

SPHINX PARK IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

WATER USE RULES

Revised May 2019

Statement of Policy and Rules for the use of the water system by members of the Sphinx Park Improvement Association.

General Policy

- 1) The Sphinx Park Improvement Association (“the Association”) is not in the business of providing water to the general public. Water use privileges and the distribution system are maintained by the Association for the mutual benefit of certain of its members who are defined below.
Members of the Association who are current Water –Users in good standing, and:
 - a) whose cabins are physically connected to the water system, or
 - b) whose cabins cannot be physically connected to the system but are authorized to fill a mobile tank (on weekdays & up to a maximum of 250 gallons) to supply their cabins
- 2) All members of the Association who are current Water –Users are jointly responsible for the upkeep and proper use of the system.
- 3) The water system maintained by the Association includes:
 - a) The spring that is the source of the water together with the collectors and tanks,
 - b) The Water Shed, which houses system parts and supplies and has a locked spigot which can be used by the Association for maintenance & repair projects and by water users authorized to fill a mobile tank to supply their cabin. These “mobile” water users are included in SPIA’s “25 tap maximum”.
 - c) The main water lines and laterals that supply water to the individual cabins connecting lines,
 - d) One small plot of land with a spring house on it.
- 4) The dividing line between what the Association owns and maintains and what the individual cabin owner owns and maintains is the shut-off valve connecting the cabin to the system. The Association owns and maintains the shut-off valve and the individual water user is responsible for purchase, maintenance and upkeep of the line and all other equipment from the shut-off valve to the user’s cabin. The individual water user is solely responsible for draining this and other cabin lines at the end of the season, the date of which is determined each year by the Association. Failure to properly maintain the cabin water line or to properly utilize the available water will subject the abuser of the water privilege to summary disconnection from the system.
- 5) Each year, the Association will estimate the cost of maintaining and improving the water system for the ensuing year, and will assess each eligible member who intends to use the system that year equally. There is no charge for use of the water itself, and no guarantee that water will be available from the spring. Water users understand that additional assessments may be made in cases of costs that cannot be covered by contingency funds.

- 6) The water comes from a natural spring, and because of this, is presumed to be non-potable. The Association warns the water should NOT be used for consumption unless the individual cabin owner tests the water and/or installs and maintains filtering and purification equipment. To protect the Association from liability due to improper use of the water, each cabin owner is required to sign a one-time “Non-Potable Water Use Waiver & Release of Liability” which shall be kept on file by the Association Treasurer.
- 7) The Association is staffed by volunteers only, so water system users are highly encouraged to participate in efforts to maintain and sustain the system.

Specific Rules

1. To comply with our agreement with the Health Department, the total number of cabins on the system shall not exceed 25.
2. Preference will be given to cabins previously connected to the system.
3. Cabins/homes which have their own well, will not be eligible to be on the system.
4. A New Connect/Re-Connect fee of \$45 will be assessed to each cabin when: 1) the cabin is sold & new owners wish the cabin to remain on the water system; 2) at the time of connection or re-connection to the system for any other reason except system failure. In addition, any repairs needed are chargeable directly to the cabin owner. Failure to pay these fees will be cause for disconnection.
5. Cabins that have been removed from the system, for whatever reason, may be assessed a fee for repairing and re-connecting the lines. If a cabin has been disconnected for non-payment of the water user fees, it may not be reconnected until these payments are made. For example, if a water user did not pay their dues or their water fee for the previous year (but had water to their cabin for the season), they must pay both dues and the water fee for the previous year, plus the current year, and pay a reconnect fee, in order to have water turned on to their cabin for the current year. If this is not done by the beginning of water season (Memorial Day weekend), the cabin will be disconnected from the water system and the slot given to the next cabin in line to be added to the system. If a cabin has been disconnected for improper maintenance or for system abuse, it may not be reconnected until the Association has been satisfied that the condition has been remedied.
6. As a continuous leak anywhere in the system can quickly drain the entire system of its water, and thus depriving other cabins of the use of water, any cabin having such a leak will be summarily disconnected from the system and not reconnected unless and until the Association is satisfied of repair. Maintaining a line with such a leak

constitutes abuse of privilege, and may result in permanent disconnection from the system.

7. The Board of Directors, acting for the Association, shall appoint a committee to oversee and manage the water system. At least one member of this committee shall be a member of the Board of Directors.
8. Access to the water system is not available to non-members of the Association, regardless of other considerations.
9. Description of abuses of the system (cabins may be disconnected for any of the listed abuses):
 - a. Filling holding tanks or other (such as mobile) tanks on weekends.
 - b. Filling any tanks with more than 250 gallons, per fill, at any time.
 - c. Use of washing machines or dishwashers on weekends.
 - d. Watering gardens or lawns, or washing vehicles with a continuous stream of water at any time.
 - e. Leaking cabin lines.
 - f. Uncorrected cabin leaks resulting in system pressure loss.
 - g. Non-payment of fees and assessments.
 - h. Not having a valid, signed "Non-Potable Water Use Waiver & Release of Liability" on file with the Association Treasurer.

In addition, during especially dry years when water is scarce, specific rules may need to be issued Pro tempore. Such rules will have the same force and effect as the foregoing.

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Adopted by the Board of Directors and ratified by the membership July, 1980, upon acquisition of the system.

Updated by the Board of Directors and ratified by the membership September, 2007

Updates Proposed by the Board of Directors March 2016

Addition proposed by the Board and ratified by the Membership, May 2019