

ILLEGAL TAKING OF WATER AND FAILURE TO hook UP TO WATER FROM THE CITY OF PETERSBURG

ILLEGAL TAKING OF WATER:

There are two instances of taking water from the City that are illegal and will subject the violator to a fine.

The first instance is the taking of water from a fire hydrant. Section 13.03.002 of the Petersburg Code of Ordinances provides that it shall be unlawful for any unauthorized person, firm, or corporation to take water from any fire hydrant located within the city limits of Petersburg. The fine for doing so will cost you no less than \$25.00 or not more than \$200.00 for each violation. Each and every day that this section is violated is a separate and distinct offense.

Authorized city personnel and members of the Fire Department may take water for city use and from time to time you will also see city personnel or volunteers from the Fire Department flushing water from the hydrants. This is a normal maintenance item and is not prohibited by the Ordinance.

The second instance is when any person, persons, firm or corporation, who is not an employee of the City, opens a locked water meter or turns on a water meter to allow passage of water through the meter once water service has been shut off to a property. Additionally it is illegal for any person, persons, firm or corporation to tap into the water system of the City for any purpose without first obtaining written permission from the City. A violation of this section (13.03.054) of the Petersburg Code of Ordinances carries a fine not to exceed \$500.00 for each violation. Each day there is a failure to comply with the terms of this Ordinance shall constitute a separate and distinct offense. Furthermore, the violator will be subject to arrest under the theft of service statutes.

Water utility services provided by the City shall be assessed a Lapse (15%) penalty as a late fee if payment is not received by the city before the eleventh (11th) day of the month. Water service shall be terminated if payment is not received by the City by 11:00 a.m. on the twentieth (20th) day of the month. Whenever the 20th day of the month falls on a weekend or on a holiday the termination action will occur on the next business day following the weekend day or holiday.