

# **Garfield County RWD #6 Damage and Billing Policy/Procedure**

***\*This policy shall be utilized in the event of damage to a facility belonging to Garfield County RWD #6 where facilities were properly marked, surface/Earth was removed from the top of a facility, or no locate request was submitted as required by State Law\****

The term “facilities” includes, but is not limited to:

- Water lines
- Meter cans, pits, lids and equipment therein
- Valve boxes
- Line markers, tracer stations, and vent pipes
- Buildings and equipment therein
- Water Towers
- Fences/Barriers and equipment therein
- Communication systems and equipment associated with those systems

Removal of surface/Earth from above a facility that reduces the depth from the surface to a facility to below thirty inches deep constitutes damage to said facility.

The membership owner and/or property owner of where the damage took place shall be liable for damages and responsible for the costs/bill associated with repairing said damages.

It is at the District's sole discretion if damages can be repaired with the District's digging equipment and/or personnel, or if a contractor is required to make repairs. It is also at the District's sole discretion on which parts and/or materials are utilized in making repairs.

Bills for repairing damages must be paid in full within 30 days of the mailing date, unless other arrangements are made with the District and approved by the District Manager. The total bill will be configured based on the billing rates listed below:

- District digging equipment at a rate of \$90 per hour with a three-hour minimum, OR, if a contractor is used, that contractor's bill in total
- Labor at a rate of \$40 per hour per man with a 3-hour minimum
- Mileage Fee of \$0.67 per mile per truck. Mileage will be accumulated from the distance of the office located at 202 Main, Garber, OK 73738 to the location of the damage, and from the location of the damage back to the office.
- Estimated water lost resulting from damage at a rate of \$10 per one thousand gallons. This estimate is solely determined by District personnel and approved by the District Manager.
- Parts and/or materials used to repair the damage at current market price.

\*\*\*Billing and labor rates listed are subject to change to reflect current market and labor rates as determined by the District without prior notice given to the billed individual\*\*\*

Failure of the membership owner to pay for all repair and/or replacement costs for damaged or destroyed District property/facilities within 30 days of the mailing date of the bill will result in suspension of water service, and meter removal if required by the District. If water service is suspended for non-payment, the membership owner must also pay all fees associated with resuming service. If non-payment persists for 90 days or longer, the membership shall be forfeited, and the land owner must purchase a new membership if water service is requested to be resumed/re-activated.

In the event that damage to a District facility is caused by a person that is not the membership or property owner, that membership or property owner is still liable for said damage and responsible for the cost associated with repairing that damage.

All facilities that are either above ground, or that protrude above ground, such as valves or meter cans, are considered "marked" and do not require any additional "marker". It is the responsibility of the membership or property owner to locate and identify any and all District facilities associated with their property.

Marked water lines refers to a water line that is marked with vertical steel or PVC piping, flags, paint, or a combination of the aforementioned.