



Water and Sewer Fees

CITY OF SAN DIEGO PUBLIC UTILITIES DEPARTMENT



Documents referenced in this Information Bulletin

- [Information Bulletin 113](#), How to Obtain Approval for Cross-Connection Control
- [Information Bulletin 166](#), How to Obtain a Permit for Water, Sewer or Fire Services
- [Water Meter Data Card, DS-16](#)
- [General Application, DS-3032](#)
- [Irrigation Meter Checklist, DS-5852](#)

The following is a list of fees for permitting water services and sewer laterals, and water and sewer capacity charges including potable and recycled water for the City of San Diego. Capacity, water wet tap, and meter installation fees associated with new construction are determined during the construction plan review process.

A Water Meter Data Card is used to determine the correct size required for the water meter, water service and sewer lateral. All water and sewer costs associated with construction will be collected at the time of construction permit issuance, or when the water meter is requested, whichever comes first. All water meters and taps into public water mains must be installed by the City's Public Utilities Department. Water services, sewer laterals, and all other work in the public right-of-way must be installed by a Class A licensed contractor. A separate Public Right-of-Way Permit is required for installations in the public right-of-way. For more information, refer to Information Bulletin 166 "How to Obtain a Permit for Water, Sewer or Fire Service."

I. CAPACITY FEES

A capacity charge is collected when a property needs additional water or sewer flow. The fee pays for the property's fair share of major facilities and treatment plants. Water and sewer capacity charges are calculated by Equivalent Dwelling Unit (EDU).

- Water Capacity Charge (per EDU)..... \$3,047
-Effective: July 1, 2007
- Sewer Capacity Charge (per EDU)..... \$5,154
- Effective: Jan. 1, 2022

Generally, Equivalent Dwelling Units are calculated as follows.

A. Residential

- Single Dwelling Units.....1 EDU
- Mobile Homes.....1 EDU
- Guest Houses (w/partial kitchen).....½ EDU
- Multiple Living Units (where each unit has its own separate meter).....1 EDU
- For multiple living units using a common water meter, a density break is given. See the following Density Chart.

B. Commercial, Industrial, Manufacturing

Enclosure 3 to DI 55.30

DENSITY CHART
WATER AND SEWER CAPACITY CHARGES
MULTI-UNIT DEVELOPMENTS

LIVING UNITS PER NET ACRE	EQUIVALENT FAMILY UNIT	LIVING UNITS PER NET ACRE	EQUIVALENT FAMILY UNIT
1-5	1.00	38	.73
6	.99	39	.725
7	.98	40	.72
8	.97	41	.71
9	.96	42	.705
10	.95	43	.70
11	.94	44	.69
12	.935	45	.685
13	.925	46	.68
14	.915	47	.675
15	.905	48	.67
16	.895	49	.665
17	.89	50	.66
18	.88	51	.655
19	.87	52	.65
20	.865	53	.645
21	.855	54	.64
22	.845	55	.635
23	.84	56	.635
24	.83	57	.63
25	.825	58	.625
26	.815	59	.62
27	.81	60	.62
28	.80	61	.615
29	.795	62	.615
30	.785	63	.61
31	.78	64	.605
32	.77	65	.605
33	.765	66	.605
34	.755	67	.605
35	.75	68	.60
36	.745	69	.60
37	.74	70	.60
		GREATER THAN 70	.60

Facilities

All nonresidential facilities, including tenant improvements, will be charged one EDU for each 20 fixture units, or fraction thereof, plus process water charges. A Water Meter Data Card is used to determine fixture unit count. Process water includes water vending machines, car wash facilities, cooling towers, and any other non-fixture type water usage or conversions- Process water is calculated by converting gallons used per day to EDUs, as follows:

- 500 gallons water per day.....1 EDU
- 280 gallons sewage per day.....1 EDU

C. Combined Commercial and Residential Facilities

Commercial and residential units sharing a common water meter will be charged one EDU for each 20 fixture units or fraction thereof, plus any other applicable capacity charges.

D. Other Facilities

In addition to other applicable capacity charges, the following facilities are assessed capacity fees based on use:

Coin Operated Laundries	
(per washing machine).....	½ EDU
Recreation Vehicle (RV) Parks (per space).....	½ EDU
Boat Slips (per slip).....	½ EDU

E. Oversized Meters and Irrigation Meters

Sewer capacity is not collected on irrigation meters. The water capacity charge is based on meter size, as follows:

Meter Size EDU

1-inch x ¾-inch	1
1-inch.....	2
1½-inch.....	6
2-inch.....	8
2-2 inch manifolded or 3-inch.....	32
4-inch.....	88

Note: Some residential uses may be exempt from water capacity charges for irrigation meters.

F. Fire Services

For single-family residential and meters that serve three units or less, one water meter may be used for both domestic and fire flow. Capacity and Reimbursement agreement fees will be based on domestic meter size calculation. These fees are not applicable to separate fire services.

II. WATER METERS AND SERVICES

Water meters must not be located in a driveway and must be perpendicular to the main. Sewer services should not be located under driveways. The following is a list of the most common installations and their cost. For both potable and reclaimed water facilities, an inspection is required by the Public Utilities Department and a separate fee is charged for inspection and plan check. Special estimates and approvals by the Public Utilities Department are required for installations not listed.

A. Water Meters

(Includes new, replacement, lost or stolen).
When the correct size water service exists from the water main to the meter box, the Public Utilities Department will install a water meter at the following cost:

Water Meter

The Public Utilities Department charges the following fees for new or upsized meters installed at the existing meter location. The fee includes removal of existing meters but does not include the cost for upsizing.

