



Newton County Water & Sewerage Authority Water Line Extension Policy

Public water service and fire protection is available in many subdivisions and communities in unincorporated Newton County. However, there remains a significant number of outlying subdivisions and homes served by groundwater wells. The Water Line Extension Policy was adopted in August 2019 for neighborhoods or communities wishing to connect to the Authority water system.

The following steps describe the extension process and annual calendar. See Figure 1 for graphic.

1. **Planning: January – March** – Representatives or neighborhood groups should meet with the Authority during January to March to request consideration. Based on the request, maps and cost estimates describing the areas of coverage will be developed and provided to all homeowners in the specified area. Homeowners will complete a brief online survey confirming their willingness to pay the current connection fee in advance of the water line extension. *Note: At least 51% of homeowners should state their willingness to pay the current connection fee by the end of March to proceed to Step 2.*
2. **Engineering: April – September** - If 51% of homeowners are willing to pay current connection fee, NCWSA will develop construction plans for the extension. Necessary permits will be obtained, and field surveys will be done during this phase.
3. **Enrollment: October 1 – November 30** – Homeowners have 60 days to make application and pay the current connection fee. Applicants must pay by check and checks will be held until the December Board Meeting (see Phase 4). 51% of homeowners must pay the connection fee.
4. **Board Meeting: December** - The NCWSA Board will meet on the 3rd Wednesday of the month to authorize the petitioned water line extension (subject to confirmation of funding) based on the percentage of paid customers. If the extension is denied, homeowners will be notified, and all checks shredded.
5. **Construction: April – September** - After approval by the Board, construction will commence in the Spring of the following calendar year. If additional homeowners in the petitioned area wish to connect to water, they may do so after application and payment of connection fees.

Up to \$1 Million will be budgeted for Water Line Extensions annually; this funding amount will typically cover two communities. During the Enrollment Phase, interest will not be accrued or paid on funds if the extension cannot be approved. It is the NCWSA Board's discretion to approve or deny any proposed Water Line Extension proposal.

Figure 1 - Water Line Extension Policy

