

BACKFLOW HYDRANT USE POLICY

Fire hydrant permits for non-potable usage are issued pursuant to Denver Water's [Operating Rules](#). Permit holders are subject to comply with Denver Water's [Engineering Standards](#) and Cross Connection Control requirements per [State Regulation 11.39](#).

Employees of Denver Water shall be allowed to examine a backflow hydrant permit when the hydrant is in use.

Backflow hydrant permit regulations

Denver Water may issue a permit to take water from a hydrant for such uses as construction, cleaning or events.

Permits are available in Denver, Total Service, Total Service Improvement and Read and Bill [contract service areas](#). Master Meter distributors with an Integrated Service Agreement must follow all backflow hydrant use requirements. The Permit Holder can only use water for permit-specified purposes, on the specified dates. No hydrant water may be used for human or animal consumption or contact.

Permitted hydrant meters must have a Reduced Pressure (RP) Backflow Prevention Assembly that is testable and:

- Has two independent operating check valves.
- Has a hydraulic automatic operation differential relief valve located between the two check valves.
- Has USC FCCCHR approval.

RP testing is the Permit Holder's responsibility and is required for both permit application and annual renewal.

The test date must coincide within 30 calendar days of the effective date of the permit.

Results must be submitted on the Denver Water-approved Backflow Assembly Test & Maintenance Report, available [online](#). All permits automatically expire 12 months from date of issue.

Permission for subcontractor use

Subcontractors may be allowed to use the Permit Holder's meter and RP (hydrant connections) if the Permit Holder provided prior documentation to Denver Water indicating that the subcontractor has permission to use the hydrant connections. Without this documentation, Denver Water may consider the hydrant connection stolen and confiscate all associated equipment connected to the hydrant.

Changes in ownership

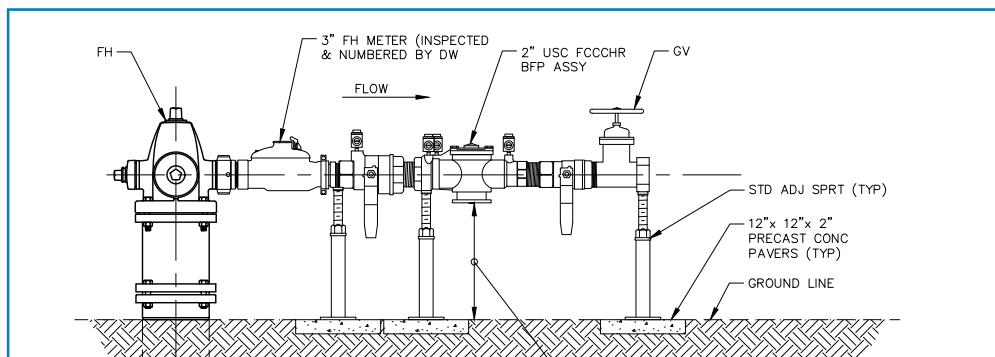
If the Permit Holder sells the permitted hydrant connections, documentation stating rightful ownership for that meter and RP must be provided to Denver Water. Without this documentation, Denver Water may consider the meter and RP stolen and not issue a new permit.

Equipment set up and use

The hydrant must be opened with a hydrant wrench to prevent damage, and the valve must be fully open. Hydrant damage will be charged to the Permit Holder. It is a violation when equipment in disrepair causes water waste.

The Permit Holder must ensure the RP remain within sight when the hydrant is in use before 7 a.m. or after 5 p.m. every day of the week and all hours on Sundays. Failure to comply will result in confiscation of all associated equipment connected to the hydrant.

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The only acceptable meter support is a jack stand, also known as pipe jack or valve support, as shown in the diagram above.

Proper support

The Permit Holder is responsible for ensuring proper support for the RP attached to any Denver Water hydrant. Acceptable RP support means the RP is:

- Properly supported at all times.
- Upright (at least 12 inches above the ground/grade).
- Away from areas prone to water pooling.

Violations and penalties

Any person involved in the unauthorized use of hydrant water will be charged for: the water taken, the costs incurred to investigate and correct the use, penalty fees and other remedies authorized by law or approved by Denver Water. Those involved in unauthorized use are ineligible for new permits until paying for past hydrant water use and penalties.

Hydrant use violation penalties:

- 1st violation: \$500.
- 2nd violation: \$1,000.
- 3rd violation: \$1,500 and a 90-day suspension of all active permits.

Denver Water may revoke all permits for reasons that include, but are not limited to:

- Failure to remit payment to Denver Water within 90 days of an invoice.
- Receiving numerous violations within the same permit year.
- Any other unauthorized use, misuse, theft or dishonesty involving Denver Water hydrants or hydrant water use. After loss of privileges and denial of future permits, unauthorized use may result in criminal and/or civil charges.