TACOMA WATER
TACOMA PUBLIC UTILITIES

3628 S 35th St
Tacoma WA 98409-3192

TACOMA PUBLIC UTILITIES

Hydrant Use Permit Policy:

Ensuring the security and safety of your life and property requires not only fire-fighting protection from local departments, but also Tacoma's water, and the Tacoma Water hydrants that help dispense that water during emergencies. We maintain a comprehensive fire hydrant program to ensure reliability of 10,500 fire hydrants. This Includes installation, inspection, testing, servicing, replacement, painting and supplying water at specific flow rates. Water quality is maintained under our unidirectional and dead end main flushing programs.

All hydrant usage requirements are pursuant to **Tacoma Municipal Code 12.10.305**. Failure to comply with any of the requirements through unauthorized and/or improper hydrant use may result in the revocation of the hydrant use permit and/or issuance of a $1,000 penalty for each occurrence.

Hydrant use for non-firefighting purposes is conditional upon the following:

1. **Hydrant training completion**
2. **Backflow prevention review/approval**
3. **Hydrant use application review and approval**
4. **Payment of applicable fees**

Hydrant Use Training -

1. All persons wishing to use our fire hydrants must first obtain a training certification card from Tacoma Water. Free training will be provided by Tacoma Water personnel. Arrangements for training can be made by contacting our **Hydrant Shop at 253-502-8473, or 253-377-8531 Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.**

   Hydrant Meter Information:

   Hydrant meters are measuring devices and must be treated gently. The case is cast aluminum and can be cracked, scarred, etc., if not protected from heavy equipment or abuse. Do not drop the meter. Do not allow the hydrant meter to freeze - it will break. The customer will be charged for damage to the meter main case, meter register, register cap, measuring element or any other part of the metering assembly if it is determined that the damage was due to neglect, abuse or accident.

   The inlet and outlet fire hose fittings shall not be removed from the hydrant meter housing - they are part of the meter. If the customer needs to connect in a different manner then they must acquire adapter fittings to connect to the existing fire hose fittings which are already part of the meter. Those fittings may be acquired from commercial plumbing suppliers.

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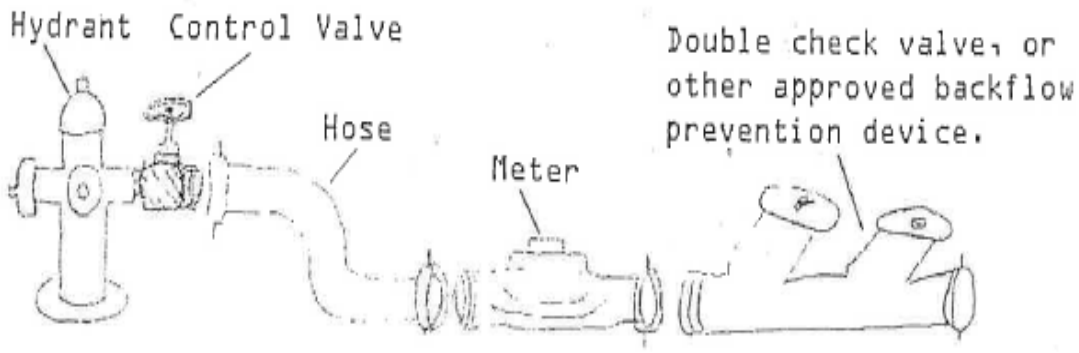
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The customer is required to use a control valve **(NO BALL VALVES)** to connect to the side-port of the hydrant they have been approved to use. The Tacoma Water Meter Shop will provide a 10' fire hose to connect the control valve to the hydrant meter which shall lay on the ground (see diagram). Some form of approved back-flow prevention shall be used down-stream of the hydrant meter to protect it and the Tacoma Water system from any forms of contamination. Do not allow the fire hose to be drug, cut, burned, etc. Do not allow the hose ends to be damaged. Excessive wear on the fire hose or its ends will be cause for charging the customer for hose repair or replacement at the discretion of Meter Shop personnel.

