



West Iredell Water Company

Fire Hydrant Use Procedure

(704) 873-1658 - Office

(704) 902-3768 - Cell

The permit holder is responsible for the following procedures and may be held liable for repairs and be subject to other enforcement actions for not adhering to these procedures. The permit holder is responsible for teaching proper operation procedures to his hydrant users. This includes water truck drivers or any other employee of the company that operates hydrants for any reason. The guidelines are as follows:

1. **Call West Iredell Water Company at (704) 873- 1658 anytime you plan to take water from a hydrant.** *If a WIWC staff member is required to be on-site prior to 8:00 a.m., after 4:00 p.m., weekends or holidays, then the permit holder will be billed by the West Iredell Water Company for the staff member's overtime at 1.5 times the staff member's regular rate of pay.*
2. **Safety first.** Prior to operation, the permit holder shall verify that the hydrant is not movable, and in the event that it is unstable, damaged, leaking, or unsafe, should immediately stop using it and call West Iredell Water Company at (704) 873-1658.
3. **Backflow protection is required in the form of an approved 6" air gap or an approved and tested RPZ (reduced pressure zone assembly) on all tanker trucks and water tanks.**
4. The permit holder shall a) use a fire hydrant wrench specifically designed and manufactured to open and close a fire hydrant; b) not use any additional torquing device (cheater bar, pipe wrench, etc.) to open or close a fire hydrant; and c) not leave hoses, etc. connected to a fire hydrant when not in use.
5. The permit holder shall operate a fire hydrant properly by **SLOWLY** opening the hydrant to a **FULLY open position** when in use and **SLOWLY** closing the hydrant to a **completely closed position** when not in use. **A hydrant operated in a partially opened or closed position will cause water to blow out from the hydrant's drain or weep hole into the bedding material supporting the hydrant. This blown out water will wash out the bedding material supporting the hydrant thus possibly causing damage to the hydrant and creating a safety hazard. The permit holder will be held accountable for damage to hydrants due to improper operation.**
6. To minimize wear and tear and minimize costly damage due to the opening and closing of hydrants, the permit holder shall attach a gate valve to the pumper nozzle so hydrants can be left open during times of routine use **unless there is danger of freezing.** The permit holder must remove the valve from the hydrant on a daily basis.
7. The permit holder is liable for any property damages and/or damage to the hydrant or infrastructure due to misuse or improper operation of the hydrant.
8. The permit holder is responsible for submitting a monthly water usage report to West Iredell Water Company by the 5th of each month for water used during the previous month.

Hydrant Use Violations

1st violation \$500.00

2nd violation \$1,000.00

(November 2007)