



Dear Commercial Customer,

The Fauquier County Water and Sanitation Authority's (FCWSA) mission is to provide quality, reliable water and wastewater services in an environmentally responsible and sustainable manner. We achieve this, in part, by setting rates based on five-year plans that are stable and affordable for you as they provide us with the funding we need to keep your systems safe and reliable.

For our next five-year plan, FCWSA used an independent rate consultant to craft a proposal that recovers revenue from system usage in a manner that promotes stability, rate equity, simplicity, and conservation. It contains a rate structure designed to charge residential and commercial customers more appropriately, especially those using the highest and lowest amounts of water. It also achieves two primary objectives for commercial customers by reducing fixed charges to give customers more control over their monthly bills and establishing more equitable tiers for water usage. This proposal would be effective **October 1, 2022**.

Under the proposal, FCWSA's "Base Service Fees," also known as our fixed charges, would be adjusted to account for our goal of more equitably distributing the cost of our services. Sizable decreases are involved for many customers, which are balanced out with increases in some usage rates (see full rate charts enclosed). For most customers, there will be a decrease in the Base Service Fees from their current costs by about 26% for Water Base Service Fees and 14% for Sewer Base Service Fees. To offset this reduction, our variable charges are increasing to ensure financial stability and continue allowing those customers wishing to use more water the opportunity to do so at a higher cost based on the impact on our systems.

Historically, FCWSA has used a one-size-fits-all approach to usage tiers, which are the variable parts of your water bills. This has meant a large commercial customer pays the same variable charges as a residential customer, even if the commercial customer had paid more for a larger meter when they started their service. Under the proposed structure, tiers will scale in accordance with meter size. Customers who purchased larger meters will pay variable charges appropriate for their meter size. While this is slightly more complicated than the previous structure, the proposal improves FCWSA's ability to charge those who use both the lowest and highest amounts of water more equitably (see full rate charts enclosed).

The full proposal can be found at www.fewsa.org. Because many of these changes are tied to the summertime usage, the new rate plan will be effective October 1, 2022 to allow large irrigation customers the opportunity to reprogram irrigation systems in advance of the next irrigation season.

The proposal has entered the public comment process required before approval by the FCWSA Board. To take in customer comments, FCWSA will hold a public hearing in the Board room of the FCWSA Administrative Building in Vint Hill at 7172 Kennedy Road in Warrenton Tuesday, June 7, 2022, at 2 p.m.

Thank you for your patience and resiliency throughout the pandemic. If you have additional questions about the rate change, please contact Customer Service at (540) 349-2092.

Sincerely,

Fauquier County Water and Sanitation Authority

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Fauquier County Water and Sanitation Authority will meet in Regular Session in the Board Room of the Authority Building at 7172 Kennedy Road, Vint Hill Farms, Warrenton, Virginia on Tuesday, June 07, 2022 at 2:00 p.m. in advance of its monthly meeting for the express purpose of receiving comments from the public on a proposed change to its Schedule of Rates, Fees, and Other Charges, herein the “Schedule”.

PRELIMINARY SCHEDULE OF RATES, FEES, AND OTHER CHARGES

NOTE: Only the following changes are currently proposed. In all other respects, the Authority’s current Schedule of Rates, Fees, and Other Charges shall remain unchanged.

2.4 Base Service Fees

Meter Size	EMUs	Water – Monthly Base Service Fee (Effective Dates)				
		10/01/2022	10/01/2023	10/01/2024	10/01/2025	10/01/2026
Single-Family Residential						
All	1	\$22.24	\$23.57	\$24.87	\$25.61	\$26.38
Multi-Family and Nonresidential						
5/8”x3/4”	1	\$22.24	\$23.57	\$24.87	\$25.61	\$26.38
Full 3/4”	1.5	\$33.36	\$35.36	\$37.31	\$38.43	\$39.58
1”	2.5	\$55.60	\$58.93	\$62.17	\$64.04	\$65.96
1.5”	5	\$111.19	\$117.86	\$124.35	\$128.08	\$131.92
2”	8	\$177.91	\$188.59	\$198.96	\$204.93	\$211.08
3”	17.5	\$389.18	\$412.53	\$435.22	\$448.27	\$461.72
4”	30	\$667.16	\$707.18	\$746.08	\$768.46	\$791.52
<p>The schedule above represents monthly Base Service Fees based on current EMUs of Availability assigned by meter size. For customers who purchased more EMUs than required above, and who have maintained the additional Availability Assignment through Monthly Base Service Fee payments, monthly Base Service Fees will be billed based on the total number of EMUs Assigned.</p>						

