

Terms and Conditions of United Utilities Metered Standpipe Hire

Unauthorised fitting or use of a hydrant standpipe on United Utilities water network is both dangerous and illegal. United Utilities policy is that the use of illegal apparatus will result in prosecution.

Calm Network Operation Certificate

The user/operator MUST have a valid Calm Network Operation Certificate which is awarded following the completion of an online training program. Opening and closing the hydrant must be managed in a SLOW controlled manner as to prevent any sudden changes in the pressurized flow of the main, which can result in transfer of natural sediment from the pipework being fed along the network.

- **Standpipes are not to be used on Fire Brigade hydrants (i.e. plated hydrants usually marked yellow or marked 'FH' with a yellow plate on the wall or concrete post nearby).**
- **Only United Utilities' metered standpipes can be used to connect to our network.** As a metered standpipe user you will be required to take meter readings on a monthly basis and telephone 0151 257 7992 or email unitedutilities@waterservicesltd.com
- Metered standpipes will only be available for hire where no alternative supply is available at the site or location.
- **The metered standpipe should not be used in lieu of a standard building water supply.** Applications for building water connections can be made to United Utilities on 0345 072 6067.
- The standpipe and associated hoses should not be used to provide water for domestic use. Supplies for domestic use should be taken from a normal metered water connection using suitable materials. (Applications can be made as above.)
- Standpipes are fitted with a backflow prevention device in the form of a BS6282 Double Check Valve.
- Water taken from a wash out hydrant must NOT be used for drinking or food preparation and should not be allowed to run to waste.
- **Strict hygiene procedures MUST be followed at all times.** When connecting and disconnecting a standpipe. The chamber should be clean and any water and debris must be removed. The standpipe should be handled and stored separately from any contaminated environment before, during and after use. Standpipes should not be used for high-risk activities in contaminated environments such as sewer jetting etc.
- **The hirer and operator of the standpipe will be liable for any costs incurred as a result of any stolen, lost or damage to the metered standpipe or hydrant that has been used.**
- All connections using hydrants and standpipes must be in accordance with the Water Supply (Water Fittings) Regulations 1999. **Particular attention must be made to the provision of air gaps at the fill point of any vehicle or tank or other receptacle. Failure to provide the correct air gap is an offence.**
- The user shall comply with requirements of the new road and street works act 1991 and any requirements of the highway authority when using a Standpipe on a wash out hydrant in a street.
- You should not leave a standpipe unattended while connected to our network. If you attach a hose you are responsible to ensure this is done in accordance with all relevant health and safety requirements.

Operating Hydrants

Before operating any of our apparatus please note the following information.

Standpipe use on our network can present a contamination risk to our mains through the various processes and works they are used at. Therefore when connecting/disconnecting the standpipe you must ensure strict hygiene procedures are followed at all times.

When attaching a standpipe:

(This applies to all types of hydrant outlets)

- Clean out the hydrant pit of any debris.
- Flush the hydrant to clear the connection point.
- Spray the hydrant and standpipe with disinfection spray (e.g. Milton's).
- Do not cross thread the outlet.
- Do not apply any bending or sideways load to the standpipe.
- Visually inspect the standpipe to confirm it is fitted correctly.
- Operate the spindle at arms length.
- Do not stand directly over the hydrant pit as any failure of the unit could result in water and debris being forced vertically upwards.
- Always open and close the hydrant in a slow and controlled manner.

If any hydrant does fail in operation please report it to United Utilities immediately.