

# Eleven Commandments for Water Users

By Mike Stanzel, Circuit Rider

Well, I sure hope you all are having a great summer, and trying to beat the heat with a little down time here and there. I know you are all as super busy as I am running all over the place.

I am just about to complete my 8<sup>th</sup> year here at NeRWA and I can honestly say I have thoroughly enjoyed every step of the way. One of my "Signature" lines that many of you have heard me say is "Persistence Pays Off," like when we are trying to solve a problem or find a leak. If we keep after it, we usually figure it out. My other one is "You Learn Something New Every Day."

When you assist 20-25 systems a month for 8 years you see and learn a lot of things. Some make you scratch your head and wonder, what the heck? And some make you laugh and smile. So here is something I ran into at a clerk's office that I have never seen and it sure made me smile and I'm sure you ALL can relate to it.

1. Thou shall receive thy water with gladness and shall give thanks for the days of uninterrupted services.
2. Remember thy water bill to keep it paid, for thou shall put no other bill before it.
3. Honor thy manager and thy board, for they keep thy water running.
4. Thou shall love thy water system employees as thyself and shall not abuse them with nasty notes and not profane their names before others.
5. Thou shall not pass into the hands of thy bookkeeper checks for which thou has no funds to cover.
6. Thou shall not leave thy vicious dog unchained to feed upon the leg of thy meter reader.
7. Thou shall not bare false witness against thy serviceman nor shall abuse the ears of thy spouse on the phone.
8. Thou shall not commit cross-connections or in any other way endanger the safety of thy neighbor's water.
9. Thou shall not tamper with thy meter nor violate any other rule of the system lest thy days as user be shortened.
10. Thou shall not place an undue burden upon thy system by letting thy water cast to the winds or needlessly spread upon the dry, parched earth.
11. Thou shall not covet thy neighbor's bill, if it be less than thine own. For whatsoever is thou usage, for that shalt thou also pay.

I hope this put a smile on your face as it did mine, hope you all enjoy the rest of your summer and please feel to call me if you need anything.