Meter Size	EMUs	Sewer – Monthly Base Service Fee (Effective Dates)				
		10/01/2022	10/01/2023	10/01/2024	10/01/2025	10/01/2026
Single-Family Residential						
All	1	\$25.99	\$25.99	\$25.99	\$26.77	\$27.58
Multi-Family and Nonresidential						
5/8”x3/4”	1	\$25.99	\$25.99	\$25.99	\$26.77	\$27.58
Full 3/4”	1.5	\$39.00	\$39.00	\$39.00	\$40.17	\$41.37
1”	2.5	\$64.99	\$64.99	\$64.99	\$66.94	\$68.95
1.5”	5	\$129.98	\$129.98	\$129.98	\$133.88	\$137.89
2”	8	\$207.97	\$207.97	\$207.97	\$214.21	\$220.64
3”	17.5	\$454.93	\$454.93	\$454.93	\$468.58	\$482.64
4”	30	\$779.88	\$779.88	\$779.88	\$803.28	\$827.37
<p>The schedule above represents Monthly Base Service Fees based on current EMUs of Availability assigned by meter size. For customers who purchased more EMUs than required above, and who have maintained the additional Availability Assignment through Monthly Base Service Fee payments, monthly Base Service Fees will be billed based on the total number of EMUs Assigned.</p>						

2.5 Usage Fees

Water Usage Fees

Meter Size	Water Usage Rate Tier (Monthly Usage in 1,000s of gallons)			
	Tier 1	Tier 2	Tier 3	Tier 4
Single-Family Residential				
All	0 – 3	3 – 6	6 – 18	Over 18
Multi-Family and Nonresidential				
5/8" x 3/4"	0 – 3	3 – 6	6 – 18	Over 18
Full 3/4"	0 – 4.5	4.5 – 9	9 – 27	Over 27
1"	0 – 7.5	7.5 – 15	15 – 45	Over 45
1.5"	0 – 15	15 – 30	30 – 90	Over 90
2"	0 – 24	24 – 48	48 – 144	Over 144
3"	0 – 52.5	52.5 – 105	105 – 315	Over 315
4"	0 – 90	90 – 180	180 – 540	Over 540

The schedule above represents monthly Tier assignment based on current EMUs of Availability assigned by meter size. For customers who purchased more EMUs than required above, and who have maintained the additional Availability Assignment through Monthly Base Service Fee payments, monthly Base Service Fees will be billed based on the total number of EMUs Assigned.

Tier	Water Usage Rate per 1,000 gallons (Effective Dates)				
	10/01/2022	10/01/2023	10/01/2024	10/01/2025	10/01/2026
1	\$5.94	\$6.29	\$6.64	\$6.84	\$7.04
2	\$8.90	\$9.44	\$9.96	\$10.26	\$10.56
3	\$13.36	\$14.16	\$14.94	\$15.38	\$15.85
4	\$17.81	\$18.88	\$19.91	\$20.51	\$21.13

Sewer Usage Fees

Uniform Rate	Sewer Usage Rate per 1,000 gallons (Effective Dates)				
	10/01/2022	10/01/2023	10/01/2024	10/01/2025	10/01/2026
	\$11.57	\$11.57	\$11.57	\$11.92	\$12.27

Increased residential water demands during the summer months may be a result of irrigation or other outdoor water usage that does not enter the sanitary sewer system. For residential customers receiving sewer service from FCWSA where metered water service is provided by FCWSA, Buckland Water and Sanitation Assets Corporation in Vint Hill, or by the Town of Remington, sewer usage is seasonally adjusted as follows:

May – September. Sewer usage is charged based on the lower of actual metered consumption or the average December – February monthly consumption plus 2,000 gallons. For all new residential customers that have not established a December – February average consumption, sewer volume charges will be capped at the lesser of actual consumption or 9,000 gallons.

No seasonal sewer usage adjustment will be made for customers with a submeter, nonresidential customers, or customers using a private water source.

2.6 Unmetered Service

Unmetered single-family residential water and/or sewer customers will be charged based on 5/8" x 3/4" meter size and 7,000 gallons per month usage. All other unmetered water and/or sewer customers will be charged based on 5/8" x 3/4" meter size and 7,000 gallons per month usage per availability assigned.

2.7 Large Meter Service

All rates, fees, and charges for customers with meter sizes greater than four inches (4") are determined on an individual basis. The customer and the Authority will enter into a separate agreement, which establishes all rates, fees, and charges for the services provided.

2.8 Other Service

All rates, fees, and charges for customers receiving service other than water or sewer service are determined on an individual basis. The customer and the Authority will enter into a separate agreement, which establishes all rates, fees, and charges for the services provided.

2.30 Hydrant Meter Fees

A. Meter Deposit: \$2,000

B. Monthly Rates: Hydrant Meter Accounts are established as water-only accounts equivalent to a Full 3/4" water meter including Base Service Fees, and all Hydrant Meter Usage is billed at the Tier 3 Water Usage Rate.

C. Miscellaneous Charges:

1. Inspection Fee: \$20.00

2. Failure to report monthly reading: \$500.00

3. Late payment fee is the same as the Authority's domestic customer accounts.