



Town of Canadice

5949 County Road #37
Springwater, NY 14560

Telephone: (585) 367-2050
Facsimile: (585) 367-3880
www.canadice.org

ATTENTION

CANADICE WATER DISTRICT RESIDENTS!

DO NOT INSTALL SERVICE LINES OR CONNECTIONS UNTIL YOU ARE SPECIFICALLY NOTIFIED BY THE TOWN BY U.S. MAIL THAT THE SYSTEM IS READY AT YOUR LOCATION!

The installation of curb stops (buried service shutoff valves) is underway. Just because there *may* be a curb stop installed at your property does **NOT** mean that it is ready for you to connect to it or to install your service line up to it.

The water mains still need to be flushed and sanitized. It is estimated that will not occur until sometime in August or September. At this time, it is estimated that “OK to connect” notifications will start going out to residents in October.

The installation also needs to be inspected from the curb stop, all the way to inside the dwelling that is being served. Inspections will not be available until the service is active at your location.

There is no advantage to installing your water line before the system is fully operational. In fact, it is a disadvantage. Your contractor would need to dig up your yard twice; once to install the service line and again to connect to the curb stop.

The detailed specification for connecting to the water main, as well as other project information, is available on-line at the Town’s website, www.canadice.org, or at the Town Hall.

Please see the other side of this notice for additional information regarding meter pits.

Meter Pit Requirement

There has been some confusion and concern on this subject.

A meter pit is a buried freeze proof enclosure that houses a water meter. It is located next to the buried curb stop (service shutoff valve) at the edge of the property.

Property owners may install meter pits at their discretion. **However, meter pits are required if the structure where service is to be provided is:**

- A. Greater than 200 feet from the curb stop; or
- B. Not on a basement that is at least five feet high/deep; or
- C. Subject to freezing temperatures (structure is on pilings, slab, crawl space or basement less than five feet high/deep).

A meter pit is required if the dwelling is more than 200 feet from the curb stop for ease of wireless reading and servicing of the meter.

Meter pits are required for service installations in dwellings where there is a reasonable chance that the meter could freeze and break open during the winter, causing substantial water damage to the dwelling.

Even if the current resident of a dwelling on pilings, slab, crawl space or basement less than five feet high/deep indicates that the space where the meter would be located is heated in the winter, a pit is still required.

The complete service install specification, including meter pit illustrations, is available at the Town Hall or at this link for download as a PDF. <https://www.canadice.org/>

If the building inspector finds that the service is not installed per the specification then he will not hand over a meter and he will not turn on the service at the curb stop at the conclusion of the inspection.

Even if unheated, the temperature in a full basement that is at least five feet high/deep is not going to drop below freezing. The basement floor and walls are far enough below the frost line so that there is enough "heat" coming from the ground to keep the basement space from freezing. It's going to get cold, very cold, but not freeze. This is also true for a buried meter pit, which has an insulated cover and an open bottom. The meter pit may even partially fill with water at a high water table location, but it will not freeze.

There is additional justification for the meter pit requirement.

- The pit gives you or a future owner the option to *not* heat the space.
- If the heat fails while the dwelling is unoccupied there could be a long delay before it is discovered. This will result in considerable damage to the dwelling when the plumbing and/or meter freezes and breaks.
- If the meter doesn't break then the property owner will be billed for the water that flows through the meter.
- If the meter does break then the property owner pays for a replacement meter (\$210). There's also a lot of unmetered water that is wasted, which the town would need to pay for. The pit requirement is protection for the town and your neighbors who are on the system who would pay for that water.
- The meter pit includes 1/4 turn shutoff valves which the property owner can use to turn their own service off & on at the pit (although the town will also offer turn off/on service at the curb stop for a fee of \$50 per visit).

Even if not required, consider the installation of a meter pit just to keep the meter outside the dwelling. This is easier all the way around in the long run. Locating meters outside the dwelling has also been the trend for the last several decades for electric and gas meters.