

LANSFORD-COALDALE
JOINT WATER AUTHORITY

SCHEDULE OF RATES

RULES

AND

REGULATIONS

Effective July 1, 2022

Adopted March 23, 2022

Schedule of Rates

Application of Schedule:

This schedule applies to all consumers in the communities. All consumers shall be metered.

Terms and Conditions:

Bills will be rendered quarterly for service furnished during the preceding quarter and are due and payable upon presentation. All bills are subject to a quarterly minimum charge.

Minimum Charge Per Consumer Per Quarter:

Consumers using from 0 – 6,000 gallons of water	\$90.00
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During 2012 the Authority commenced a project requiring the replacement of manually read meters on buildings within the service territory. The new meters are considered more accurate and will save time since they are remote read meters. Any customer who has not permitted the Authority to replace the meter with a remote read meter shall pay an up charge of \$25.00 per quarter to manually read the old meter in addition to the minimum charge set forth above.

The consumer shall pay the minimum charge each quarter as a flat rate. When the consumption is in excess of 6,000 gallons of water per quarter the consumer shall be billed as follows:

Consumption Charge:	Per Thousand Gallons	
6,001 gallons to 15,000 gallons per quarter		\$6.00
Anything over 15,000 gallons per quarter		\$6.10

Certification of Bill Status

A request for a certification of bill status shall be submitted in writing to the Authority. The written request shall be accompanied by a check made payable to the Authority in the amount of \$10.00. A verification of bill status will then be issued by the Authority within five (5) business days of receipt of the request.

Transfer Fee

A fee of \$25.50 shall be imposed on this transfer and/or sale of every property connected to the Authority's system. This fee is for the expense of office paperwork, setting up a new account and making final meter readings.

Maintenance and Water Rental for Fire Hydrants

Application of Schedule:

This schedule applies to service in the several communities where the Authority furnishes such service.

Terms and Conditions:

Bills will be rendered quarterly for service furnished during the preceding quarter.
Per fire hydrant per quarter \$10.50

Maintenance and Water Rental for Private Fire Lines

Terms and Conditions:

Bills will be rendered quarterly for service furnished during the preceding quarter.

Charge

Size Connection	Per Quarter
2 inch	\$5.20
2.5 inch	\$8.13
3 inch	\$9.10
4 inch	\$16.25
5 inch and above	\$36.40

Charges and Procedures Regarding Delinquent Accounts

Unpaid bills shall incur interest charges at the rate of 1.5% per month after thirty days.

Post-dated checks will not be accepted. Any post-dated check received by mail shall be returned for a corrected date.

A fifty (\$50.00) dollar service charge will be imposed if service is terminated for non-payment.

A fifty (\$50.00) dollar service charge will be imposed for any check returned by the bank for insufficient funds, with water service terminated immediately.

Emergency Call Out Fee

A Fifty (\$50.00) fee will be imposed for any call out to any property owner and/or customer, when the call out is not due to an authority system malfunction.

Connection Fees:

Upon connection to the water system, there shall be a fee of seven hundred fifty (\$750.00) dollars. If the connection takes place between December 1st and April 1st, there shall be a connection fee of one thousand (\$1,000.00) dollars.

Meter Replacement Fee:

Pursuant to the Rules and Regulations of the Authority, when a meter is replaced, it shall be replaced at the expense of the owner. The owner/customer shall be responsible for the cost of the meter (which may

increase or decrease over time,) plus 30% of the cost of the meter. This 30% covers the costs of administration and labor to install the meter.

Rules and Regulations

1. These Rules and Regulations are a part of the contract with every consumer who takes water and every consumer, by taking water agrees to be bound thereby.

Application and Contracts:

2. No person shall uncover, connect with, make any opening into, use, alter or disturb, in any manner, any main or service line already part of the water system without first obtaining a permit in writing from the Authority.

3. Application for a permit requirement under subsection 2 of this section shall be made by the owner of the improved property served or to be served.

4. No person shall make or shall cause to be made a connection of any improved property to a main or service line until such person fulfills each of the following conditions:

a. notify the Authority of the desire and intention to connect such improved property to a main or service line;

b. apply for and obtain a permit as required by these Rules and Regulations;

c. give the Authority at least forty-eight (48) hours notice before such connection shall be made in order that the Authority may supervise, inspect or may cause to be supervised and inspected the work of connection and necessary testing; and

d. if applicable, furnish satisfactory evidence to the Authority that any tapping (or connection) fee which may be charged and imposed by the Authority against the owner of each improved property who connects such improved property to the Authority system has been paid.

5. Any property owner desiring the introduction of a service line or lines from the Authority's main to curb or his/her premises must first make written application on a form furnished by the Authority. The property owner or his duly authorized Attorney must sign the application. Upon approval by the Authority the application becomes a contract.

