

**AN ORDINANCE REPEALING SECTIONS 112-1 THROUGH 112-31, INCLUSIVE, AND AMENDING, RESTATING AND REORDAINING SECTIONS 112-51 AND 112-54 OF CHAPTER 112, WATER, OF THE CODE OF CAROLINE COUNTY, VIRGINIA, TO CHANGE THE METHOD FOR DETERMINING AVAILABILITY FEES; ESTABLISH A TIERED RATE STRUCTURE BASED ON USE, INCREASE THE RATES FOR WATER USE FEES, INCLUDING ADDING A CAPACITY CHARGE; INCREASING THE RATES FOR WATER USE FEES MEASURED BY IRRIGATION METERS, INCLUDING ADDING A METER CAPACITY CHARGE; REMOVE THE CURRENT MILFORD SANITARY DISTRICT WATER AS A SEPARATE ENTITY AND COMBINE IT WITH THE CENTRAL WATER SYSTEM OF CAROLINE COUNTY; CHANGE THE CURRENT MILFORD SANITARY WATER DISTRICT SYSTEM FROM A QUARTERLY TO MONTHLY BILLING; PROVIDE FOR MONTHLY USE FEES IN SAID SYSTEM ON THE SAME TIER STRUCTURE AND AT THE SAME RATE AS ALL OTHER CAROLINE COUNTY OPERATED WATER SYSTEMS**

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Supervisors of Caroline County (the “Board”) has determined that all rates set forth below are, as nearly as the Board deems practical and equitable, uniform for the same type, class and amount of use or service; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board has reviewed the fees set forth below and has determined that all such fees are fair and reasonable; and

**WHEREAS**, a public hearing duly noticed and advertised as required by §§ 15.2-107 and 15.2-1427 of the *Code of Virginia*, 1950, as amended, has been held on March 10, 2009, regarding this ordinance and the increase of certain rates for water service as set forth below.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED** by the Board as follows:

1. Sections 112-1 through 112-31, Part 1, Milford Sanitary District, of Chapter 112, Water, of the Code of Caroline County, Virginia, are hereby repealed.
2. Section 112-51 of Article VII, Part 2, Central Water System, of Chapter 112, Water, of the Code of Caroline County, Virginia, is hereby amended, restated and reordained to read as follows:

**§ 112-51. Connection and Availability Fees.**

A. Where the County furnishes public water the following Connection Fees shall apply:

- (1) For a single family residential unit, including a mobile home not located in a mobile home park or a townhouse, the Connection Fees shall be the greater of \$750 or the actual cost of connection plus 20% of the said cost to reimburse the County for

its administrative expenses, not included in the cost but associated with the connection.

(2) For a multi-family residential unit, the Connection Fee will be the greater of \$750 multiplied by the number of single family residential units or the actual cost of connection plus 20% of the said cost to reimburse the County for its administrative expenses, not included in the cost but associated with the connection.

(3) For a mobile home park, a Connection Fee will be the greater of \$750 per connection or actual cost of connection plus 20% of said cost to reimburse the County for its administrative expenses, not included in the cost but associated with the connection.

(4) For a commercial, office space, business, industrial public facility or other non-residential uses, the Connection Fee shall be the actual cost of connection plus 20% of the said cost to reimburse the County for its administrative expenses, not included in the cost but associated with the connection cost of installation; provided, however, that the minimum fee shall be that of a single family residential unit.

(5) Any situation not addressed above the Connection Fee will be the greater of \$750 or actual cost of connection plus 20% of said cost to reimburse the County for its administrative expenses, not included in the cost but associated with the connection.

B. Connection Fees are charged for all new connections to the County sewer system and represent the cost the County incurs per connection.

C. Availability Fees will be calculated as set forth below:

The single family residential unit Availability Fee for water shall be \$7,000. All other Availability Fees shall be calculated based on the single family residential unit fee and using the multipliers as set forth below:

Meter Size	Water	Sewer	Multiplier
5/8-3/4" meter	\$7,000	\$7,000	1
1" meter	\$17,500	\$17,500	2.5
1½" meter	\$35,000	\$35,000	2
2" meter	\$56,000	\$56,000	1.6
3" meter	\$112,000	\$112,000	2
4" meter	\$179,200	\$179,200	1.6
6" meter	\$358,400	\$358,400	2

Availability Fees are assessed for all new connections to the County water system.

The Availability Fee shall be recalculated whenever there is a change in use or expansion requiring more capacity. Such recalculated Availability Fee shall be the difference between the amount previously paid as an Availability Fee and the current Availability Fee for the larger meter. For example, if a customer pays a water Availability Fee of \$17,500.00 for a 1 inch (1") meter and later expands and requires a 2 inch (2") meter, assuming the current Availability Fees are the same as set forth above, the water Availability Fee would be \$38,500.00.

