



STATE LAW REQUIRES SEPARATE IRRIGATION METERS

State law requires a separate irrigation meter for all new in-ground irrigation systems connected to the public water supply. The intent of this legislation, House Bill 2499, is to reduce water systems' vulnerability to drought and allow them a quicker response to water shortages. Residential customers needing a 3/4" irrigation service now have two options:

OPTION 1: SINGLE SERVICE LINE

For new construction with irrigation, one 3/4" line will be tapped onto the main, and two meters will be set from the 3/4" line. The full connection charge will be collected for the domestic service, while the tap fee for the irrigation will be reduced.

On an existing domestic service adding irrigation, a tee will be installed just before the domestic meter on the domestic line.

Backflow prevention device is typically installed beside house.

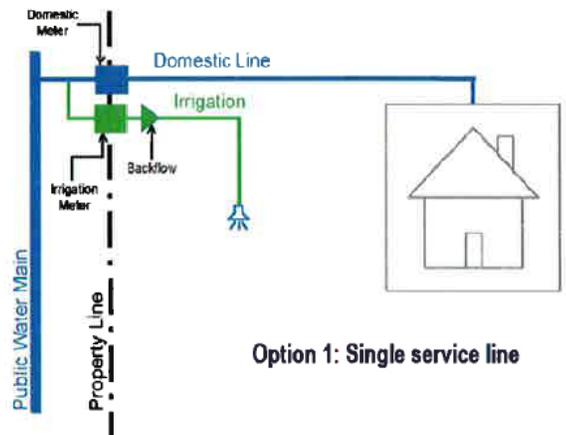
OPTION 2: DEDICATED SERVICE LINE

The customer can elect to have a separate tap and a separate line run to each meter box. In this case, the standard connection charges and tap fees will be assessed. This option may be necessary if the existing domestic meter is in a driveway or there is some other circumstance that prevents splitting off the single service line.

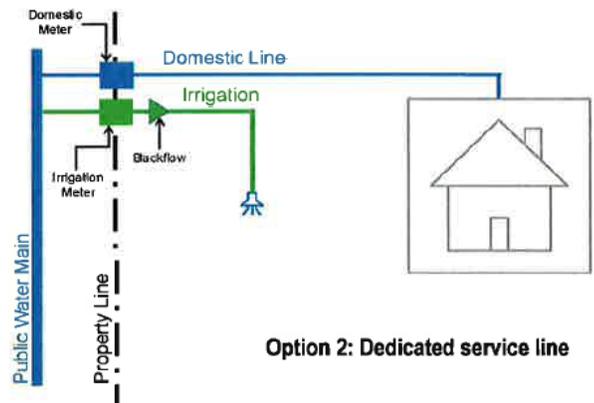
If customers need more than a 3/4" irrigation service, they may purchase larger services for added capacity.

Services larger than 3/4" will be tapped on the main with standard connection and tap fees.

Backflow prevention device is typically installed beside house.



Option 1: Single service line



Option 2: Dedicated service line

BACKFLOW PROTECTION

To ensure the safety of our community's drinking water, a backflow prevention device is required on in-ground irrigation systems. This prevents hazardous substances from inadvertently being drawn into the drinking water system, contaminating it.

The private water service connection (section of pipe between the meter and the backflow preventer including an isolation valve and the backflow preventer itself) serving the irrigation system must be installed by a North Carolina licensed plumbing or utility contractor. Workmanship and materials for this part of the system must be permitted and inspected by Town of Surf City Building Inspector.

Inspections of the private water service connection must be requested and scheduled by the contractor. Town of Surf City Inspections can be reached at 910-328-4131.

IRRIGATION CONTRACTORS

Installations of new in-ground irrigation systems costing \$2,500 or more must be performed by a North Carolina-licensed irrigation contractor, unless the work is done by the property owner, licensed professional engineer or a registered landscape architect. Exclusions include agricultural and nursery operations. Visit www.nciclb.org for details.

MORE INFORMATION

To request an irrigation meter or for meter and fee questions, call 910-328-4131 and ask for New Services. To request a backflow inspection, call 910-328-4131. For general backflow questions, please contact Building Inspections at 910-328-4131.

