San Francisco Water Power Sewer
Services of the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission

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2013-2014 Wastewater Capacity Charge

Frequently Asked Questions

1) How has the Wastewater Capacity Charge changed?

The Wastewater Capacity Charge has been adjusted based on changes in the *Engineering News-Record* 20 City Average Construction Cost Index. The new rate will be assessed on permits issued at the Department of Building Inspection (DBI) beginning July 1, 2013.

Table A: Residential Charges Based on Size of Units

Size of Residential Units	Effective July 1, 2008	Effective July 1, 2009	Effective July 1, 2010	Effective July 1, 2011	Effective July 1, 2012	**Effective July 1, 2013**
1 EDU (Equivalent Dwelling Unit)	**2,999.00**	**3,124.00**	**3,228.00**	**3,341.00**	**3,422.00**	**3,514.00**
800 sq/ft or less: 1/3 EDU	1,000.00	1,031.00	1,065.00	1,103.00	1,129.00	1,160.00
801-1700 sq/ft: 1/2 EDU	1,500.00	1,563.00	1,614.00	1,671.00	1,711.00	1,757.00
1701-2500 sq/ft: 2/3 EDU	1,999.00	2,094.00	2,163.00	2,238.00	2,293.00	2,354.00
2501-5000 sq/ft: 2 EDU	5,997.00	6,250.00	6,456.00	6,682.00	6,844.00	7,028.00
5001 sq/ft or greater: 3 EDU	8,996.00	9,375.00	9,684.00	10,023.00	10,266.00	10,542.00

Table B: Charges for Non-Residential Projects

Common Building Categories	Charge Per Square Foot					
	Effective July 1, 2008	Effective July 1, 2009	Effective July 1, 2010	Effective July 1, 2011	Effective July 1, 2012	**Effective July 1, 2013**
Auto / transit services, gas stations	0.29	0.30	0.31	0.32	0.33	0.34
Clinics — Medical / Dental	0.24	0.25	0.26	0.27	0.28	0.29
Convalescent and Nursing Homes	3.34	3.48	3.59	3.72	3.81	3.91
Hospital	0.41	0.43	0.45	0.46	0.47	0.48
Hotels with eating	1.47	1.54	1.59	1.64	1.68	1.73
Hotels without eating	1.05	1.09	1.13	1.17	1.20	1.23
Office, general	0.33	0.35	0.36	0.37	0.38	0.39
Restaurants	8.61	8.97	9.27	9.59	9.83	10.09
Retail–Low, i.e. book, clothing, gallery, liquor, department, pet food only, pharmacy, dry cleaner agent, with no cleaning or wash and fold onsite	0.15	0.16	0.16	0.17	0.17	0.17
Retail–Medium, i.e. coffee sales (no kitchen), bar, market/food (no kitchen or butcher)	2.05	2.14	2.21	2.28	2.34	2.40
Retail–High, i.e. bakery, supermarket with kitchen or butcher, hair/nail salon, animal grooming/sales	6.24	6.50	6.72	6.95	7.12	7.31
School	0.13	0.13	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.15
Laundry*	41.42	43.16	44.58	46.14	47.25	48.52
Car Wash	10.40	10.83	11.19	11.58	11.86	12.18

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2) How is the Wastewater Capacity Charge Calculated?

Residential: Charges are based on the size of residential units listed in **Table A**. For projects with multiple units, the charge is multiplied by the number of units of each size to determine the Capacity Charge.

Non-Residential: Charges are based on the size of the project (in square feet), see **Table B**.

Mixed Use: Mixed-use construction will be assessed using a combination of the residential & non-residential methods.

A *Prior Use Credit* may be available to offset the charge if there has been 12 months continuous water use within the 5 years previous to the issue date of the permit.

3) When and where do I pay the Wastewater Capacity Charge?

50% of the total Wastewater Capacity Charge is added to the DBI permit fees and is collected when the site permit or the building permit is issued. If requested, 100% of the charge can be added to the permit fees. The balance is billed and collected directly by the SFPUC. The second payment is due upon the occurrence of the first of the following four events:

a. Issuance of a Certificate of Occupancy from DBI or a building permit marked as complete, or
b. Installation of a new or increased water service meter from the SFPUC, or
c. Sale or transfer of ownership of the property, or
d. 12 months from the issue date of the building permit.

The Capacity Charge Invoice attached to every issued permit shows the amount of the 1st payment collected at DBI and 2nd payment due and payable at the SFPUC.

SFPUC Customer Services
Attn: Cashier
525 Golden Gate Av., 1st Floor
San Francisco, CA 94102-3220

5) What if I have additional questions?

You can call SFPUC staff at (415) 575-6941 for additional information. SFPUC staff is also available at the **Department of Building Inspection** (DBI), **1660 Mission St., San Francisco, CA 94103**, on the 5th Floor to answer questions. Information can also be found on our website at www.sfwater.org.

* Laundromats charges can also be calculated using potential water use if the manufacturer's product tear sheet plus additional information such as number of cycles, turns per day etc. is provided to PUC staff.