

From: Doug Clarke
Sent: Tuesday, October 21, 2014 4:14 PM
To: 21dhammer@gmail.com
Cc: Tim.Chavez@fire.ca.gov; Homer Croy; Duane Burk; Perry Gerdes
Subject: Use of Fire Hydrant

Mr. Doug Hammer

It has come to my attention, (community complaints) that you have been using City of Banning owned fire hydrants and water. There are several problems with this and you are aware of the issues. However, I would like to take this opportunity to explain some of the issues as I see them;

1. First of all the fire hydrants and water belong to the City of Banning Water District, and IF you are using them, then it could be seen as stealing water from the Banning Water District.
2. The City of Banning Water District has a program that if someone needs to use a City owned fire hydrant, then the water district will rent you a meter so you or anyone else can pay for the water usage.
3. Allowing the water to run down to street, (which has been reported to the City) is a waste of water and is a violation. We are in the worst drought in the last 100 years, and allowing water to run down the drain is seen as wasteful, especially if you are not paying for it.
4. As you can see in the picture provided, a fire hose is attached to a City owned fire hydrant and is flowing water. The picture doesn't show much water is being flowed, but it is still attached to the City owned fire hydrant and flowing City owned water.
5. Fire hydrants that are not shut down correctly can/will damage the underground water lines. This could cause the surrounding communities to be without water until underground water lines can be repaired.

I'm recommending that you call me at your earliest convenience and set up a meeting with us so we can get the bottom of the complaints. Meanwhile I'm requesting you to cease and desist in using any City of Banning owned fire hydrants and water.

Sincerely

Doug Clarke
Assistant Fire Marshal
Banning Fire Services
99 E. Ramsey Street
Banning, CA 92220