

New meter installation guidelines

The first step for new construction or renovations is to complete an “Application for Water Service” form and submit it to our office. This will begin the process of our staff preparing an estimate. Our staff will determine if the property has an existing water service and if so, they will determine if it is suitable for the project planned. In some scenarios, due to increased water demand requirements or building renovations, an upgraded water service or larger water meter may be needed. The estimate we prepare will include time and materials for the water service from the water main to the property line and the water meter installation. Please note that our estimate does not include the billable time, equipment, or materials supplied by your approved excavation contractor or plumber to complete all necessary work to connect the privately owned portion of your water line.

Meter pits

The York Water District requires the installation of a meter pit for circumstances that include (but are not limited to):

- Anytime the actual laying length of the service pipe measures over one-hundred feet from the curb stop to the first connection inside the building foundation.
- If the only location for the meter is in a crawl space with less than 60” from floor to bottom of joists.
- If the Customer does not provide a clean, warm, dry, and accessible location for the meter and its appurtenances.

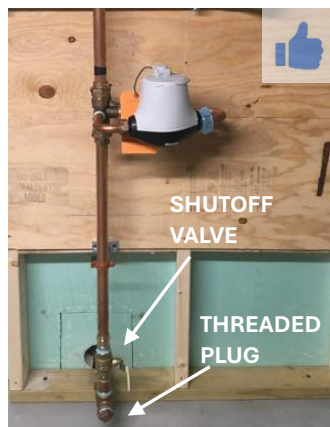
The District will determine whether a meter pit is necessary during the estimate process, which may or may not necessitate a site visit. Concrete meter pit structures are required whenever there are concerns of vehicular traffic traversing near the structure, or to house multiple metered lines. Fiberglass meter pits will likely be used in all other scenarios. The District staff will install a meter horn, meter, and residential dual check (RDC) backflow prevention device inside the pit for all 5/8, 3/4, and 1 inch meter assemblies. 1-1/2 inch and larger sized meters (and high-hazard applications) will require the installation of a testable backflow prevention assembly (pursuant to YWD’s Cross-Connection Control Program) that is horizontally mounted (for RPZ’s) in an accessible location inside the building prior to any taps (including drain down valves). Pit installations are not permitted for testable backflow prevention devices.

Traditional meter installation

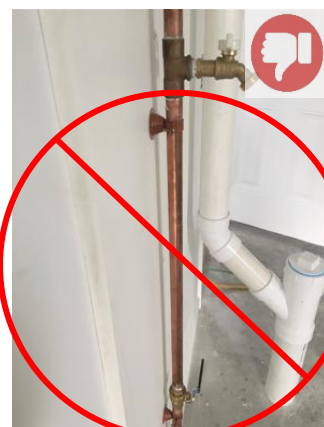
Prior to the arrival of YWD staff to install a new annual water meter inside a building, there should already be a water service line in place, with a shutoff valve installed near the service line entrance of the building. A minimum of 18 inches of 3/4 or 1 inch copper must be mounted vertically before a second shutoff valve and an optional drain down valve connection. A good rule of thumb is to have the 18in section of copper centered around 3 feet off the ground (average waist height) for the meter assembly installation, and refrain from using any pipe hangers on that section of pipe. Threaded rod hangers should be used to keep pipe at least 3 inches away from the wall, since bell hangers will not provide enough clearance for our meter horn assembly. The plumbing should always be configured so that the supply line is coming up to the inlet side of our meter assembly and never down from above it, which will help to ensure consistency within our system. The District staff will install a meter horn, meter, and residential dual check (RDC) backflow prevention device on the internal plumbing for all 5/8, 3/4, and 1 inch meter assemblies. 1-1/2 inch and larger sized meters (and high-hazard applications) will require the installation of a testable backflow prevention assembly (pursuant to YWD’s Cross-Connection Control Program) that is horizontally mounted (for RPZ’s) in an accessible location prior to any taps (including drain down valves). Pit installations are not permitted for testable backflow prevention devices. Once the backflow prevention device has been installed, the internal plumbing becomes a closed-loop system, so the issue of thermal expansion should be addressed by installing an expansion tank or other approved method (check local plumbing codes for requirements).



