

## **Policy on Damages to Council Owned Property and facilities 2016**

It shall be the policy of the Tidewater Council, to charge individuals that use Tidewater Council equipment or facilities that damage such property through accident, neglect or improper use. The purpose of this policy is to ensure that the council has equipment available for all parties that wish to use equipment and to make sure that equipment is available for those that act responsibly. Additionally, by charging parties for these costs, the council will not have to fund replacement items or if insurance is available based on the issue, the experience rate of the policy will not be affected.

It shall be the responsibility of each party to make sure that all items accepted for use are in good working order and any problems reported immediately if it appears that something is not in good working order.

Accidental breakage due to normal wear and tear shall not be charged.

Damages caused by situations outside of the user's control are considered accidents and shall not be charged.

The council can charge up to \$1,500 based on the replacement value of the item.

If the damages are caused by criminal destruction, then the council may charge up to the total value of the item.

Individuals borrowing equipment or using properties will be notified of this policy through application or reference to the policy on applications for use of equipment and property. They should sign acknowledging the policy and accept responsibility.

Care should be given to ensure individuals get good equipment and property in good working order and shall not be charged for defective or highly depreciated items.