## **City of Hurricane Water & Sewer**

3255 Teays Valley Road, PO Box 1086, Hurricane, WV 25526

Phone: 304-562-9906 Fax: 304-562-5858 Email: <u>utility@hurricanewv.com</u>

## **Water Theft Policy**

The City of Hurricane Water Board is pleased to provide its customers with high quality water at the lowest possible cost. People using water illegally, not only denies the water system money each year but also imposes costs on other paying customers.

The following conditions may cause us to be suspicious that water theft is occurring at a property:

- a. Meter reading that is lower than previous reading(s)
- b. Low consumption based on knowledge of average water consumption
- c. Low reading with a pool
- d. Meter in backwards
- e. Living on property and no application for service

Meters are the property of the City of Hurricane and are not to be tampered with in any way. Tampering includes turning meters on or off with authorization.

The West Virginia Public Service Commission code 61-3-45 states that:

Every person who, with intent to injure or defraud, connect, or cause to be connected, any pipe, tube, wire, electrical conductor or their instrument with any main, service pipe, or other pipe for conduit for conducting with any main, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction thereof, shall be confined in the county jail not exceeding twelve (12) months, or fined not exceeding one thousand (\$1,000.00) dollars, or both in the discretion of the court.

Tampering or stealing are a serious offense and will result in significant fines, labor costs as well as prosecution costs.