YOU MUST USE THE HOSE TO SET METER ON THE GROUND



Fire Hydrant Operating Procedures:

Fire hydrants must always be available for fire protection purposes since they are the most important tools for the fire fighter. Tacoma Water is responsible for maintaining all fire hydrants and keeping them in a state of readiness. Toward that end, the cooperation of all persons using fire hydrants is required, and the following fire hydrant operating procedures must be adhered to. The use of fire hydrants is a privilege, not a right.

i. Before operating the fire hydrant, grasp the hydrant by the bonnet (top) and attempt to move it. If there is **ANY** movement, **DO NOT** turn the operating nut. Immediately call the Water Division. Never remove hydrant port caps until the hydrant is checked for complete closure. Serious Injury could be the result.

ii. The use of the fire hydrants by persons other than the Fire Department requires the installation of a control gate valve(s) mounted on the side port(s). The side port Is 2-1/2 inch with National Insurance Association threads. **Ball valves are not approved for use.**

iii. When a backflow prevention device is required as a condition of the hydrant use, it shall be mounted on a skid, on the ground, next to the hydrant, with a gate valve connected to the hydrant port.

iv. To operate the fire hydrant, a close fitting five-sided wrench approved by the Water Division must be used. **DO NOT** use a pipe wrench or a wrench that is worn to the extent that it may damage the operating nut. The use of an incorrect wrench is cause to have the hydrant use permit revoked, and charges for any repairs that are necessary to fix the hydrant to be invoiced.

v. After installing the control gate valve(s), open the fire hydrant by turning the operating nut to the left (counterclockwise), slowly and steadily and always enough to prevent any chattering of the hydrant main valve, until the hydrant is completely open, then release the tension on the stem by turning the operating nut one turn to the right (clockwise). Once the fire hydrant is on, the flow should be adjusted with the gate valve, **NOT** the operating nut.

vi. Close the hydrant very slowly, especially as the valve approaches its seating position, for scissors style hydrants it should then be firmly seated, on compression style hydrants once it is seated back it off 1/4 turn. When the hydrant is closed the mechanically actuated drain or drip valve is automatically opened, allowing the water in the barrel to drain out.

vii. After closing the fire hydrant and removing the control valve(s), be sure the hydrant cap(s) are properly replaced on the outlet(s).

viii. Please report any hydrant deficiencies to Tacoma Water in order that the fire department may be advised when the fire hydrant is out of service and repairs are to be made.

ix. If the hydrant use creates a dirty water problem in the system, the permit shall be revoked. Another hydrant may be assigned for use.

x. The Water Division will inspect the fire hydrant after the permit has expired. The permit holder will be invoiced for the repair costs of any damage found.

Backflow Prevention –

2. Use of Tacoma Water fire hydrants is conditional upon the proper installation of approved backflow prevention. The type of backflow prevention required will depend on the intended use of the water. There are three types of backflow prevention that will be accepted by Tacoma Water, they are a double check valve assembly (DCVA), reduced pressure backflow assembly (RPBA), and an air gap (AG). For further guidance regarding the backflow prevention requirement, please contact our **Water Quality Assurance team at 253-502-8215 Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.** Failure to comply with Tacoma Water's backflow prevention requirements may result in suspension and/or termination of the hydrant use permit and application of a $1000.00 penalty per occurrence. The table below details the type of backflow preventer to be used in specific applications. You must contact our **Water Quality Assurance team at 253-502-8215** for specific requirements if your intended usage is not listed.

A copy of a valid backflow test report is required prior to the issuance of a hydrant use permit. This report may be attached directly to the Hydrant Use Application.

Intended Water Use	DCVA	RPBA	AG
Filling potable water tanker trucks or portable tanks	X	X	X
Filling non-potable water tanker trucks or tanks		X	X
Filling ponds or basins		X	X
Direct hydrant use for dust control or construction activity	X	X	
Filling potable water lines for testing	X	X	
Operating or cooling water for equipment		X	
Filling vactor trucks		X*	X*
Filling hydro-seeding truck		X*	X*
Flushing sewer or storm drain lines		X*	X*

* - Hydrants used for hydro-seeding, vactor truck filling or flushing sewers and/or storm drains must use both an RPBA at the hydrant and an AG at the hose outlet – No exceptions.

