

Regulation No. 13 Interference with District Facilities

Adopted: July 19, 2004

Amended: January 28, 2013; June 15, 2015; September 20, 2021

A. Unlawful Acts

The District will prosecute all violations of Sections 498, 624, and 625 of the California Penal Code that make it a crime to interfere with the orderly supply of water to the District's Customers.

Unless authorized by the District, it shall be unlawful for any person, firm or corporation, to do, commit or assist in committing any of the following acts:

1. To open or close any Control Valve, fire hydrant or stopcock connected with the District's water system or lift or remove the cover of any gate valve or shutoffs thereof.
2. To interfere with, destroy, deface, injure or force open any gate or door, or destroy, injure or deface any part of any well, engine house, reservoir, standpipe, tank, building, appurtenances, fences, trees, shrubs, fixtures or property connected or pertaining to the District Water System.
3. To go upon or ascend the stairway or steps of any elevated water storage tank, reservoir, or standpipe owned, leased or possessed by the District.
4. To resort to any fraudulent device or arrangement for the purpose of procuring water to any person without proper payment of all applicable rates, fees and charges in violation of District regulations or ordinances.
5. To interfere with or injure any groundwater well, reservoir, tank, fountain, hydrant, pipe, valve, or other apparatus pertaining to the District's water system, or to turn on or off the water in any street hydrant or other public water fixture within the District's boundaries.
6. To make or permit to be made any connection with a main or service pipes of the District Water System, or to turn on or use the water of said system without first obtaining a permit for such use.
7. To cover or conceal from view any water valve box, service or meter box placed with or without District authorization anywhere within the District's service area.

8. To remove any Meter that has been placed by the District, or to in any manner change, interfere with or tamper with any such Meter.
9. To turn on the water supply to any building or to any supply pipe where the supply has been turned off because of the nonpayment of any charge or because of the violation of any District rule, regulation, ordinance, resolution or policy.

B. Damage to District Facilities

A Customer, by applying for or receiving water service from the District, agrees that in addition to any right or remedy available to the District by law, the Customer will pay to the District its costs for repairing or replacing any of its facilities damaged as a result of construction or other work on the Customer's property, or for any violation of the District's rules, regulations, ordinances, resolutions or policies.

C. Failure to Apply for Service

In addition to any criminal and civil legal remedies available, the District shall charge an unauthorized user of the District's water system as follows:

1. **Non-Metered Service.** Anyone using water without having made application to the District for service shall be held liable for that service from the date of first use, as determined in the absence of factual evidence to the contrary, by the District.
2. **Metered Service.** Anyone using water without having made application to the District for water service shall be held liable for the service from the date of any previous meter reading that most nearly coincides with the actual date the service was first used by the unauthorized person.

D. Fire Hydrant Use

Fire hydrants shall be used only by public fire protection agencies, District staff or other persons authorized by the District. The District shall permit water use provided through fire hydrants as permitted in Regulation 12 – Temporary Service. An Applicant or other authorized user shall cease using water from a hydrant at any time requested by the District. A permit for use of a fire hydrant may be revoked at any time at the sole discretion of the District. The District shall have the right to immediately terminate any unpermitted or other unauthorized use of a fire hydrant and no further use will be authorized except if permitted by the District in accordance with this Section. The permit fee for a District authorized use of a fire hydrant is provided in Regulation 3, Section P.