Proper Meter Setups



**Optional Drain Plug
(Before Valve Only)**



DO NOT USE BELL HANGERS

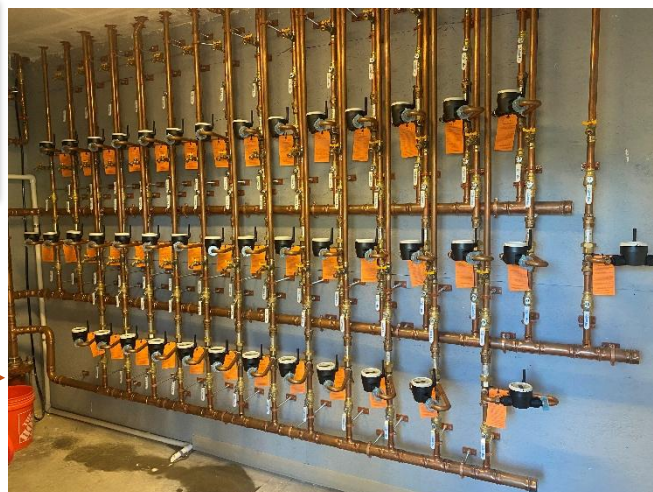
Multi-Meter installations

For applications where a single service line will feed multiple metered units within a building, the meters must be in an area the YWD staff will have access to during reasonable hours. Providing the District with a key or pass code for entry will be a requirement for these scenarios. YWD does not allow a “master” shutoff valve or backflow prevention device for a manifold that will be feeding multiple meters, but rather we require shutoff valves and backflow protection on each individual metered line. This will avoid an entire building from being without water when testing/maintaining backflow prevention devices or replacing meters and also prevents any cross-connections between the internal systems.



Interior commercial system has individual shutoff valves and is separately protected with an RPZ

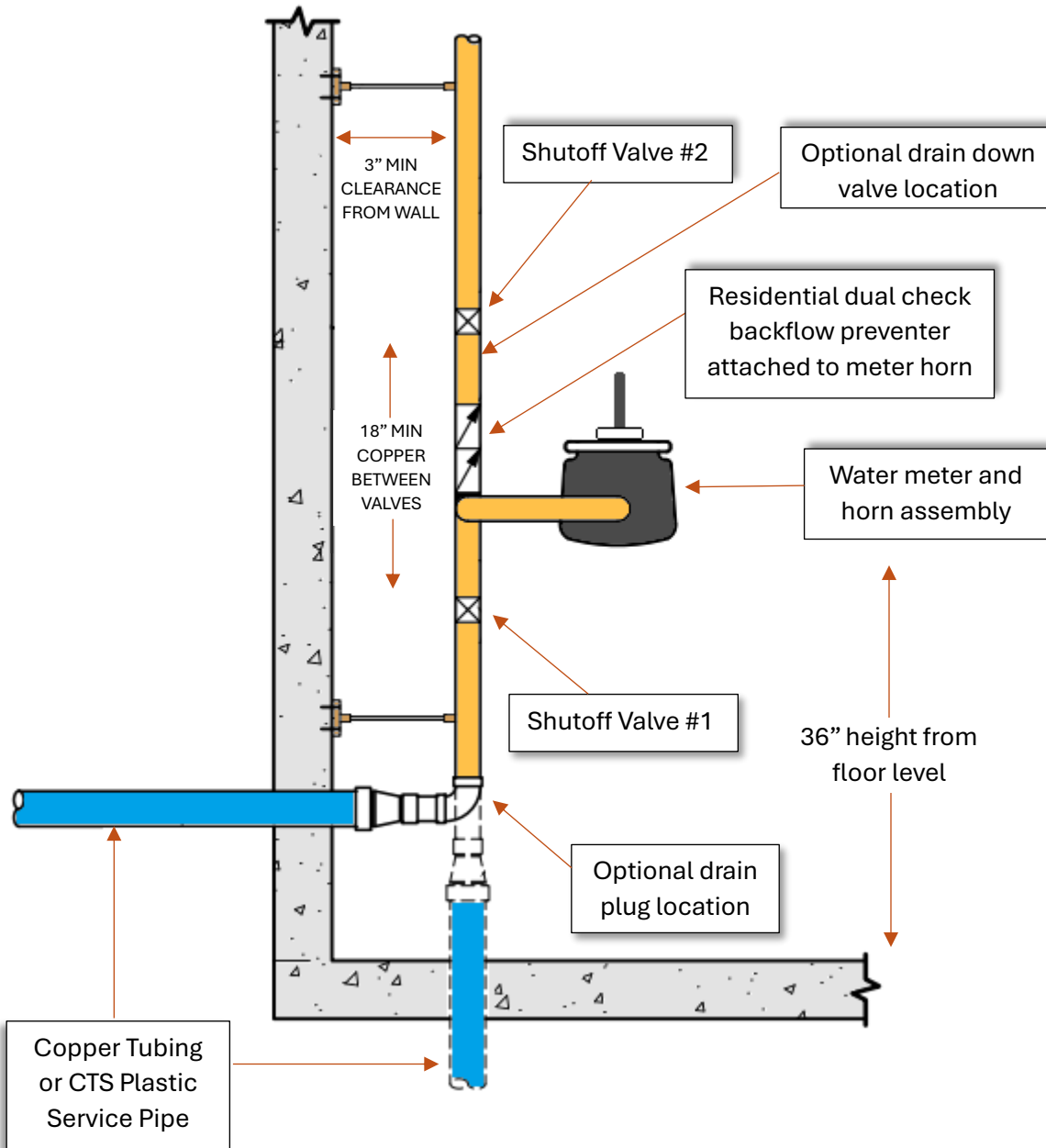
Domestic water units have individual shutoff valves and are protected with residential dual checks (RDC's)



Winterization

Because we have several seasonal properties in our system, YWD does allow a threaded plug to be used as a draining point for the incoming service line, only when located prior to the first shutoff valve in the building. This will allow someone to properly winterize the service line once the water has been isolated from the street by our staff, but the plugged connection will remain under constant pressure until that time, eliminating the risk of water theft or cross-connections. When a customer requests a property to be turned off for winterization, YWD staff will isolate the water from the curb stop valve and remove the meter (to be stored at our facility for the winter). Depending on how the owner/representative drains the property (gravity draining the pipes vs blowing them out with compressed air), the residential dual check may need to be removed to eliminate the risk of damage due to freezing. YWD will often assist if this action is requested, however it becomes part of the private plumbing after the initial installation, which ultimately falls under the responsibility of the owner to maintain it.