The backflow prevention assembly must be installed per the illustrations found in this document. Flow from the hydrant must be controlled by the gate valve attached to the hydrant port. Flow must never be controlled using the hydrant operating nut or the ball valves on the backflow prevention assembly. The backflow prevention assembly or meter must never be direct connected to/suspended from the hydrant port.

Specific requirements for each method of backflow preventions are as follows:

DCVA – Must be located at the Tacoma Water meter unless specifically approved by Water Quality Assurance. May be set on the ground.

AG – Must have a separation of at least two times the supply pipe diameter. Separation distance is measured between the lowest point of the supply pipe and the top of the receiving vessel.

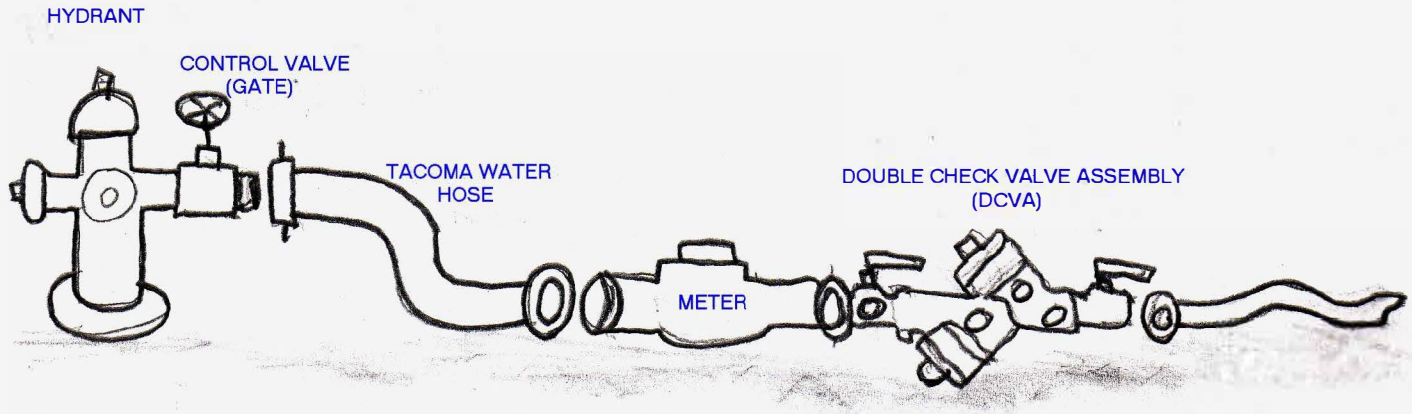
RPBA – Must be installed with the relief valve a minimum of 12 inches above the ground. Must use support stands to maintain elevation. Assembly must be installed horizontally with relief valve pointed down.

All backflow prevention assemblies must be models listed on the University of Southern California's Foundation for Cross-Connection Control & Hydraulic Research (www.usclist.com).