(Potable & Recycled) Fee Each Additional Trip	
¾-inch meter.....	\$111.....\$47
1-inch x ¾-inch meter.....	\$111.....\$47
1-inch meter.....	\$130.....\$47
1½-inch meter	\$294.....\$62
2-inch meter.....	\$342.....\$62
2-2-inch manifolded ...	\$443.....\$184

The Public Utilities Department charges the following fees for water meter reductions:

Downsize Existing Water Meter Fee

The Public Utilities Department charges the following fees to remove a meter and replace it with a smaller size. The fee includes removal of the existing meter.

1-inch x ¾-inch meter on 1-inch service	\$110
1-inch x ¾-inch meter on 2-inch service	\$151
1-inch meter on 2-inch service	\$251
1½-inch meter on 2-inch service	\$294

Meter Removal Only

The Public Utilities Department charges the following fees for the removal of a water meter:

- ¾-inch to 2-2..... \$45
- 3-inch and larger require a special estimate.

B. Backflow Protection Installation

Meters requiring backflow protection are required to install private backflow devices. All private backflows require a plumbing permit. For more information refer to Information Bulletin 113 “Cross Connection Control.”

C. Permanently Disconnected after Services (Service Kill)

Existing water services that will no longer be used must be disconnected at the main (killed).

1. Disconnect (Kill) by Contractor

Water services must be disconnected (killed) by a licensed contractor and must be inspected by the Public Utilities Department.

2. Kill Service Inspection

<u>Size</u>	<u>Fee</u>
¾-inch to 2-inch.....	\$245

D. Recycled Water Cross Connection Test Fee

A cross connection test is required when a recycled water meter is to be installed.
Original Test and Retest..... \$468

III. WATER SERVICE AND SEWER LATERAL

Water services and sewer laterals shall be installed by a licensed contractor. A plan review and inspection is required by the Public Utilities Department and a separate fee is charged for these services.

<u>Sewer Lateral Inspection, Type</u>	<u>Fee</u>
4-inch to 8-inch Easement, Token or Encroachment.....	\$25

IV. WET TAPS

All wet taps and connections to existing water mains shall be performed exclusively by the Public Utilities Department. The connection site is to be prepared by the contractor.

<u>Wet Tap Size</u>	<u>Fee</u>
1-inch to 2-inch.....	\$254
4-inch to 12-inch.....	\$318

V. PLAN REVIEW FEES

No meter change \$175
This fee is charged when a review results in no increase in meter size.
Up to 2.9 EDUs (per meter)..... \$324
3 to 5.9 EDUs (per meter)..... \$500
6+ EDUs (per meter)..... \$625
Cross Connection Controls..... \$88
Projects not associated with a building permit will be charged a work order set up fee at a rate of \$148.00/hr.

VI. REIMBURSEMENT FEES

In certain areas developers have agreed to install public water and/or sewer facilities to serve future development of other properties. Where an arrangement is made, the City will collect the costs of these improvements from benefitting builders on behalf of the developer. Reimbursement fees are due at the time the water meter and/or sewer connection fees are paid and/or when water and sewer capacity fees are due. To determine if a particular lot is subject to these reimbursement fees and fee amounts, please visit the City’s Development Services Department or phone (619) 533-5106.

VII. SCHEDULING WATER AND/OR SEWER CITY FORCE WORK AND INSPECTION

After verification that all fees have been paid, water and/or sewer installations may be scheduled. Payment of the invoice will not automatically schedule city force work and inspection. If these installations are a requirement to obtain a building permit, the building permit may not have a final inspection until all water and sewer installations are complete. To schedule water or sewer installations or inspections, see below.

Water

For all water meter installations or removals, wet taps, kill service inspections, main connections or other inspections, call (619) 527-7424.

Sewer

For sewer inspection,

- East of Interstate 805, call (858) 654-4153
- West of Interstate 805, call (858) 654-4152

VIII. COUNTY WATER AUTHORITY (CWA)

The San Diego County Water Authority (CWA) is a separate agency from the City of San Diego which supplies water to the region. CWA charges a CWA Water System capacity fee and a Water Treatment Capacity fee when a new water meter is installed. These fees are based on the size of the water meter to be installed. If a water meter is required as a result of building plans, the fee will be collected at the time of building permit issuance. A fee schedule is available at the City’s Development Services Department, third floor. For more information about fee amounts or requirements, call CWA at (858) 522-6600 or the Development Services Department at (619) 446-5000.

Note: CWA capacity fee does not apply to recycled water meters.

IX. PURCHASE OF IRRIGATION METERS

A. General Requirements

All of the requirements for potable water meters also apply to irrigation meters except that sewer capacity charges are not applicable. In addition, if using reclaimed water for irrigation, San Diego County Water Authority (CWA) capacity fees are not charged. Please reference the other sections in this bulletin for information on capacity charges and how to obtain irrigation meters and services.

B. Additional Requirements

To obtain an irrigation meter, please provide the following information:

1. Equivalent Dwelling Unit Calculation

Each irrigation meter has a corresponding EDU. (See table at I-E). Determine the number of EDUs to calculate the water capacity charge due.

2. Backflow Permit Application (DS-3032)

A backflow preventer is required for all irrigation systems and a plumbing permit is required. The application must contain the address assigned to the property and the complete legal description. If an address has not been assigned to the property, provide a plot plan so that one can be assigned.

3. Irrigation Meter Checklist (DS-5852)

4. Irrigation System Plans

X. RECYCLED WATER

Onsite recycled water plans must be reviewed and approved by the City of San Diego Public Utilities Department and the County of San Diego Department of Public Health Services.

For further information on recycled water connections, visit the Public Utilities Department’s web site at www.sandiego.gov/water/recycled/switching or call (619) 533-5102.

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