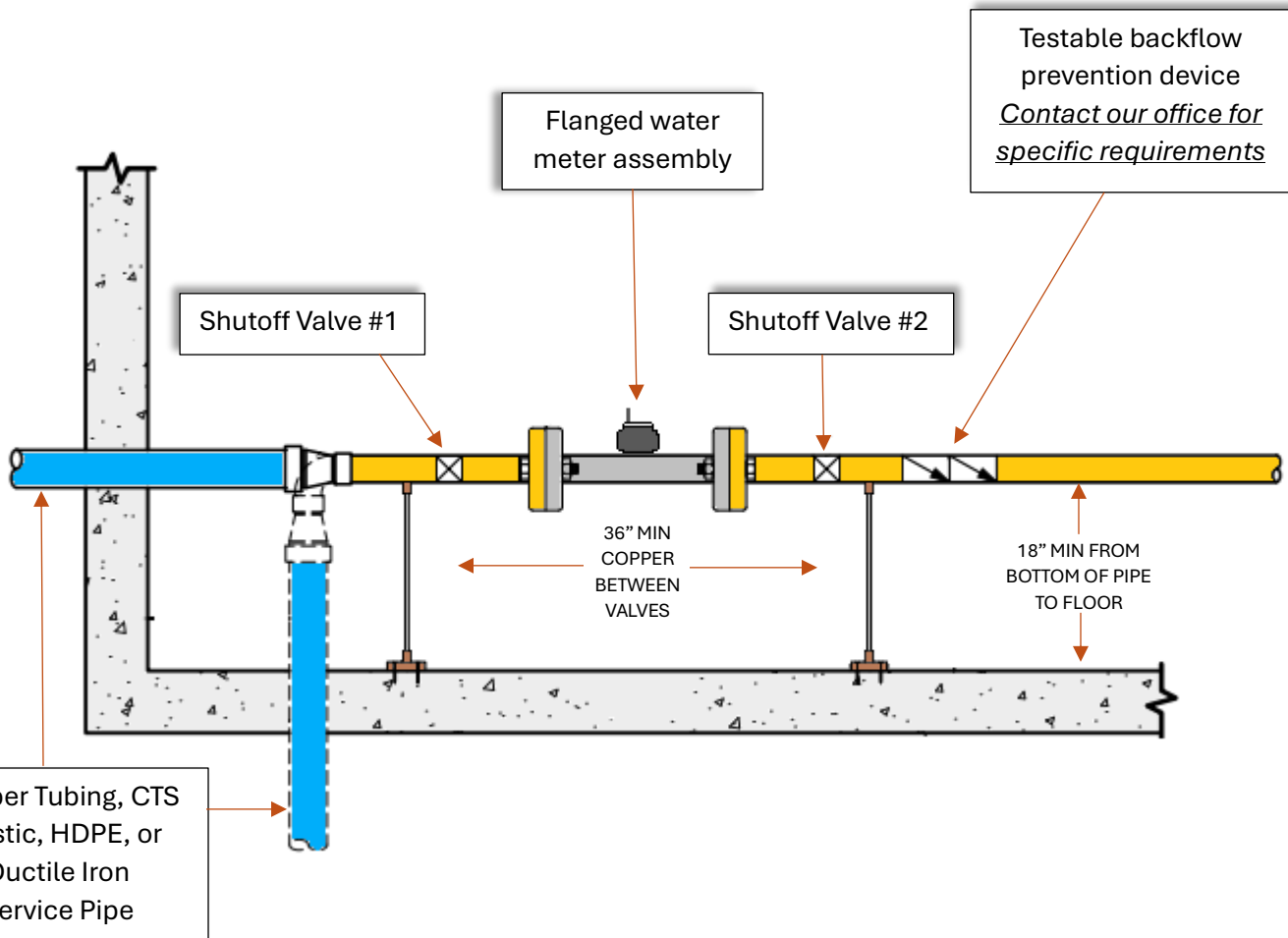
York Water District Standard Meter Install Details for 5/8, 3/4, and 1 inch meters



Updated 3-24-2025

Plumbers are always encouraged to reach out to our office at [207-363-2265](tel:207-363-2265) with any questions.

York Water District Standard Meter Install Details for 1-1/2 inch and larger meters



Updated 3-24-2025

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