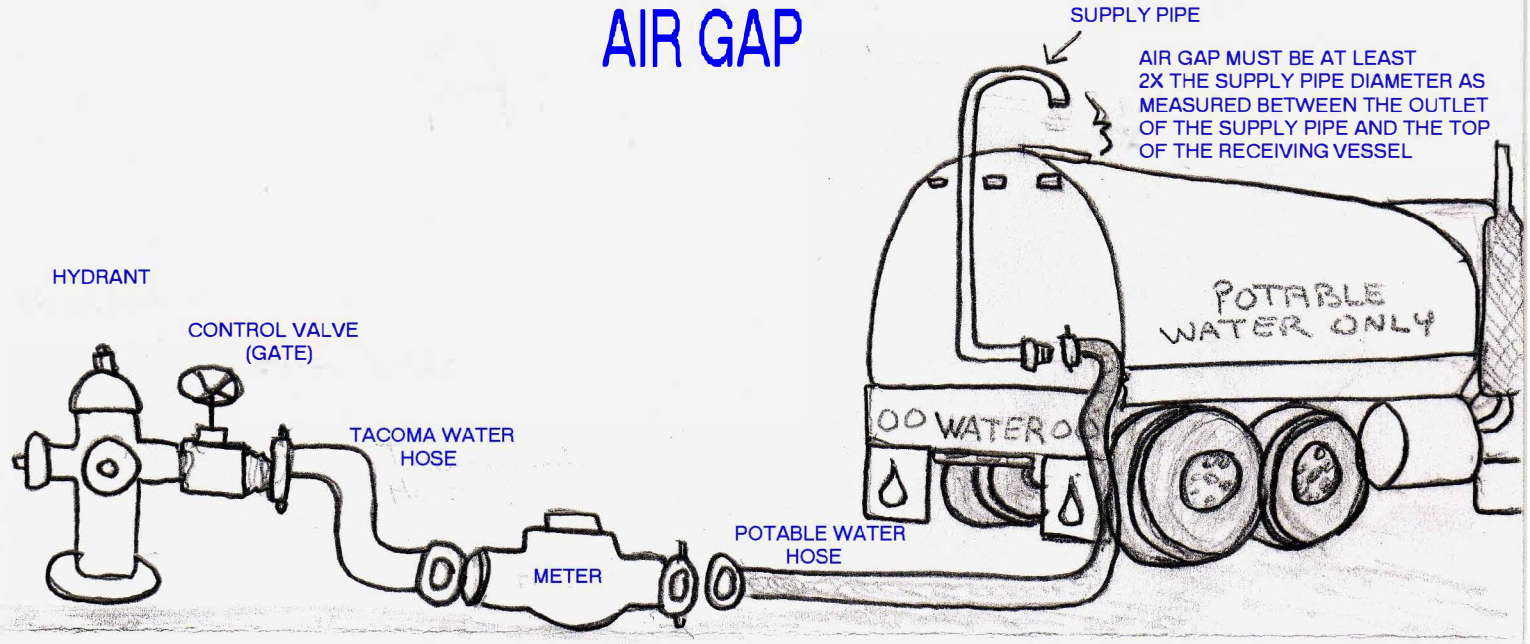
The assemblies must be configured as shipped by the manufacturer.

All assemblies must have been tested by a State of Washington Certified Backflow Assembly Tester within the previous 12 months. Tacoma Water may require more frequent testing.

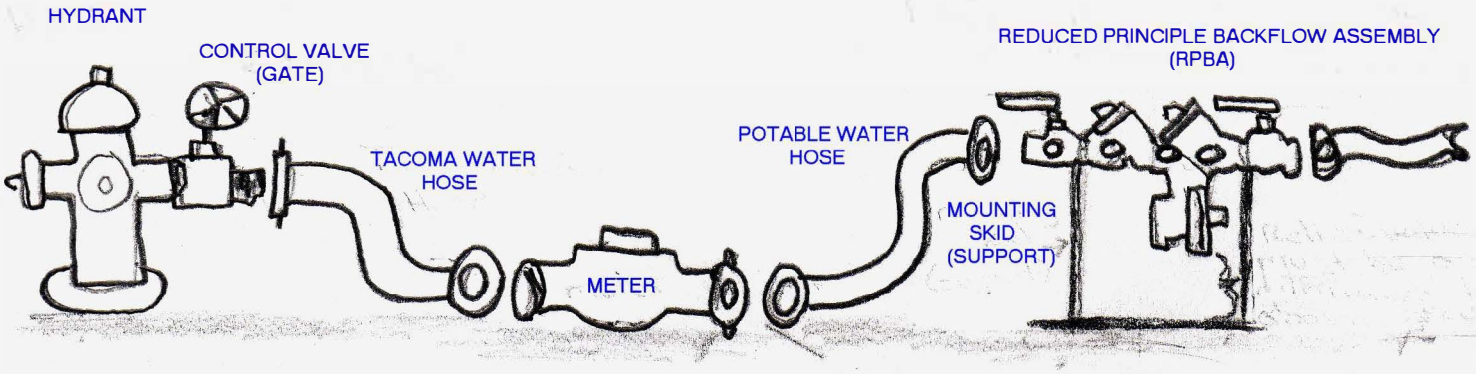
DOUBLE CHECK VALVE ASSEMBLY



AIR GAP



REDUCED PRINCIPLE BACKFLOW ASSEMBLY



Hydrant Use Permit Application -

3. Upon completion of steps 1-2 above, visit **www.mytpu/water** to complete the **Hydrant Use Permit Application**. Once the application is submitted, notification of approval or denial of the hydrant use application is typically received within one week. Should have further questions regarding the application process contact our **Construction & Development team at 253-502-8247 Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.**