Provided, however, for the period from October 14, 2008, through October 14, 2010, to encourage existing customers who are using a private well or other water supply and have a County water line at the property to connect to the County system, the following Availability Fees shall apply:

- (1) For a single family residential unit, the Availability Fee shall be \$2,800.00.
- (2) For an existing multi-family residential unit, the Availability Fee shall be \$2,800 multiplied by the number of single family equivalent residential connections.
- (3) For existing business, commercial and industrial unit or public facility, the Availability Fee shall be the greater of \$7.00 per gallon of estimated use per day or \$2,800.00, whichever is greater.

D. No Availability Fees shall be changed over to another customer or parcel without permission of the Director.

E. Refunds shall be made on Availability and Connection Fees in conformity with policies established by the Board of Supervisors.

3. Section 112-54 of Article VII, Part 2, Central Water System, of Chapter 112, Water, of the Code of Caroline County, Virginia, is hereby amended, restated and reordained to read as follows:

**§ 112-54. Tiers and Monthly Water Rates.**

A. The tiers to calculate Use Fees are defined as follows:

	<u>5/8 meter</u>	
Tier 1	0 gal.	4,000 gals.
Tier 2	4,001 gals.	8,000 gals.
Tier 3	8,001 gals.	10,000 gals.
Tier 4	10,001 gals.	+ gals.

	<u>1" meter</u>	
Tier 1	0 gal.	10,000 gals.
Tier 2	10,001 gals.	20,000 gals.
Tier 3	20,001 gals.	25,000 gals.
Tier 4	25,001 gals.	+ gals.

	<u>1.5" meter</u>	
Tier 1	0 gal.	20,000 gals.
Tier 2	20,001 gals.	37,000 gals.
Tier 3	37,001 gals.	46,250 gals.
Tier 4	46,251 gals.	+ gals.

	<u>2" meter</u>	
Tier 1	0 gal.	53,400 gals.
Tier 2	53,401 gals.	92,500 gals.
Tier 3	92,501 gals.	115,625 gals.
Tier 4	115,626 gals.	+ gals.

	<u>3" meter</u>	
Tier 1	0 gal.	192,240 gals.
Tier 2	192,241 gals.	309,875 gals.
Tier 3	309,876 gals.	387,344 gals.
Tier 4	387,345 gals.	+ gals.

	4" meter	
Tier 1	0 gal.	948,384 gals.
Tier 2	948,385 gals.	1,384,108 gals.
Tier 3	1,384,109 gals.	1,730,135 gals.
Tier 4	1,730,136 gals.	+ gals.

  

	6" meter	
Tier 1	0 gal.	1,461,024 gals.
Tier 2	1,461,025 gals.	2,076,163 gals.
Tier 3	2,076,164 gals.	2,595,203 gals.
Tier 4	2,595,204 gals.	+ gals.

B. The above referenced tiers shall be used to calculate residential and commercial water Use Fee, excluding irrigation meters, and will be based on the following rates:

<b>Tier 1</b>	\$1.25 per 1,000 gallons or portion thereof
<b>Tier 2</b>	\$1.50 per 1,000 gallons or portion thereof
<b>Tier 3</b>	\$3.50 per 1,000 gallons or portion thereof
<b>Tier 4</b>	\$4.00 per 1,000 gallons or portion thereof

In addition, as part of the water Use Fee for each residential water connection, there will also be a capacity charge of \$14.00 per connection per month. For example, if a residential uses 6,000 gallons of water, the first 4,000 gallons will be billed at the rate of \$1.25 per gallon and the other 2,000 gallons will be billed at the rate of \$1.50 per gallon or portion thereof – for a total bill of \$22.00 (\$14.00 plus 4 x \$1.25 plus 2 x \$1.50).

In addition, as a part of the water Use Fee, each commercial water connection will also pay a capacity charge based on the following:

<b>5/8" meter</b>	\$18.00 per month
<b>1" meter</b>	\$45.00 per month
<b>1½" meter</b>	\$81.00 per month
<b>2" meter</b>	\$129.00 per month
<b>3" meter</b>	\$194.00 per month
<b>4" meter</b>	\$283.00 per month
<b>6" meter</b>	\$331.00 per month

C. Monthly water Use Fees shall be based on 100% of the water consumption as determined by the County-owned water meter.

Use Fees for multiple business, industry, commercial or public units on one water meter shall be 100% of the water consumption for the meter. Payment will be the responsibility of the designated party at the time of

service initiation. Billing shall not be less than if all parties were billed separately.

D. For maintaining fire hydrants on private property, there shall be an annual hydrant charge of \$100 per hydrant.

E. Irrigation meter water Use Fees will be \$12.00 per 1000 gallons or portion thereof used plus a meter capacity charge of \$35.00 for a 5/8 inch meter, \$65.00 for one inch (1") meter, and \$100.00 for two inch (2") meter.

4. In all other respects, the provisions of Chapter 112, Water, of the Code of the County of Caroline, Virginia, shall remain the same.

5. The foregoing shall be effective immediately; however, Use Fees shall first be in effect for the billing period beginning April 1, 2009. Bills for this period would usually be received by customers in May 2009.