

COTTONWOOD RURAL WATER ASSOCIATION
POLICY NO. 201
“WEED” CONTROL

I. OBJECTIVE:

- A. C.R.W.A. staff and the Board of Directors strive to provide members with a reliable flow of quality water.
- B. This policy is written for such instances that reading meters is difficult or impossible, and C.R.W.A. must charge for any services related to this issue.

II. POLICY CONTENT:

- A. C.R.W.A. will explain the issues that are faced when attempting to read meters monthly.
- B. C.R.W.A. will clearly explain the procedures that will be taken in the event of a meter being difficult or impossible to reach for reading.

III. PROVISIONS:

- A. Each member of the C.R.W.A. system has a water meter, which is necessary to read every month to determine how much to charge that member.
- B. Members are required to provide C.R.W.A. meter-readers with access to their meters.
 - i. In many instances, C.R.W.A. meter-readers are unable to access a meter. This may be due to any number of reasons including but not limited to weeds, dogs, cars, junk, and/or locked gates.
 - ii. It is not C.R.W.A.'s responsibility to cut weeds, spray weeds, move junk, etc. to gain access to member meters.
- C. Every time C.R.W.A. meter-readers can read member meters, but only after having difficulty, the member will receive a written certified letter requesting to clear the area before next month's meter-reading.
- D. If C.R.W.A. meter-readers are unable to read member meters, that monthly bill will be estimated based on the members' average water usage.
 - i. If C.R.W.A. meter-readers are unable to read member meters for two consecutive months then C.R.W.A. will clear the area, turn off the meter, and the member will be charged a minimum of a \$50.00 clean-up fee depending on the time spent clearing the area.
 - ii. In this event, the meter will not be turned back on until the clean-up fee is collected.
- E. If you are physically unable to clear the meter area and require assistance, please contact the office at 575-746-9597 and C.R.W.A. staff will refer you to someone who may be able to help.
- F. We appreciate your understanding and cooperation.

IV. RESPONSIBILITY:

- A. Members are required to keep the area up to and around any meters clear of debris and be courteous of C.R.W.A. meter-readers when dealing with access such as locking dogs up or ensuring their gates are unlocked.
- B. C.R.W.A. staff will treat members fairly and notify members when issues around meter access arise.
- C. This policy is subject to all applicable federal and state laws and regulations, including the New Mexico Low Income Water, Sewer and Solid Waste Service Assistance Act.

Approved: *Ross H*
 Ross Horner, President

Effective Date: August 10, 2015

Revised Effective Date: November 19, 2024