4. Upon approval of the Hydrant permit application all applicable permit fees and meter deposit (if applicable) will be due. Payment arrangements may be made over the phone by calling our **Construction & Development team at 253-502-8247 Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.** Alternatively, check payments may be mailed or dropped off at our office located at **3628 S 35th St Tacoma, WA 98409.**

Conditions of Use –

- State code requires that you not park a vehicle, occupied or not, within 15-foot of a fire hydrant.
- Fire hydrant use permits are valid for a maximum of one year or the last calendar month the backflow device test report is valid, whichever comes first. Upon permit expiration, the meter and all appurtenances must be promptly returned to Tacoma Water.
- Permittee **MUST** submit consumption at the end of each month, as a condition of use for the Fixed Site and Multiple Site Permit to **hydrantbilling@cityoftacoma.org**.
- Monthly charges are per calendar month for each month the permit is valid or until the meter is returned, regardless of use. The monthly water use charge will not be pro-rated for partial months and is effective for months with no consumption. Applicable monthly charges are provided in the table below.

Residential, Commercial & Large Folume - Ready to Serve Charge						
Meter Size (Inches)	Inside City of Tacoma		Outside City of Tacoma		City of University Place	
	Rate Effective Dates					
	1/1/2025	1/1/2026	1/1/2025	1/1/2026	1/1/2025	1/1/2026
2	$223.74	$237.91	$268.71	$285.68	$288.62	$306.85

Commercial and Industrial - General Service						
Range in CCF (100 cubic feet)	Inside City of Tacoma		Outside City of Tacoma		City of University Place	
	Rate Effective Dates					
	1/1/2025	1/1/2026	1/1/2025	1/1/2026	1/1/2025	1/1/2026
For each CCF of water consumption	$2.783	$2.973	$3.340	$3.568	$3.587	$3.832

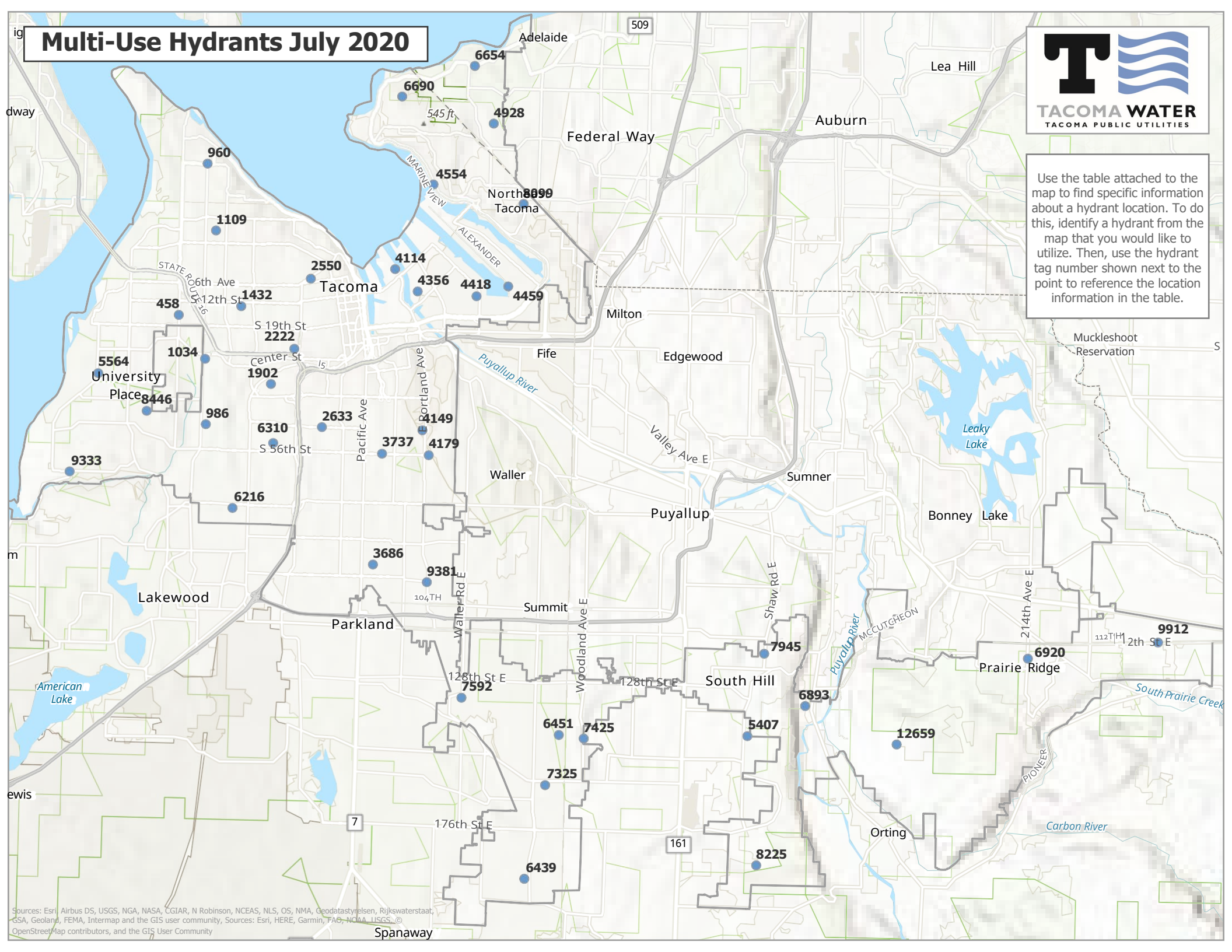
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Hydrant Use Permit Category and Fee Schedule –

