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## **Utility Records**

## Dear Reader:

The following document was created from the MTAS website (mtas.tennessee.edu). This website is maintained daily by MTAS staff and seeks to represent the most current information regarding issues relative to Tennessee municipal government.

We hope this information will be useful to you; reference to it will assist you with many of the questions that will arise in your tenure with municipal government. However, the *Tennessee Code Annotated* and other relevant laws or regulations should always be consulted before any action is taken based upon the contents of this document.

Please feel free to contact us if you have questions or comments regarding this information or any other MTAS website material.

Sincerely,

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## **Utility Records**

Reference Number: MTAS-1592

A public utility commonly possesses confidential information regarding its customers. This information including, credit card numbers, Social Security numbers, account numbers, security codes, and other identifying information in the hands of a utility must be redacted prior to the release of any public record. Furthermore, consumer-specific energy and water usage data is confidential, except aggregate monthly billing information is open to public inspection. Thus, a customer's monthly usage is open but a breakdown by date and time is not.

When a customer provides the utility with a copy of a valid protection order and requests that his/her identifying information be maintained as confidential, all identifying information for the customer in the possession of a private or public utility service provider that could be used to locate the customer is to be maintained as confidential and is not open to the public.

Records of a utility that would identify areas of vulnerability or allow disruption of utility service are likewise confidential.

DISCLAIMER: The letters and publications written by the MTAS consultants were written based upon the law at the time and/or a specific sets of facts. The laws referenced in the letters and publications may have changed and/or the technical advice provided may not be applicable to your city or circumstances. Always consult with your city attorney or an MTAS consultant before taking any action based on information contained in this website.

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