

Houghton Township Resolution 2023-2

Eagle River Water Service Regulations and Rates

In accordance with the Eagle River Water Service Ordinance, the Township of Houghton, Keweenaw County, Michigan, governing body of Eagle River Water Service, shall have the authority to modify, enlarge, and amend Eagle River Water Service Regulations and Rates from time to time to meet changing conditions and circumstances and to promote the health, safety, and general welfare of the Township.

1. Meter readings will be done quarterly on the last working days of March, June, September, and December. Bills for the previous quarter based on those readings will be sent out in early April, July, October, and January, and are due in 30 days.
2. All properties with connections to the water service system shall pay the monthly Maintenance Fee. (These fees fund system maintenance, repair, and improvements.)
3. All connected properties shall pay the Water Service Fee for all months their water service is turned on. The monthly Water Service Fee includes up to 1000 gallons per month. Additional usage is billed at the listed rate per 1000 gallons.
4. Any turn-offs or turn-ons not done by an authorized employee of the Township will not be recognized by the Township and billing will continue.
5. The grace period for turn-offs and turn-ons is 5 days. Examples:
 - a. Requests to have the water shut off on October 5th or before will not be charged the Water Service usage fee for October.
 - b. Requests to have the water turned on May 27th or later will not be charged the Water Service usage fee for May.
6. Leaking service lines, fixtures, and piping on the owner's side of the Township shut-off valve are the responsibility of the property owner. This does not include the water meter, which is owned by the Township. If an owner fails to repair such leaks, the Township may terminate water service after a two-week notice. If the leak is excessive or could cause a system failure, the Township may immediately terminate water service until the leaks are repaired.
7. A late charge will be assessed on any outstanding balance not paid within 30 days after the bill was issued. The Township may terminate water service after a two-week notice if the bill is not paid by the next quarterly billing. Example:
 - a. If a bill was issued on July 3, then a payment would be considered late if received after August 2 unless August 2 falls on a holiday or weekend, in that case the payment must be received by the first business day after August 2.
 - b. If this July bill is not paid by the time the next quarterly billing is issued in October, then the Township will send a notice giving the customer two additional weeks to pay their overdue bill and late fees. If not paid, then the Township may terminate water service.
 - c. To reinstate water service the Township may require a Service Deposit.

8. A check recovery fee will be assessed by the Township for check payments that are returned for lack of funds.
9. All owners must comply with the Township Cross Connection Ordinance. The main purpose of this ordinance is to prevent wells from being used in conjunction with the water system which could lead to system contamination.
10. Any new installations or plumbing repairs must be lead-free.
11. The existing hydrants shall not be used for any purpose other than Township authorized system flushing without the prior approval of the Township. (The current hydrants are too small to be effectively used as Fire Hydrants.)
12. If a residential water system user is asked to let their water run to prevent pipes from freezing, they will only be charged the minimum Water Service fee along with the Maintenance fee. They will not be charged for the extra water used. If a commercial customer is asked to let their water run to prevent pipes from freezing, they will be charged their normal Service and Maintenance fees and for the actual gallons used or the number of gallons that they used in the previous year for that period, whichever is less.
13. Properties without existing water connections must pay the Township the one-time New Customer Connection Fee and are responsible for all costs associated with tapping into the main and running the service line to their house or business. This includes a Township approved underground shut-off valve and buffalo box.
14. Rate Schedule:

Item	Residential		Commercial	
	Rate	Comment	Rate	Comment
Water Service Fee	\$15.00	Includes initial 1000 gallons per mo.	\$15.00	Includes initial 1000 gallons per mo.
Each Additional 1000 Gallons	\$4.50		\$4.50	
Maintenance Fee per Month	\$30.00		Gallons used previous year/50,000 x \$30.00.	Not less than \$30.00
Turn-on Fee	\$35.00	Up to 1 hour; \$30.00/hour for additional time	\$35.00	Up to 1 hour; \$30.00/hour for additional time
Turn-off Fee	\$35.00	Up to 1 hour; \$30.00/hour for additional time	\$35.00	Up to 1 hour; \$30.00/hour for additional time
New Customer Connection Fee	\$1,000		\$1,000	
Service Deposit	\$0*	*Up to quarterly minimum for reinstated customers	\$0*	*Up to quarterly minimum for reinstated customers
Late Fee	1.5% per month of the balance due		1.5% per month of the balance due	
Check Recovery Fee	\$25.00		\$25.00	

15. Eagle River Water System Service Area: Map attached.

This Eagle River Water Service Regulations and Rates Resolution was approved and adopted by the Houghton Township Board at a regular meeting held at the Houghton Township Community Center on _____ at _____ p.m.

Wanda Kolb
Houghton Township Clerk