Category	Fee
Category #1 – Fixed Site:** **Hydrant review and approval required**	Permit Fee $100 (one-time fee) Hydrant Meter Deposit $1,000* (one-time fee) Permittee is required to submit meter reads on a monthly basis Monthly Water Use Charge at the Inside/Outside Commercial Rate plus the Ready to Serve Charge for a 2-Inch Meter Penalty for Unauthorized Use $1,000
*Deposit to be refunded by the Division after return of the meter and appurtenances. All costs for hydrant and/or meter repairs/replacement caused by improper operation or theft of said equipment shall be deducted from the deposit. Refund of deposit will be initiated after payment of closing/final water bill and all applicable late fees. Costs exceeding the deposit amount will be billed to customer. If the Tacoma Water meter is not returned within 90 days of the permit expiration, the meter deposit will be forfeited. A deposit refund will not be allowed after it has been forfeited, if it is after 90 days of the permit expiration date, even if the meter is returned.	
Category #2 – Multiple Site*: **Preferred category, pre-approved hydrants**	Permit Fee $100 (one-time fee) Permittee is required to submit usage on a monthly basis Monthly Water Use Charge at the Inside/Outside Commercial Rate (based on estimated consumption**) plus the Ready to Serve Charge for a 2-inch Meter Penalty for Unauthorized Use $1,000
*Subcontractor would be allowed to use same permit as general contractor provided subcontractor meets all cross-connection requirements and name disclosed at issuance of permit.	
Category #3 – Short-Term **One day/minimal use**	$50 per truck per day* Penalty for Unauthorized Use $1,000
*Approved hydrant only	


Multi-Use Hydrants July 2020
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Use the table attached to the map to find specific information about a hydrant location. To do this, identify a hydrant from the map that you would like to utilize. Then, use the hydrant tag number shown next to the point to reference the location information in the table.
Adelaide
509
Lea Hill
Auburn
Federal Way
North Tacoma
Tacoma
Milton
Fife
Edgewood
Muckleshoot Reservation
Puyallup River
Leaky Lake
Sumner
Bonney Lake
Puyallup
Waller
Lakewood
Parkland
Summit
South Hill
Prairie Ridge
Orting
American Lake
South Prairie Creek
Carbon River
Spanaway
Valley Ave E
Pacific Ave
E Portland Ave
Waller Rd E
Woodland Ave E
Shaw Rd E
214th Ave E
PIONEER
MARINE VIEW
ALEXANDER
STATE ROUTE 16
6th Ave
12th St
S 19th St
Center St
S 56th St
104TH
112TH
128th St E
176th St E
545 ft
960
1109
458
1432
2550
4114
4356
4418
4459
4554
8899
2222
1034
5564
1902
8446
986
6310
2633
4149
3737
4179
9333
6216
3686
9381
7592
6451
7425
7325
6439
7945
6893
5407
12659
8225
6920
9912
6690
4928
Sources: Esri, Airbus DS, USGS, NGA, NASA, CGIAR, N Robinson, NCEAS, NLS, OS, NMA, Geodatastyrelsen, Rijkswaterstaat, GSA, Geoland, FEMA, Intermap and the GIS user community, Sources: Esri, HERE, Garmin, FAO, NOAA, USGS, © OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community

