

Caroline County Public Utilities Rate Increase effective April 1, 2009

Understanding you Water and Sewer Utility Bill

Your water/sewer bill is made up of several different components, based on the type of services you receive (water and/or sewer), season of the year (summer or winter) and the size of the service available for your home or business. Caroline County Public Utilities owns and operates a well system to provide you with potable water, and a regional wastewater treatment plant to treat the sewage. Rates for these services have been designed to recover the costs of both producing potable water and treating the wastewater at our sewer facilities, including distribution and collection systems, treatment facilities, and metering equipment. Administrative and clerical costs are also a part of providing service.

Billing Schedule

Water and sewer bills will be sent out on a monthly basis. Since all water and sewer services are used by the customer in advance of receiving the bill, bills are due and payable when rendered. The original due date will be 30 days from the date the bill was rendered.

Capacity Charge

All customers receiving water and/or sewer services are charged a capacity charge. This is a fixed monthly fee, determined by the size of the water meter installed at your property. All single family residences are served by $\frac{3}{4}$ " meters, which are the smallest and least expensive available. Commercial meter size is determined by the volume of water expected to be used by the customer. This fee helps to equitably distribute service costs that are not related to the volume of water used, such as bill production, customer service, water service inspections, meter reading, maintenance and repairs, all to provide reliable services to our customers

Tiered Water & Sewer Rates (Example is for 5/8"-3/4" service)

Your utility bill has four tiers, increasing block water and sewer rate structure. Under this rate structure, water & sewer consumption up to 4,000 gallons per month is charged at the first tier rate (water \$1.25 & sewer \$8.25) per 1,000 gallons. If water & sewer consumption reaches 4,001 gallons per month, the customer enters the second tier, and the water & sewer used in excess of 4,000 gallons per month is charged at the second tier rate of (water \$1.50 & sewer \$8.50) per 1,000 gallons. If water consumption reaches 8,001 gallons per month, the customer enters the third tier, and the water & sewer use in excess of 8,000 gallons per month is charged at a rate of (water \$3.50 & sewer \$8.75) per 1,000 gallons. If water consumption reaches 10,001 gallons per month, the customer enters the fourth tier, and the water & sewer use in excess of 10,000 gallons per month is charged at a rate of (water \$4.00 & sewer \$9.50) per 1,000 gallons.

		Water	Sewer
Usage Rates	Capacity Charges for 5/8" - 3/4" Meter (Residential)	\$ 14.00	\$ 18.00
	Water: 0-4,000 gals, per 1,000 gals.	\$ 1.25	\$ 8.25
	Water: 4,001 - 8,000 gals, per 1,000 gals.	\$ 1.50	\$ 8.50
	Water: 8,001 - 10,000 gals, per 1,000 gals.	\$3.50	\$ 8.75
	Water: Over 10,001 gals, per 1,000 gals.	\$ 4.00	\$ 9.50

		Water	Sewer
Usage Rates	Capacity Charges for 1" Meter	\$ 35.00	\$ 45.00
	Water: 0 - 10,000 gals, per 1,000 gals.	\$ 1.25	\$ 8.25
	Water: 10,001 - 20,000 gals, per 1,000 gals.	\$ 1.50	\$ 8.50
	Water: 20,001 - 25,000 gals, per 1,000 gals.	\$3.50	\$ 8.75
	Water: Over 25,001 gals, per 1,000 gals.	\$ 4.00	\$ 9.50

		Water	Sewer
Usage Rates	Capacity Charges for 1.5" Meter	\$ 63.00	\$ 81.00
	Water: 0 - 20,000 gals, per 1,000 gals.	\$ 1.25	\$ 8.25
	Water: 20,001 - 37,000 gals, per 1,000 gals.	\$ 1.50	\$ 8.50
	Water: 37,001 - 46,250 gals, per 1,000 gals.	\$3.50	\$ 8.75
	Water: Over 46,251 gals, per 1,000 gals.	\$ 4.00	\$ 9.50

		Water	Sewer
Usage Rates	Capacity Charges for 2" Meter	\$ 100.00	\$ 129.00
	Water: 0 - 53,400 gals, per 1,000 gals.	\$ 1.25	\$ 8.25
	Water: 53,401 - 92,500 gals, per 1,000 gals.	\$ 1.50	\$ 8.50
	Water: 92,501 - 115,625 gals, per 1,000 gals.	\$3.50	\$ 8.75
	Water: Over 115,626 gals, per 1,000 gals.	\$ 4.00	\$ 9.50

		Water	Sewer
Usage Rates	Capacity Charges for 3" Meter	\$ 151.00	\$ 194.00
	Water: 0 - 192,240 gals, per 1,000 gals.	\$ 1.25	\$ 8.25
	Water: 192,241 - 309,875 gals, per 1,000 gals.	\$ 1.50	\$ 8.50
	Water: 309,876 - 387,344 gals, per 1,000 gals.	\$3.50	\$ 8.75
	Water: Over 387,345 gals, per 1,000 gals.	\$ 4.00	\$ 9.50

		Water	Sewer
Usage Rates	Capacity Charges for 4" Meter	\$ 220.00	\$ 283.00
	Water: 0 - 948,385 gals, per 1,000 gals.	\$ 1.25	\$ 8.25
	Water: 948,386 - 1,384,108 gals, per 1,000 gals.	\$ 1.50	\$ 8.50
	Water: 1,384,109 - 1,730,135 gals, per 1,000 gals.	\$3.50	\$ 8.75
	Water: Over 1,730,136 gals, per 1,000 gals.	\$ 4.00	\$ 9.50

		Water	Sewer
Usage Rates	Capacity Charges for 6" Meter	\$ 257.00	\$ 331.00
	Water: 0 - 1,461,024 gals, per 1,000 gals.	\$ 1.25	\$ 8.25
	Water: 1,461,025 - 2,076,163 gals, per 1,000 gals.	\$ 1.50	\$ 8.50
	Water: 2,076,164 - 2,595,203 gals, per 1,000 gals.	\$3.50	\$ 8.75
	Water: Over 2,595,204 gals, per 1,000 gals.	\$ 4.00	\$ 9.50

Winter Usage for Summer Billing

Sewer fees are billed using the water meter consumption due to the impracticality of metering sewer usage by an individual customer. This impacts the users who are using water for outdoor activities i.e. watering landscape, washing vehicles, filling pools and sprinkler systems. This method allows us to average a user’s water usage during the months of Dec., Jan., and Feb. and apply them to the summer usage billing for June, July and Aug. We then add a 25% increase to the winter usage calculation. The customer is then billed the lesser of the calculated winter average bill or actual usage for their sewer bill.

Irrigation Rates

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.

Connection Fee

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.

Availability Fees

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

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.