

Lake of the Woods Mutual Water Company
Water Theft & Vandalism Policy

Lake of the Woods Mutual Water Company (Company) is responsible for all maintenance, repairs, adjustments, service turn-ons, service turn-offs and lock offs of and to all Company owned infrastructure and property. All lines after the meter to a home, business or other is the property owner's responsibility.

Unauthorized acts to the Company's infrastructure or property may be subject to criminal and civil sanctions as prescribed by law including, without limitation, California Penal Code section 498 and/or California Penal Code section 594.

In addition, the individual(s) and/or the owner of the property being served may be held liable, for all damages including but not limited to, all costs of labor and parts to repair and/or resolve the issue, all costs to discontinue service, all costs to sample and/or test water and all legal costs the Company may incur. A police report may be filed at the discretion of the Company. Without limiting the foregoing, the Company may also charge, at the Company's discretion, the following:

- (1) First violation - A fine not exceeding one thousand dollars (\$1000) plus cost of labor, parts, water sampling/testing and legal costs;
- (2) Second violation - A fine, not exceeding two thousand dollars (\$2000) plus cost of labor, parts, water sampling/testing and legal costs;
- (3) Third violation - A fine not exceeding three thousand dollars (\$3000) plus cost of labor, parts, water sampling/testing and legal costs.

All fines and associated costs are due and payable within thirty (30) days.

"Water theft" is defined as **an action to divert, tamper, or reconnect water utility services**. California Penal Code Section 498

"Vandalism" is defined as **maliciously damaging, destroying or defacing another person's property**. Vandalism is a misdemeanor if the amount of the damage is less than \$400.00. But the charge can be a felony if the amount is \$400.00 or greater. California Penal Code 594 PC.

Adopted: 4-7-2022