

# Water and Pollution Control Department

Water Meter Division, 300 East Fifth Street, Building 2  
Ames, IA 50010  
Phone 515-239-5151 ♦ Fax 515-239-5251

## INFORMATION ON SPECIAL YARD METER

*This informational guide will help you through the process of obtaining a special yard meter. A sketch of a typical yard meter installation is included to show how the meters may be installed. If at any time you have questions, please refer to the telephone numbers listed below for further assistance.*

1. Meter must be obtained from the City.
2. Customer pays for the meter. The meter remains the property of the City and will be maintained by the City in the same manner as other meters. The fee is set by City Council, and the current fee can be determined by contacting the Water Meter Division at 239-5151.
3. There must be a master meter, and then the yard meter immediately after.
4. The yard meter must have a remote register. If the master meter does not have a remote register, then one must be provided at the customer's expense. The customer is also responsible for installing 18/2 bell wire(s) to the location of the remote register(s), adjacent to the electric meter outdoors.
5. The yard meter is a permanent installation; no winter disconnect.
6. The monthly service charge is \$2.75/month.
7. If a lawn irrigation system is present on the property, an approved backflow prevention assembly must be installed. Contact the Water Meter Division (239-5151) to obtain information about requirements for backflow protection.
8. Procedure. Obtain a plumbing permit.  
  
If the property owner intends to personally do the plumbing to accommodate the yard meter, the owner must apply for a plumbing permit from the Inspection Department.  
  
If the property owner hires a plumber to do the plumbing to accommodate the yard meter, the plumber must apply for a plumbing permit from the Inspection Department.  
  
The Inspection Division is located at City Hall/Community Center, 515 Clark. Their hours are 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday.
9. The fee for the plumbing permit is set by City Council. The current permit fee can be determined by contacting the Inspection Division at 239-5153.
10. Next, the customer must contact Utility Customer Service in the Finance Department (239-5120) to arrange for utility billing and to request the yard meter.
11. After the plumbing and wiring are completed, the installation must be inspected by the Inspection Division (239-5153).

*(further instructions on back)*

**UTILITY CUSTOMER SERVICE**

515 Clark Avenue  
Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday  
Phone: 515-239-5120

The customer must contact Utility Customer Service in the Finance Department to arrange for utility billing and to request the meter.

**WATER METER DIVISION**

300 East 5th Street, Bldg. 2  
Office Hours: 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday  
Phone: 515-239-5151  
FAX: 515-239-5251

The customer must call the Water Meter Division to schedule an appointment to have the yard meter installed and the remote register connected. Meters will be set as soon as possible depending on work schedule; in most cases, this is within three working days.

