

Prevent Water Theft and Avoid Penalties: Be Sure Your Landscape Irrigation System Is Properly Metered

As summer approaches, please take a moment to check your outside water connections for landscape irrigation. If your system bypasses the meter, it has been installed illegally, and must be corrected immediately.

A number of illegally connected irrigation systems were recently discovered during an audit and field investigations by Utilities Department staff. We constantly monitor unusual losses of water in order to locate and correct the problems before they impact the finances of the department, and ultimately the water rates for all of us.

Unmetered water connections of any kind, whether intentional or accidental, are illegal and are considered to be water theft. Illegal water use has a negative impact on all Township water customers because they must bear the burden of additional costs. Because water theft can cause such serious problems to the public water supply, it is considered to be a serious offense, and can result in fines as well as civil or criminal prosecution.

Property owners, associations, tenants, or private contractors must help the Township prevent water theft by making sure their systems are legally metered. If you are unsure whether your water system is in compliance, please contact the Utilities office at 734-822-3105 for a free inspection by the Utilities staff.

Your assistance in discouraging the illegal use of water is greatly appreciated, and will benefit all of us who use the public water supply. Please contact the Utilities office at 734-822-2110 to report any suspected illegal water activity.