



**What is involved in getting an irrigation meter?** BPW Customers can arrange to have a water meter installed on their property for irrigation. There is a charge for the installation of the meter and a monthly “Ready to Serve” charge applies to the new meter. Savings are realized by avoiding sewer charges on the irrigation consumption.

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**BACKGROUND:** Customers choosing to have a water meter installed on their property for the expressed purpose of irrigation may do so by contacting the BPW.

The costs associated with the installation of this meter are:

- Cost of meter and meter pit.
- Cost of meter installation.
- Monthly “Ready to Serve” charge.
- Cost of water used per month.

For more information on the BPW “Ready to Serve” charge, please see the information paper: ***Why do I pay a “Ready to Serve” Charge?***

Irrigation	Inside City	Outside City
5/8”	\$6.00	\$8.50
1”	\$7.75	\$11.65
All other irrigation	\$18.00	

This charge covers meter reading, meter replacement, standby by personnel, and other fixed costs. The meter, as well as the connections to outside faucets or irrigation systems, must be installed by a certified plumber and inspected by BPW staff.

The comparable sewer rates that normally accompany home water consumption do not apply to the irrigation meter water usage. The BPW staff can assist customers in assessing whether an irrigation meter will meet a “cost-benefit-analysis” based on customer usage history. BPW’s charge for water used by an irrigation meter is \$4.72 per 1,000 gallons in City limits and \$6.84 per 1,000 gallons outside City limits.

All irrigation meters must have a backflow preventor installed. For more information, [click here](#).

**QUESTIONS:** If you have further questions about the basis for the irrigation meter installation charge, please Contact the BPW main office at: 302-645-6228; e-mail us at: [customerservice@lewesbpwde.gov](mailto:customerservice@lewesbpwde.gov)