



Bulk Water Agreement & Permit

1719 Circle Road, Powdersville, SC 29642
Phone: 864-269-5440 Fax: 864-295-1496
www.powdersvillewater.org

IMPORTANT: YOU MUST READ THE FOLLOWING BEFORE COMPLETING THE APPLICATION

Fire Hydrant Use Policy

Powdersville Water (PW) is required by the S.C. Department of Health & Environmental Control (SCDHEC) to enforce the proper use of all fire hydrants throughout the water distribution system. Each hydrant is a potential entry point for contaminants into our drinking water if withdrawals from the system are not performed properly. Contamination to the system may easily occur if a backflow or back-siphonage condition occurs in the drinking water system. This may happen anytime that water is removed from the system in large volumes at high velocities. This is not only a public health risk, but a threat to system security, as well. Therefore, the general policy of PW is to restrict the use of fire hydrants only to PW maintenance employees and fire department personnel for fire-fighting purposes. Only under special conditions will PW allow others to use hydrants in the system (see long term construction use below in item #10). Contractors in need of bulk water in the PW service area are required to contact the PW office prior to withdrawing water from the system. Failure to adhere to this policy is a violation of State Law and is considered water theft. The first time offense will result in a penalty of \$500 with the second offense will be \$1,000. The violation is punishable by fine and/or incarceration and PW will not refrain from enforcing this policy.

PW understands that contractors need large quantities of water from time to time for specific jobs (i.e. paving, street cleaning, hydro-seeding, etc.) Unfortunately, PW cannot provide this service at every location and ensure that our drinking water system remains safe. Providing high quality drinking water to our customers is of the utmost importance and takes precedence over providing bulk water to those in need. However, we have established two locations in our water system where those that need bulk water may obtain it and not endanger our system. The hydrants located at the following locations are designated "bulk water stations" and will be permanently equipped with a fire hydrant meter and backflow preventer for your use: (1) PW's Main Office at the intersection off SC 81 and Circle Road (located in the cul-de-sac behind our office); (2) Lake Road (Wren logo) Tanks at the intersection of SC 81 and Lake Road. You will need a fire hose equipped with a female NST (fire hose thread) coupling to use the metered connection.

Access to our hydrants, and the related fees and procedures, vary based on the circumstances:

1. **One Day Permit:** If you need water for one day, you will need to complete the application below that will state which of the two bulk water stations you plan to use. This one day permit will allow you to withdraw up to 10,000 gallons. If you plan to use more than this amount, a charge equaling the current volumetric rate per each additional 1,000 gallons over the 10,000 gallon allotment must be paid at the time of application. If usage exceeds the permitted gallons, it is your responsibility to return to the PW office and pay for the additional usage.
2. **14 Day Permit:** If you need water from a bulk water station for more than one day, you may complete the application below for 14 calendar days and pay the 14 Day Fee (non-refundable). This will allow you to withdraw up to 30,000 gallons. If you plan to use more than this amount, a charge equaling the current volumetric rate per each additional 1,000 gallons over the 10,000 gallon allotment must be paid at the time of application. If usage exceeds the permitted gallons, it is your responsibility to return to the PW office and pay for the additional usage.

3. **30 Day Permit:** If you need access to the bulk water station for more than 14 calendar days and you have been a hydrant water customer for more than six months in good standing, you may complete an application for 30 calendar days and pay the 30 Day Fee. This will allow you to withdraw up to 60,000 gallons. If you plan to use more than this amount, a charge equaling the current volumetric rate per each additional 1,000 gallons over the 60,000 gallon allotment must be paid at the time of application. If usage exceeds the permitted gallons, it is your responsibility to return to the PW office and pay for the additional usage.

4. **Long Term Construction Permit:** If you need water for a construction project for more than 3 months, you may rent a mobile hydrant meter that is backflow protected by completing the application below and paying the Long Term Construction Fee. These devices are limited in number and will be made available on a first come, first serve basis. PW personnel will deliver the meter to the project site and will install the device at an agreed upon site and a beginning reading will be recorded at that time. The hydrant meter can only be used at the hydrant that is chosen. The applicant will be held responsible for the water used through the meter. The meter will be read by PW each month and the water used will be billed at the current volumetric rate per 1,000 gallons. After six months, there will be an additional monthly rental fee (see below), in addition to the volumetric charges. In freezing weather, PW will unlock the meter from the hydrant and allow the contractor to keep it protected when not in use. Notwithstanding the foregoing, it is your responsibility to protect the meter from damage, including the damage caused by freezing. When the project is completed, the applicant shall request for the meter and backflow device to be picked up by PW. Upon inspection, if there is any equipment damage, it will be deducted from the deposit. Any remaining balance of the deposit will be refunded to the applicant by mail.

After you have received your permit:

Permit Must Be in Your Possession: Once you have paid the proper fees to PW Customer Service Department, you will be issued a “bulk water station” permit that you must keep in your possession when withdrawing water from any of our stations. Our field employees can request to see your permit at any time. If you do not have a permit in your possession upon request, your permit will immediately expire or if we determine that you have not applied for a permit, a water theft fine will be assessed and you may be subject to further prosecution through the County Sheriff’s Department.