6. Any person desiring a supply of water must first make written application on a form furnished by the Authority, which must be approved by the Authority before water service is turned on. The party making the application will be considered the consumer under this contract and will be responsible for the property water bills until he/she give written notice to the Authority requesting discontinuance of service, or until service has been discontinued by the Authority for some other reason. All new consumers will be served through meters at the expense of the property owner. Upon approval by the Authority the application becomes a contract.

7. The owner of a property is responsible for all debt whether or not paid by the tenant. Failure to comply with this regulation will result in termination of water supply to that property.

User of Service:

8. The use of water service by a consumer shall be in accordance with the class, scope, and type use, and the purpose stated in his application and service contract. A consumer shall not use or allow use by others of water service through his service facilities for others or other purposes than covered in his application unless approved or required the by the Authority. A new application and contract will make service for other purposes, or character of use, available.

Service Connections:

9. Upon approval of the application for water service, the Authority will tap the main, furnish, install and maintain the service line from the main, to and including the curb stop and curb box. The applicant must reimburse the Authority for cost of any paving permit required and the cost of repaving such opening/openings as may be made in any street or highway in connection with the installation of the service line covered by the application. There is also a seven hundred fifty (\$750.00) dollar connection fee (\$1,000.00 if connection is between December 1st and April 1st). The water will be turned off if the Authority is not paid for these services. The Authority will be responsible for the maintenance and repairs of the service line between the main and curb stop, provided, that when and if a new service line is required, the property owner shall be responsible for and pay the cost of the connection fee. Service lines will not be installed when the service line passes over or through premises, which at the time may be the property of persons other than the owner of the premises to be supplied, unless the owner of the premises supplied assumes the liability.

10. All costs and expenses of construction of a building lateral and all costs and expenses of connection of a building lateral to a main shall be borne by the owner of the improved property to be connected; and such owner shall indemnify and save harmless the Authority from all loss or damage that may be occasioned directly or indirectly, as a result of construction of a building lateral or of a connection of a building lateral to a main.

11. A building lateral shall be connected to a main or service line at a place designed by the Authority, and where, if applicable, the lateral is provided. A smooth neat joint shall be made and the connection of a lateral to a service line shall be made secure and water tight.

12. The Authority will charge the property owners the cost of shutting leaking service lines off at the main when a leak appears on said service line from the main to the curb, and no consumption has been recorded for a period of six (6) consecutive months. Service lines will be replaced at the expense of the property owner.

13. The property owner shall furnish, install and maintain at his expense the service line from the curb stop into the premises.

14. The owner must promptly repair all leaks in service pipes and fixtures, in and upon the premises supplied beyond the curb line. Failure to make such repairs within reasonable dispatch, the Authority may discontinue service to the premises and will not resume service until all necessary repairs are made and fifty (\$50.00) dollars paid to cover the cost of shutting off and turning on the water.

15. All service lines outside the building shall be laid at a depth of not less than four (4) feet and shall be laid in accordance with Department of Environmental Protection regulations.

16. Notice must be left at the office of the Authority fourteen (14) days before any service line is to be put in, stating the street number and/or location, the name of the property owner, and the exact time when the trench will be ready for making the connection. The Authority will install the service at its earliest convenience.

17. Each property will be provided with a separate curb stop and curb box. Each improved property shall be connected separately and independently with a service line through a lateral. Grouping of more than one improved property to one lateral shall not be permitted, except under special circumstances and for good cause shown, but then only after special permission of the Authority, in writing, shall have been secured and subject to such rules, regulations and conditions as may be prescribed by the Authority.

18. Under no circumstances shall any person not authorized by the Authority turn the curb stop on or off.

19. When two or more consumers are supplied through a single service, any violation of the rules of the Authority with reference to either or any said consumers shall be deemed a violation to all, and the Authority may take such action as could be taken to a single consumer except that such action shall not be taken until the innocent consumer who is not in violation of the Authority's rule has been given a reasonable opportunity to attach his pipes to a separately controlled service connection.

20. The service line to which the Authority will attach a meter must be a separately controlled service line supplying a single consumer.

Multiple Service Through One Meter:

21. When two (2) or more dwelling units or businesses or professional offices or any combination thereof are supplied through one (1) meter, the minimum charge and gallons stated in each block will be multiplied by the number of dwelling units, businesses, or professional offices supplied.

Meter Service:

22. The Authority will furnish, install, and maintain a meter to size 5/8" on any service, at the expense of the property owner. Owner shall maintain any other size meter.

23. A meter shall be installed for all customers of the Authority at the expense of the owner.

24. The Authority will prepare, at the expense of the property owner, the pipe ready for the setting of the meter, the stop and washer or valve required to drain it. Whenever steam or hot water under pressure is used, the consumer shall install at his expense, a swing check valve to be placed directly ahead of the meter.

