



NOTICE: MINIMUM \$300 PENALTY AND POSSIBLE LEGAL PROSECUTION FOR TAMPERING OR DAMAGE

Ref: (a) NLWA Bylaws
(b) MS Code § 97-25-3

1. Unlocking, reversing, bypassing, cross-connecting, or otherwise tampering with utility meters or water lines is a violation of Association bylaws (reference (a)) and Mississippi state law (reference (b)). If any person tampers with a meter or taps into NLWA lines, or otherwise manipulates or damages Association equipment, all water service to the affected property will be cut off and the member responsible for that account will be charged for any theft, damage, or loss of water and equipment plus a \$300 tampering penalty. If tampering occurs a second time or the incident harms another customer, the Association will file a formal report with law enforcement in addition to imposing the above measures.
2. The following specific actions are unlawful and prohibited for any person:
 - a. Stealing Association water.
 - b. Tapping or tampering with any water lines on the Association side of the customer meter.
 - c. Damaging, manipulating, or removing NLWA meters, lines, valves, locks, wires, antennas, or other equipment.
 - d. Connecting additional lines to a meter or a customer service line without approval from the NLWA Manager or Board. (As a general rule, if two structures require separate electric meters, they also require separate water meters.)
 - e. Cross-connecting any pipes or meters carrying NLWA water with any other public or private water system including wells, cisterns, septic or sewer systems, waste water or storm water systems, industrial process water, etc.
3. A broken or missing meter seal or lock, by itself, is sufficient evidence of tampering, regardless of meter reading.
4. A customer in good standing, with careful use of the appropriate tool, may shut off and turn on an unlocked meter serving their property to stop a leak or for a plumbing repair. This is not tampering. If in doubt, call the NLWA office first at the number above.

For the NLWA Board of Directors