About System Development Charges

A System Development Charge (SDC) is a one-time fee to connect a new property to the water system. New connections increase the demand for water and create a need for system upgrades. SDCs are used to offset the cost of system improvements, and can only be spent on new source, transmission mains, pumping stations and reservoirs. In essence, it’s “growth” paying for “growth.”

TVWD assesses infrastructure needs and updates Capital Improvement Projects (CIP) yearly. However, every three to five years, an outside engineering firm reviews the adequacy of our SDCs based on projected CIP requirements. SDCs would require significant increases if only adjusted every three to five years. State law allows us to adjust SDCs yearly instead of one large fee increase every three to five years. TVWD uses the Engineering News Record Construction Cost Index for the Seattle area as a basis for adjusting SDCs because this index locale is the closest to our District.

Thank You For Your Water Meter Purchase

Tualatin Valley Water District is Oregon’s second largest municipal water provider, serving portions of Portland, Beaverton, Tigard, Hillsboro, and Washington County. Moving more than 23 million gallons of water through our system every day, we play an important role in the economic development of our region. We’re proud of what we do!

Tualatin Valley Water District

Delivering the Best Water ◆ Service ◆ Value

1850 SW 170th Ave
Beaverton, OR 97003
(503) 642-1511
www.tvwd.org
Thank you for your meter purchase. These tips may help you cut down on expenses and save you valuable construction time.

### Before Purchasing Your Meter

When purchasing your water meter, we will need a copy of the building permit with an address and information to determine the plumbing fixture count for the home being built. A “Sizing of Residential Water Meter Work Sheet” can be found on our Web site at [www.tvwd.org](http://www.tvwd.org) for your convenience or you may come prepared with the information at the time of purchase to complete this work sheet. The size of the water meter will be based upon this fixture count.

We will also ask five additional questions to assist our cross connection control department in maintaining the safety of our water system. These questions are:

1. Is there an auxiliary water source, i.e. well, pond or creek at this property?
2. Is this property going to have an underground irrigation system?
3. Is this property going to have a fire sprinkler system?
4. Is this property going to have a decorative water feature (pond or swimming pool)?
5. Is this property going to have a solar unit or boiler?

### Your Responsibilities Before Installation:

- Stake the location and grade if service is not in a subdivision.
- Make the meter location accessible. Keep the area free of debris.
- Replace a broken or missing meter box. Meter boxes are available at local water works supply outlets. Call the District to verify the current meter box to be replaced and when this is complete. If we arrive to install the meter at your request and the repairs are incomplete, a fee will be assessed.
- Inform TVWD if you have changed your address or phone number.
- Please allow 10-14 business days for meter installation.
- TVWD will assess a $150 fine if the plumber connects to the meter stop without a meter at any time.
- The plumber will replumb the backside of the direct hookup.

### Now That You’ve Bought A Water Meter, TVWD Will:

- Please allow 10-14 business days for meter installation.
- Make sure the meter box is intact and set to grade. This is done when the copper service is installed.

### Protect The Meter After Installation

- Do not tamper with the meter after installation! It’s a violation to remove the meter and connect directly to the District service line. A $500 fine will be assessed.
- Removing the meter tailpiece and connecting directly to the meter will result in TVWD shutting off and locking the meter until appropriate repairs are made by the builder. A fine will be assessed.
- A missing or stolen meter will be assessed at the current replacement rate. Payment for the meter replacement must be made at the District office before re-installation.
- If you break the curb stop (the shutoff at the meter) you will be billed for the repair. If you damage the Water District service line, you will be billed time and materials for the repair.
- Call (503) 642-1511 if you need assistance.

The term “meter purchasing” refers to buying the right to use the water meter and paying for the demand on TVWD’s water system. TVWD owns the physical water meter and the fitting behind the meter.