25. Meters shall be placed within the property lines, and in an accessible location within a building, and in no case shall any person other than an authorized representative of the Authority change, alter or interfere with the meter or dial thereof.

26. The consumer must at all times, properly protect the meter from injury by frost or any other causes, and will be responsible for the repairs or replacing of the meter.

27. All meters shall be furnished and installed by the Authority at the expense of the property owner and shall be owned by, and under the control of the Water Authority, and may be tested, inspected or repaired by the Water Authority employees whenever deemed necessary. The owner of the property upon which such measuring device is installed shall be responsible for its safekeeping, and all repairs thereto shall be made by the Water Authority at the property owner's expense, whether such repairs are made necessary by ordinary wear and tear or other causes. Bills for such installation and repairs shall be due and payable at the time and collected in the same manner as are the bills for service connections, such bills from and after their due date shall constitute a lien upon the property upon which such measuring device is installed.

28. Access to Meters: The Water Authority shall be responsible for the reading of all meters or measuring devices. For purposes of maintenance and operation and meter reading, the authority shall at reasonable times have access to meters, service connection, and other property owned by the Authority on the premises of a customer. The neglect or refusal on the part of a customer to provide reasonable access to the premises for purpose of maintenance and meter readings shall constitute sufficient cause for termination of water service.

29. When not feasible to place a meter within a building, a suitable meter box or masonry pit shall be built with a suitable cover with lock and key, at the expense of the property owner. A meter pit shall be at least two feet six inches (2' 6") in measurement, with cement floor and properly drained.

30. In case a meter malfunctions, it will be promptly changed or repaired by Authority and the bill will be estimated on the basis of the amount charged on a previous corresponding period.

31. (a) Should any consumer doubt the correctness of the meter measuring the water delivered to his/her property, he/she, may upon application to the Authority and making a deposit as set forth in the schedule below, to defray the cost, have said meter tested. Should the test show the meter in question to be correct within four percent (4%) the consumer shall forfeit the deposit made. On the other hand, should the test show the meter to be registering incorrectly beyond four percent (4%) of the accurate amount, said deposit shall be refunded and the account adjusted accordingly, and the entire cost of the test shall be borne by the Authority. Deposits required for meter tests are as follows:

5/8" to 1' meter	\$50.00
1.5" up to 8"-meter	Actual cost (not less than \$50.00)

(b) The Water Authority routinely monitors for containments in drinking water pursuant to Federal and State law. Annually the Water Authority publishes a Water Quality Report indicating its findings and the cleanliness of its water. Should any consumer question the quality of the drinking water supplied by the Water Authority, he/she may upon application to the Authority and making a deposit in the amount of \$50.00, to defray the cost, have said water tested. Should the test show the water quality to be within the guidelines set forth by Federal and State law and consistent with the annual water quality report, the consumer shall forfeit the deposit made. On the other hand, should the test show that the water does not meet the requirements of Federal and State law, said deposit shall be refunded and the Water Authority shall further investigate the reason for the deviation from the annual Water Quality Report.

Payment of Water Bills:

32. Bills will be rendered quarterly for service furnished the preceding quarter and are due and payable upon presentation.

33. If bills are not paid within twenty (20) days after they are due, penalty of ten percent (10%) will be added, except that in the case of the United States Government, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania or the local municipalities serviced or any department or institution thereof, the ten percent (10%) will not be added until thirty (30) days after the bill becomes due.

34. The Authority may notify a customer and terminate service provided to a customer after notice as provided below for any of the following actions by the customer:

- A. Non-payment of an undisputed delinquent account.
- B. Failure to complete payment of the deposit, provide a guarantee of payment or establish credit.
- C. Failure to permit access to meters, service connections or other property of the Authority for the purpose of replacement, maintenance, repair or meter reading.
- D. Failure to comply with the material terms of a payment arrangement.

Prior to disconnection, the Authority shall provide 14 days written notice. Any service disconnected on account of the reasons set forth above will not be reconnected until all arrearages and \$50.00 to cover the cost of turning the water off and on are paid.

35. Bills and notices relating to the Authority or its business shall be mailed or delivered to the applicant's last address as shown by the books of the Authority. The Authority shall not be responsible for delivery.

Vacancies:

36. Consumers desiring an abatement from water bills for vacancies, shall report the same in writing at the office of the Authority; and make arrangements to have the water meter removed from the property. All abatements shall date from the day the water meter is removed and service terminated. The Authority reserves the right to discontinue service to any vacant property.

37. When the service is discontinued, a fee of fifty (\$50.00) dollars will be imposed to cover costs of termination and resumption of service to the property.

Control of Supply and Liability for Damage:

38. The Authority shall not be liable for a deficiency or failure in supply when occasioned by shutting off water to make repairs or connections, or failures from any cause beyond its control. The Authority reserves the right to restrict the supply of water in case of scarcity or whenever the public welfare may require it. Notice of any interruption of service will be given when practical.