Proper wrench required: If you do not have a proper hydrant wrench, we will issue you one on the first visit. This wrench should only be used at the sites previously mentioned. Do not use anything but hydrant wrenches on PW hydrants or you will lose the privilege of receiving bulk water and you will be charged for the hydrant repair.

Opening a fire hydrant safely: When operating a fire hydrant, always turn the wrench slowly when opening and closing the hydrant to prevent water-hammer in the system. If this rule is not followed, the results can be disastrous and you will be held liable for any damages incurred from water hammer. Also, the hydrant meter is equipped with a gate valve on the downstream side of the hydrant meter for throttling the flow from the hydrant. Do not throttle the hydrant flow at the hydrant operating nut. When using a fire hydrant, the operating nut must be opened completely. It is a good idea to shut the gate valve at the meter prior to operating the hydrant operating nut to prevent the hose from whipping. After each use of the hydrant, turn off hydrant using the operating nut. If you are unclear about any of the above, a PW field service technician will be glad to assist you.

Meter Readings: It is your responsibility to keep up with the meter readings at each filling and your conscience is your guide. Do not attempt to remove our hydrant meter or backflow preventer from any of the bulk water stations. This will be considered theft and treated accordingly.

Damage & Loss: PW retains the right to retain all hydrant use fees received and charge for damages to our equipment or facilities. The applicant will also be held responsible for loss of any equipment that is provided by PW as part of the Hydrant Use Policy. If the hydrant meter and/or backflow protection equipment cannot be returned to PW in good working order, the applicant will be charged for the replacement equipment. These funds must be received prior to PW establishing water service to the applicant at any other locations in our system.

Insurance Required: All hydrant users must have adequate liability insurance and provide PW with a certificate that lists PW as additionally insured. Note: If PW has a copy on file and the date has expired an updated certificate will be required.

Your help needed: As stated above, this policy is an effort by PW to provide an additional service to our customers. The program will only work if honesty and proper workmanship prevail on the part of the customer. In an effort to continue this service, we ask that you immediately report any illegal or improper fire hydrant use in our system by calling our Water Theft Hotline at 864-400-6342. Our water theft fine for contractors/developers is \$500 for the first offense and \$1,000 for each offense thereafter. If PW employees find equipment attached to any hydrant in our service area without prior permission from PW, all equipment will be confiscated and will not be returned to the responsible party until the water theft fine is paid to PW.

My signature on the application below indicates that I have read and understand PW Fire Hydrant Use Policy in its entirety. I understand that I am performing this action at my own risk and PW is not responsible for my actions.

I will follow all procedures outlined in this policy and I understand that my failure to do so, will result in these privileges being revoked, possibly a fine and criminal charges.



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Account Number: _____ Company Name: _____

Construction Meter #: _____ Meter Reading (Beginning): _____ Meter Reading (Ending): _____

Billing Address: _____

Applicants Name: _____ Phone #: _____

Driver's License #: _____ Social Security #: _____

Location of Construction: _____ Hydrant # (If Available): _____

Purpose for Hydrant Water: _____

ONE DAY FEE (nonrefundable):	\$85.00	(10,000 gallons)	} Vehicle Description used for water hauling: Year: _____ Make: _____ Model: _____
14 DAY FEE (nonrefundable):	\$185.00	(30,000 gallons)	
30 DAY FEE (nonrefundable):	\$365.00	(60,000 gallons)	

Long term Construction Fee (over 90 days) \$1,000: \$500 deposit (refundable), \$500 rental (non-refundable) usage billed monthly; after six months there will be an \$85 per mo. rental fee, in addition to the usage charge.

(Circle one of the above)

Permit Expiration Date: _____

Amount Due: _____ Customer received hydrant wrench: Yes ___ No ___

CONSTRUCTION METERS WILL BE INSPECTED FOR DAMAGE UPON RETURN. CUSTOMERS WILL BE CHARGED FOR ANY REPAIRS/REPLACEMENT EQUIPMENT THAT ARE NECESSARY. IN AN EFFORT TO CONTINUE THIS SERVICE, WE ASK THAT YOU IMMEDIATELY REPORT ANY ILLEGAL OR IMPROPER FIRE HYDRANT USE IN OUR WATER SYSTEM TO OUR WATER THEFT HOTLINE AT 864-400-6342. I HAVE READ PW'S FIRE HYDRANT USE POLICY AND FULLY UNDERSTAND AND ACCEPT THE CONDITIONS OF THIS POLICY. I WILL PROVIDE A CERTIFICATE OF LIABILITY INSURANCE COVERAGE AS REQUIRED BY THE FIRE HYDRANT USE POLICY.

Applicant's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Powdersville Water's Use Only

PW Authorization: _____

THIS IS A PERMIT. KEEP THIS WITH YOU AT ALL TIMES WHEN USING A BULK WATER HYDRANT.