

## Rules and Regulations of the Water Department

### Article VI

#### IRRIGATING IRRIGATION SYSTEMS CONNECTED TO THE PUBLIC MUNICIPAL WATER SUPPLY

To connect or operate an irrigating irrigation systems connected to the public municipal water supply the following rules shall apply:

1. Definition

a. Irrigation System – A system of sprinkler heads attached to underground pipes.

2. All irrigating irrigation systems shall be installed with an approved backflow prevention device.

a. Said device shall be inspected initially ~~after~~ upon its installation and before the irrigation system is activated.

b. Said device shall be tested ~~and periodically~~ annually thereafter by employees of the Water Department or its designee in accordance with Article V, Cross Connections.

~~a-c.~~ A testing fee of \$75.00 shall be charged for each testing.

3. No cross connection ~~of~~ between a domestic water system connected to the public municipal water supply with and an irrigation system connected to a private well ~~is~~ shall be allowed.

4. All irrigation systems connected to the municipal water supply shall be placed on a separate water meter.

a. Existing irrigation systems not already on a separate water meter shall be retrofitted, at the customer's expense, with a separate water meter no later than January 1, 2020.

b. New irrigation systems shall have a separate water meter installed, at the customer's expense, at the time of installation of the irrigation system.

c. Irrigation systems connected to the municipal water supply with a separate water meter shall not be charged the winter minimum service charge for said meter.

~~b-d.~~ Properties with both an irrigation system and swimming pool may have a single water meter serving both.

~~2.5.~~ All irrigation systems connected to the public municipal water supply ~~must~~ shall be equipped with a timing device that can be set to make the system conform to the local ~~odd/even outdoor~~ watering restrictions (i.e. odd/even, Mon-Wed-Fri, etc.).

6. All irrigating irrigation systems ~~must~~ shall be equipped with ~~some type of a~~ rain and/or soil moisture sensing device that will prevent the system from starting automatically during periods of rain or high soil moisture.

7. Irrigation systems shall conform to the following:

a. Rain sensors shall be set at 1/2" or less of rain.

b. Control systems shall be set to only allow watering between Midnight and 6 AM.

- a-c. Irrigation heads should be located to avoid watering impervious surfaces including, but not limited to, sidewalks, roadways, driveways, patios, etc.
- ~~3-8.~~ Any ~~person~~ property owner who has an existing irrigation system connected to the municipal water supply shall register said system and obtain a permit from the Chatham Water Department before December 31, 2004 no later than January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018.
- ~~4-9.~~ Any ~~person~~ property owner who has the intention to install a new irrigation system connected to the municipal water supply shall register the system and obtain a permit from the Chatham Water Department prior to the actual installation.
10. All irrigation systems connected to the municipal water supply, those currently in existence as well as any installed in the future, shall comply with all Rules and Regulations of the Water Department.
11. Turf irrigation systems:
- a. Control systems shall be set to provide no more than 1” of water in a seven (7) day period.
  - b. Property owners with existing turf irrigation systems as of January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018 shall not add a zone to the irrigation system without prior approval of the Water & Sewer Advisory Committee.
  - c. As of April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018 the Chatham Water Department shall not allow the connection of new turf irrigation systems to the municipal water supply if a suitable private well is available.
12. Property owners with an existing irrigation system connected to the municipal water system that have a private well suitable for irrigation use shall connect the irrigation system to the private well.
- ~~5-13.~~ Land in agricultural use, as defined by M.G.L. c. 128 S 1A and M.G.L. c. 131, S 40 is exempt from this regulation.
14. Violations of this regulation will be subject to the provisions of the Regulation of the Town of Chatham regarding non-criminal disposition, according to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 40, § 21D and the Town of Chatham Bylaws.
- a. Enforcement of this regulation shall be by the Chatham DPW or its designee, including the Chatham Police Department.
  - b. Penalties
    - i. Prior to January 1, 2020
      1. In the case of a first violation, a written Warning to the property owner of record by certified mail return receipt requested.
      2. In the case of a second violation after 7 days have elapsed following a written Warning, a fine of One Hundred dollars (\$100).

3. In the case of a third or more violation(s) after 7 days have elapsed following a 2<sup>nd</sup> Violation, a fine of Two Hundred dollars (\$200). Each day's failure to comply shall constitute a separate violation.

ii. On or After January 1, 2020

1. In the case of a first violation, a written Warning to the property owner of record by certified mail return receipt requested.

2. In the case of a second violation after 7 days have elapsed following a written Warning, a fine of One Hundred dollars (\$100).

3. In the case of a third violation after 7 days have elapsed following a 2<sup>nd</sup> Violation, a fine of Two Hundred dollars (\$200).

4. In the case of a fourth or more violation(s) after 7 days have elapsed following a third violation shall result in disconnection of the irrigation system water meter.

Revised DRAFT