39. The Authority shall not be liable for any damage resulting from leaks, broken or frozen pipes, or any other cause occurring to or within any house or building along any service line, and it is expressly stipulated by and between the Authority and the consumer that no claims shall be made against the said Authority on account of the bursting, breaking, or freezing of any main or service pipe or any attachment to said Water Works.

Fire Hydrants:

40. No fire hydrant shall be opened or operated for any purpose without permission from the Authority, except in the case of a fire. Fire Companies desiring to test the hydrants of the fire fighting equipment will first obtain written permission from the Authority.

41. When a Borough desires the installation of a hydrant, such Borough shall pay the cost of the new hydrant and the installation thereof.

42. Whenever the location of a fire hydrant is ordered changed by a municipality, the change will be made by the Authority at the expenses of the municipality.

43. No water shall be used through a fire service line for any purpose other than extinguishing fires. No cross connection shall be made between any such private fire service line, regular water service, or supply line.

44. The Authority does not assume any liability as insurer of property or person and a consumer and/or customer receiving fire service will not be entitled in the event of fire to any service, pressure, capacity or facility other than that available at the time in view of the circumstances of the Authority, at that time.

45. The Authority shall not be liable for any damage or injury to any person or property by reason of any fire, water, and failure to supply water or pressure, or capacity or lack thereof due to any cause beyond the reasonable control of the Authority.

46. A municipality shall bear all expenses incurred to elimination of fire hydrants in that borough. Cost will include removal of main line to said hydrant and removal of hydrant. The above procedures are necessary to prevent stagnant water in that borough location.

Inspection and Access to Properties:

47. The Authority, by its duly authorized agents, shall at all reasonable hours, have access to the water pipe fixtures, and meters upon premises, or within the house, for the purpose of turning water off or on, examining the water pipes and fixtures, and for repairing, reading, or replacing the meters.

Extension of Street Mains:

48. Any present or prospective water consumer may apply for an extension of a water main, and if the Authority approves that request, the actual cost of such extension shall be paid by said consumer. Prior to or from time to time during work on said extension, the Authority may require said consumer to advance the total estimated cost of said extension on such part thereof as the Authority may deem necessary or prudent. When the extension is complete, the difference between the total deposited by the consumer, and the actual cost of the extension will be adjusted.

Connection Fee:

49. A connection fee of seven hundred fifty (\$750.00) dollars is charged for the connection from the Authority's main to the curb stop. A connection fee of one thousand (\$1,000.00) dollars is charged for the connection from the Authority's main to the curb stop if the connection is made between December 1st and April 1st.

Frozen Water Service Policy:

50. The Authority will maintain the components of the Public Water Distribution System. This includes water distribution mains, valves, hydrants and other components. Private property owners are responsible for the maintenance of water distribution components from their property up to and including the connection to the public system.

51. All owners and customers shall keep their service pipes, service components, curb stops and apparatus in good repair and protection from frost, at their own risk and expense. All water taken or used from the Authority Water System, unless otherwise ordered by the Authority Board of Directors, must be metered and paid for, except water used in putting out fires.

52. If the coldest temperature of the water to a customer drops to 40° Fahrenheit or below, that customer has an impending freeze up and frost may be getting close to the service line. When this occurs, the property owner/customer should run a small stream of water at all times. A stream of water approximately the width of a pencil should allow the continued passage of water through the water lines. The customer should leave the water running until the frost is out of the ground and the risk of freezing has passed.

The cost associated with this preventive measure will be incurred by the property owner; however, it may be less expensive than the plumbing repairs needed if the water line freezes. This is at the property owners' discretion.

53. If water services do freeze, the Authority advises the customer to contact a licensed plumber immediately. Once lines have been thawed, property owners, customers are advised to contact the Authority so that the issue can be documented. The expense incurred for the needed thawing will be the responsibility of the customer and can range from several hundred to a thousand dollars depending on the length of the customer service and where the thawing equipment can be hooked up. Other potential damage may occur during the freezing or thawing process, such as cracked water line or stray voltage.

Changing of Rules and Regulations:

54. The Authority reserves the right to change or amend from time to time these Rules and Regulations, and the Rates for use of water.

Violation of Rules:

55. A violation of Rules 2, 4, 8, 18, 25, 40, 43, or 47 will result in a penalty or fine to the customer in the amount of five hundred (\$500.00) dollars. Each violation of this Rule, or each day that a continuing violation occurs, shall result in a similar five hundred (\$500.00) dollar fine. Any fines set forth in these Rules and Regulations shall be due and payable at the time that such fines are assessed by the Authority and collected in the same manner as are the bills for water service. Such bills from and after their due date, shall constitute a lien upon the property to which the service was rendered and/or the violation occurred.

Board of Directors

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