

**ORDINANCE FOR THE PREVENTION OF METER TAMPERING
WITHIN THE JURISDICTION OF THE TOWN OF HALIFAX,
NORTH CAROLINA**

INTERFERENCE WITH WATER/SEWER SYSTEM PROHIBITED

- 1. It shall be unlawful for any person, without having proper authority, to touch, alter, bypass, tamper or in any manner manipulate or turn the cut-offs on the water mains, water meters or fire hydrants forming a part of the water system of the Town of Halifax, nor shall any person without having proper authority tamper with or harm in any manner whatsoever any water or sewer line, water meter, sewer manhole, fire hydrant or any apparatus thereto.**
- 2. No person shall throw or deposit any material or substance in any water or sewer line of the Town of Halifax that will, in any manner, obstruct said line.**

LIABILITY FOR OBSTRUCTED SEWER LINES

Whenever it becomes necessary to open any sewer lines which have become choked or obstructed by material being placed in them that will not dissolve and whose fault is the property owner or the party using the property, the property owner shall be liable to the Town of Halifax for any damage, and said property owner shall bear the total expense of opening the line.

PROHIBITION AGAINST TRESPASS ON TREATMENT PLANTS

It shall be unlawful for any person, without having proper authority, to trespass or in any manner interfere with any waste or water treatment plant, raw water storage lakes or resources, stand pipes, elevated tanks or sewer lift stations.

PROHIBITION AGAINST OBSTRUCTION OF METER/HYDRANT

It shall be unlawful to plant or construct anything within ten (10) feet of a water meter or fire hydrant that will in any way prevent the proper maintenance or accessibility of same.

CERTAIN DISCHARGES PROHIBITED

It shall be unlawful to discharge or cause to be discharged any of the following substances in any sewer of the Town of Halifax:

1. Storm water, surface water, ground water, roof run-off or subsurface drainage, or any noxious liquid or vapor;
2. Water or waste which may contain more than 100 parts per 1,000,000 by weight of fat, oil or grease, any gasoline benzene, naphtha, fuel oil or other flammable or explosive liquid, solid or gas;
3. Ashes, cinders, sand, mud, straw, shavings, metal, glass, rags, feathers, tar, plastics, paints, wood, wipes, hygiene products, paunch manure any other solids or viscous substance capable of causing obstruction to the flow in sewers or other interference with the proper operation of the sewage works;
4. Water or waste having any corrosive property capable of causing injury, damage or hazard to personnel or equipment of the sewage works;
5. Water or waste containing any toxic or poisonous substance or any other materials in sufficient quantity to injure or interfere with any sewage treatment process, or constitute a hazard to humans or animals, or create any hazard in the receiving stream at any sewage treatment plant;
6. Water or wastes containing suspended solids of the character and quantity that unusual attention or expense is required to handle the material in the sewage treatment process; and
7. Noxious or malodorous gas or substance capable of creating a public nuisance.

PRIMA FACIE EVIDENCE OF TAMPERING

Any meter or service entrance facility found to have been altered,

tampered with, or bypassed in a manner that would cause the meter to inaccurately measure and register the water consumed or which would cause the water to be diverted from the recording apparatus of the meter is prima facie evidence of intent to violate and of the violation of this ordinance by the person in whose name the meter is installed or the person or persons so using or receiving the benefits of the unmetered, unregistered, or diverted water.

PENALTIES FOR VIOLATION

In addition to the criminal and civil penalties set forth in NCGS 14-151, any violation of this ordinance shall result in a fine of \$250 for the first offense and \$500 for the second offense in addition to the total amount of any losses or damages sustained. A violation may also result in shut-off and lockout of water service.


EMERGENCY REPAIR SERVICE

Authorized town personnel may shut off any part of the town water system for repairs without prior notice to those affected. Persons needing cut-off of water for repair should contact the Town of Halifax Operations Manager.

ADOPTED this 13th day of February, 2023, by an affirmative vote of the Board.

Town of Halifax

By 
Mayor

Attest: 
Town Clerk