

CHALLENGES



CONFRONTING WATER AND SEWER UTILITIES

One of the major challenges confronting water and wastewater managers is to operate the utility as a business, on a self-sustaining basis. To achieve this objective, it is necessary to develop an effective rate structure for recovering service costs. A rate structure is defined as that system of charges by which utility customers pay for water and wastewater services. It should be the goal of each utility to select a rate structure which is most responsive to its philosophy and to the objectives of the community that it serves. In selecting an appropriate rate structure, the Board of Directors have carefully considered the following objectives:

- > **Financial Sufficiency** - the rate structure must generate sufficient revenues to recover operating & capital costs;
- > **Conservation** - users are encouraged to make efficient use of scarce water resource;
- > **Growth Pays for Itself** - new growth related costs must be borne by those new users creating the demand;
- > **Equity** - customers or customer classes must be charged in proportion to the costs of providing service to each customer growth; and
- > **Compliance with Legal Authority** - the rate structure must comply with federal and state mandated requirements. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Rural Development, and the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control have oversight responsibilities.

The Board of Directors, with the assistance of independent rate consultants, have developed an accounting and user charge system that clearly incorporates the above objectives. In order to fulfill the requirements of the system and to more fully comply with Federal and State Agency standards, the District must revise its schedule of rates from time to time to ensure equity.

SCHEDULE OF MONTHLY RATES AND CHARGES*

Effective July 1, 2009 through June 30, 2011

Monthly Water and Sewer Charges

Customer Charge (per account):

Water & Sewer Account	\$	5.64
Sewer Only Account**	\$	4.69

Water Charges:

Availability Charge(per REU)	\$	2.15
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Sewer Charges:

Availability Charge(per REU)	\$	4.80
Unmetered Residential Service	\$	25.51

Water Volume Charge:

<i>(Minimum 2,500 Gallons)</i>		
Per 1,000 Gallons up to 7,000	\$	2.00
Next 1,000 Gallons up to 28,000	\$	2.50
Every 1,000 thereafter	\$	4.00

Sewer Volume Charge:

<i>(Minimum 2,500 Gallons)</i>		
Per 1,000 Gallons up to 7,000	\$	2.67
Next 1,000 Gallons up to 28,000	\$	4.01
Every 1,000 thereafter	\$	5.51

Other Charges:

Field Service Charge	\$	45.00
Reconnect Charge	\$	35.00
After Hours Reconnect	\$	90.00
Late Payment Penalty = \$2.00 plus 4% on the unpaid balance in excess of \$50.00		

*Subject to Change

**Water provided by other Utilities

SERVICE CHARGES - Effective July 1, 2009 through June 30, 2011*

New Water & Sewer Customer

Water Impact Fee(per REU)		
Waccamaw Neck	\$	990.00
Georgetown	\$	1,050.00
Water Tap (3/4") without backflow	\$	685.00
Water Tap (3/4") with backflow	\$	740.00
Sewer Impact Fee(per REU)		
Waccamaw Neck	\$	1,400.00
Georgetown	\$	1,240.00
Sewer Inspection Fee	\$	85.00
Owner Occupied Customer Deposit	\$	50.00
Service Charge	\$	45.00

New Sewer Only Customer

Sewer Impact Fee(per REU)		
Waccamaw Neck	\$	1,400.00
Georgetown	\$	1,240.00
Sewer Inspection Fee	\$	85.00
Service Charge	\$	25.00
Owner Occupied Customer Deposit	\$	25.00

** New sewer service may require an Elder Valve at additional cost.*

New Water Only Customer

Water Impact Fee(per REU)		
Waccamaw Neck	\$	990.00
Georgetown	\$	1,050.00
Water Tap (3/4") without backflow	\$	685.00
Water Tap (3/4") with backflow	\$	740.00
Service Charge	\$	45.00
Owner Occupied Customer Deposit	\$	25.00

Miscellaneous Service Charges

Wet Tap Base Charge	\$	1,675.00
Hydrant Meter Service	\$	195.00
Hydrant Relocation (New tap required)	\$	2,515.00
Hydrant Relocation (No new tap)	\$	1,125.00
Fire Hydrant Installation	\$	4,195.00
Sewer Reconnect	\$	685.00
Meter Test	\$	75.00
Backflow Administration/Testing (monthly)	\$	4.00
Backflow Prevention Device (existing irrigation service)		
3/4" Double Check Backflow Device	\$	300.00
3/4" Reduced Pressure Device	\$	500.00
Quick Connect (Temporary Service)	\$	35.00
Returned Check Charge	\$	30.00
Transfer of accounts (existing location):		
Service Chg (water/sewer & water only)	\$	45.00
Service Chg (sewer only accounts)	\$	25.00
Deposits:		
Water/Sewer Account - owner occupied	\$	50.00
Water/Sewer Account - rental	\$	100.00
Water Only Account - owner occupied	\$	25.00
Water Only Account - rental	\$	50.00
Sewer Only Account - owner occupied	\$	25.00
Sewer Only Account - rental	\$	50.00

Typical Monthly Service Charges

Customer Charge - Water & Sewer	\$	5.64
Customer Charge - Sewer Only	\$	4.69
Water Availability Charge	\$	2.15
Water Volume (6,000 gallons)	\$	12.00
Sewer Availability Charge	\$	4.80
Sewer Volume (6,000 gallons)	\$	16.02
Water and Sewer (6,000 gallons)	\$	40.61
Water Only (6,000 gallons)	\$	19.79
Sewer Only (6,000 gallons)	\$	25.51

Customer Service: 843.546.8408

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