air-gap or an appropriate backflow prevention device.
 - B. No cross-connection between the public drinking water supply and a private water system is permitted. These potential threats to the public drinking water supply shall be eliminated at the service connection by the installation of an air-gap or a reduced pressure-zoned backflow prevention device.
 - C. No connection that allows condensing, cooling, or industrial process water to be returned to the public drinking water supply is permitted.
 - D. No pipe or pipe fitting which contains more than 8.0% lead may be used for the installation or repair of plumbing at any connection which provides water for human use.
 - E. No solder or flux which contains more than 0.2% lead can be used for the installation or repair of plumbing at any connection which provides water for human use.
- III. **SERVICE AGREEMENT.** The following are the terms of the service agreement between **Varner Creek Utility District** (Water System) and _____ (Customer).
- A. **Varner Creek Utility District** will maintain a copy of this as long as the customer and/or the premises is connected to the water system.

- B. The customer shall allow his property to be inspected for possible cross-connections and other undesirable plumbing practices. These inspections shall be conducted by **Varner Creek Utility District** or its designated agent prior to initiating service and periodically thereafter. The inspections shall be conducted during the Water Systems' normal business hours.
- C. **Varner Creek Utility District** shall notify the Customer in writing of any cross-connection or other undesirable plumbing practices that have been identified during the initial inspection or the periodic reinspection.
- D. The Customer shall, at his expense, properly install, test, and maintain any backflow prevention device required by **Varner Creek Utility District**. Copies of all testing and maintenance records shall be provided to the Water System.

IV. **ENFORCEMENT.** If the Customer fails to comply with the terms of the Service Agreement, **Varner Creek Utility District** shall, at its option, either terminate service or properly install, test, and maintain an appropriate backflow prevention device at the service connection. Any expenses associated with the enforcement of this agreement shall be billed to the Customer.

PROPERTY ADDRESS: _____

CUSTOMER'S NAME: _____

CUSTOMER'S SIG: _____ DATE: _____

SERVICE INSPECTOR'S NAME: _____

SERVICE INSPECTOR'S SIG: _____ DATE: _____

RULES AND REGULATIONS
GOVERNING
SEWER HOUSE LINES AND SEWER CONNECTIONS

The following regulations are to govern the installation of all sanitary connections with VARNER CREEK UTILITY DISTRICT OF BRAZORIA CO.

I. SERVICE LINES

- A. Service line is defined as the sewer from the foundations of the house or commercial building to the sewer line owned by the District.
- B. Only one service line connection to the District's sanitary sewage collection system is permitted for each residence or commercial building.
- C. Only the following types of pipe and fitting materials are approved for constructing service lines. Pipe and fittings in each individual service line will be of identical material.
 - 1. Vitrified clay pipe conforming to ASTM Specification C700 with joint coupling conforming to ASTM specifications C425 and installed according to ASTM C12.
 - 2. Cast iron soil pipe, standard weight, conforming to ASTM Specification A74 with rubber gasket joint coupling conforming to ASTM Specification C564.
 - 3. Poly-vinyl-chloride PSM (PVC) pipe conforming to ASTM Specification D3034 and installed according to ASTM D2321.
 - 4. Ductile-Iron Pipe conforming to ANSI A21.51 with rubber gasket joints ANSI A21.11, and installed according to manufacturer's recommendations.
 - 5. Acrylonitrile-butadiene-styrene (ABS) pipe, material conforming to ASTM Specification D2751.
- D. Minimum sizes of service lines shall be as follows:
 - 1. Residential ----- 4 inches in Diameter
 - 2. Commercial ----- 6 inches in Diameter.

E. Minimum grades for service lines shall be as follows:

1. 4-inch pipe --- one foot drop per hundred feet (1%)
2. 6-inch pipe --- six inches drop per hundred feet (.5%)
3. 8-inch pipe --- four inches drop per hundred feet (.33%)

F. Maximum grades for service lines shall be as follows:

1. 4-inch pipe --- two and one-half feet drop per hundred feet (2.5%)
2. 6-inch pipe --- one and one-half feet drop per hundred feet (1.5%)
3. 8-inch pipe --- one foot drop per hundred feet (1%)

G. Construct service lines to true alignment and grade. Warped and sagging lines will not be permitted.

II. CONNECTION OF BUILDING SEWER OUTLET TO SERVICE LINES

- A. Building tie-on connection will be directly to the stub-out from the building plumbing at the foundation on all waste outlets.
- B. Water-tight adapters of a type compatible with the materials being joined will be used at the point of connection of the service line to the building plumbing. No cement grout materials are permitted.
- C. Existing “wye” and stack connections must be utilized for connection of the service line to the sewer main unless an exception is permitted by the District’s operator.

III. FITTINGS AND CLEANOUTS

- A. No bends or turns at any point will be greater than 45 degrees.
- B. Each horizontal service line will be provided with an cleanout at its upper terminal; and each such run of piping which is more than ninety (90) feet in length will be provided with a cleanout for each ninety (90) feet or fraction thereof, in the length of such piping.
- C. Each cleanout will be installed so that it opens in a direction opposite to the flow of the waste, and, except in the case of “wye” branch and end-of-the-line cleanouts, cleanouts will be installed vertically above the flow line of the pipe.

D. Cleanout will be made with air-tight mechanical plug.

IV. CONNECTION PERMIT

- A. Application for Sanitary Sewer Service must be filed prior to construction of the service line and the connection fee should accompany this application. (Application forms are available from the District's operating company.) Construction must not begin until authorized by the District.
- B. When the service line is complete, and prior to backfilling the pipe trench, the applicant for sewer service shall request an inspection of the installation. Request for inspections shall be made to the District's Operator twenty-four hours (24) in advance of the inspection.
- C. The physical connection to the District's sewer main will be made by use of an adapter of a type compatible with materials being joined. The connection shall be water-tight. No cement grout materials are permitted.
- D. Backfilling of service lines trench must be accomplished within twenty-four (24) hours of inspection and approval. No debris will be permitted in the trench.
- E. A connection permit will be granted after inspection confirms that all requirements of these Rules and Regulations have been met.

V. EXCLUDED FLOW AND WASTE

- A. No waste material which is not biologically degradable will be permitted to discharge into the District's sewerage facilities, including mud and debris accumulated during service line installation.
- B. No downspouts, yard or street drains, or gutters will be permitted to be connected into the District's sanitary sewer facilities.
- C. Swimming pool connections will not be made to the District's sewer system until approved by the Board.

VI. Failure to adhere to the preceding construction regulations will occasion a fine of Fifty Dollars (\$50.00) per violation to be paid by the Builder to the District.

Water service will not be provided by the District until the requirements herein have been met and written permit has been granted.

Approved and Adopted by: The Board of Directors
Varner Creek Utility District of
Brazoria County, Texas