



**Town of Forest City
PO Box 728
Forest City NC 28043**

The Town of Forest City's potable water system is a vital service provided to the Town's citizens and it is an integral part of the Town's infrastructure. The Town works diligently to maintain and protect the potable water system which includes use of the Town's fire hydrants. The purpose of this policy is to maintain and protect the integrity of the potable water system and minimize damage to hydrants and the distribution system due to unauthorized and/or misuse of fire hydrants. This policy is applicable to any unauthorized user.

1. Unauthorized use of the Town's fire hydrants is considered tampering with a public water supply.
2. Except as provided below, the Town's fire hydrants shall not be used or operated by anyone other than authorized officials of a recognized fire department or Town of Forest City personnel. Use of fire hydrants is limited to firefighting, hydrant testing, or flushing for water quality.
3. The Town does provide a fire hydrant at Town Hall located at 128 N Powell Street that can be utilized as a filling location by parties who establish a water supply account with the Town ("Permitted User"). An account can be established at the Finance Office located at Town Hall. A Permitted User will be billed monthly for any and all water obtained at the filling location. Failure to pay any and all sums due and owing for water used shall result in the revocation of the right to use the filling location.
4. The Permitted User is responsible for any property damage, and/or damages to the hydrant or infrastructure due to misuse or improper operation of the hydrant.
5. Any unauthorized use of a Town fire hydrant or theft of water shall subject the violator to the following:
 - First Violation – Fine of One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00) plus any incurred damages.
 - Second and Subsequent Violations Within a Year – Fine of Two Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$2,500.00) plus any incurred damages.
6. Past due amounts for water used and associated fines and damages must be paid in full before access to the filling location will be permitted or restored.

Anonymous tips from our customers are an important means to investigate and stop bulk water theft. If you notice anyone other than an authorized official utilizing a fire hydrant or see any suspicious activities that indicate theft or tampering with a fire hydrant, please call (828) 245-0149 to report it.