

**TOWN OF FAIRHAVEN  
BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS**



**WATER METER REPLACEMENT POLICY**

"Meters will be supplied by the Public Works Department, with a rental charge as required on the fee schedule.

Any person employed by the Fairhaven Board of Public Works, at the direction of the BPW or Water Superintendent, may at any time enter any premises supplied with municipal water for the purpose of examining or removing meters, pipes, fittings and works for supplying or regulating the supply of water and of ascertaining the quantity of water consumed or supplied in accordance with the Mass. General Laws and Board policies and regulations.

The Department reserves the right to remove, repair or replace any meter at any time it deems necessary. Meters shall be repaired and replaced from time to time as deemed necessary in order to ensure their accuracy.

All repairs or injuries to meters from freezing, hot water, or external causes shall be charged to the consumer.

Water users who do not respond to notification to make an appointment to change their meter will:

- Pay current rates for any underbilling that is discovered when the meter is swapped out;
- Shall be charged a \$50 per month surcharge on their water bills;
- Shall be subject to water being shut off;
- Other additional penalties as provided by Massachusetts General Laws"

Massachusetts law allows additional penalties for tampering, including up to one year in prison, which the Board may pursue at its discretion."

Approved by the Board of Public Works – 11/19/07