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Multi-Use Hydrant Locations
June 2020

Hydrant Tag Number	Street Address	Location Information
6439	5300 192nd St E	North side of 192nd St E, 400' west of Canyon Rd E
9381	9700 E Portland Ave	Southwest corner of Portland Ave E and 97th St E
7592	13300 30th Ave E	Across from 13305 30th Ave E, 500' south of Waller Rd E
7945	11700 Shaw Rd E	Southwest corner of Shaw Rd E & 117th St E
6893	13300 142nd Ave E	In front of 13324 142nd Ave E
5407	12300 144th St E	Across from 12300 144th St E
6451	14500 62nd Ave E	In front of 14514 62nd Ave E
7425	14600 70th Ave E	Northeast corner of 70th Ave E and 146th St Ct E
7325	16100 58th Ave E	Northwest corner of 58th Ave E and 161st St Ct E
8225	12400 184th St E	South side of 184th St E, east of Emerald Ridge High School
6920	11700 214th Ave E	Northeast corner of Tacoma Pipline R/W, 60' south of pump station outlet GV
12659	Tehaleh Blvd E & Cascadia Blvd E	Northeast corner of Tehaleh Blvd E and Cascadia Blvd E
9912	25600 112th St E	Northwest corner of 25610 112th St E
1432	1300 S Proctor St	Southeast corner of S Proctor St and S 13th St
458	1600 S Pearl St	Across from 1531 Pearl St S
5564	8500 35th St W	Northeast corner of Grandview Dr W and 35th St W
1034	3000 S Huson St	Southwest corner of S Huson St and S 30th St
986	4800 S 48th St	Across from 4832 S 48th St
8446	6900 44th St W	Northeast corner of 69th Ave E and 44th St W
6216	7400 S Madison St	West side, across from 7435 S Madison
9333	9200 64th St W	Southwest corner of Chambers Creek Rd W and 64th St W
4459	2400 E Alexander Ave	In front of 2431 E Alexander Ave
4418	3000 Marshall Ave	Port of Tacoma Rd and Marshall Ave
4356	1600 E 18th St	North side of 510' east of Stewart St
2550	1500 S 5th St	Northwest corner of S Cushman Ave and S 5th St
2222	2500 S State St	Northwest corner of S State St and S 25th St
4149	1500 E 48th St	North side of E 48th St, west of E Portland Ave
2633	4800 S Sheridan Ave	Northwest corner of S Sheridan Ave and S 48th St
1902	3000 S 36th St	Southwest corner of S Junett St and S 36th St
6310	2900 S 53rd St	Northeast corner of S Pine St and S 53rd St
3737	400 E 56th St	Northwest corner of E D St and E 56th St
4179	1700 E 56th St	Across from 1702 E 56th St
3686	200 E 92nd St	Northwest corner of E B St and E 92nd St
960	4600 N Orchard St	Northeast corner of N Orchard St and N 46th St
1109	4800 N 26th St	Northeast corner of N Mullen St and N 26th St
6654	4400 Dash Point Rd SW	Southeast corner of Dash Point Rd SW and 44th Ave SW
4928	33100 38th Ave Sw	Southeast corner of 38th Ave SW and 331st Pl SW
6690	2000 Fir St NE	In front of 6101 Dash Pt Blvd NE
8099	2700 Norpoint Way NE	West side of Norpoint Way NE, between 19th St N
4554	4300 Marine View Dr	West side of 4300 block of Marine View Dr
4114	900 E Portland Ave	West side, across from 951 E Portland Ave