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

525 Golden Gate Ave., 2nd Floor
San Francisco, CA 94102
T 415.551.4705
F 415.551.3050
TTY 415.551.3052

2013-2014 Water Capacity Charge

Frequently Asked Questions

1) How has the Water Capacity Charge changed?

The Water 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: Square Footage Method (residential construction only)

Residential per square foot	Water Capacity Charge					
	Starting July 1, 2008	Starting July 1, 2009	Starting July 1, 2010	Starting July 1, 2011	Starting July 1, 2012	Starting July 1, 2013
800 sq/ft or less	339.00	354.00	365.00	378.00	387.00	397.00
801-1700 sq/ft	509.00	530.00	548.00	567.00	580.00	596.00
1701-2500 sq/ft	678.00	707.00	730.00	755.00	766.00	786.00
2501-5000 sq/ft	2,034.00	2,120.00	2,190.00	2,266.00	2,320.00	2,382.00
5001 sq/ft or greater	3,051.00	3,180.00	3,285.00	3,399.00	3,480.00	3,573.00

Table B: Meter Size Method (sized by water fixture count)

Residential and Non-Residential Meter Size	Water Capacity Charge					
	Starting July 1, 2008	Starting July 1, 2009	Starting July 1, 2010	Starting July 1, 2011	Starting July 1, 2012	**Starting July 1, 2013**
5/8"	1,017.00	1,060.00	1,095.00	1,133.00	1,160.00	$ 1,191
3/4"	1,526.00	1,590.00	1,642.00	1,699.00	1,740.00	$ 1,787
1"	2,542.00	2,650.00	2,737.00	2,833.00	2,902.00	$ 2,980
1-1/2"	5,084.00	5,300.00	5,474.00	5,665.00	5,802.00	$ 5,958
2"	8,134.00	8,480.00	8,759.00	9,065.00	9,285.00	$ 9,534
3"	15,252.00	15,900.00	16,423.00	16,996.00	17,408.00	$ 17,875
4"	25,419.00	26,500.00	27,372.00	28,327.00	29,014.00	$ 29,793
6"	50,838.00	53,000.00	54,745.00	56,656.00	58,031.00	$ 59,589
8"	81,341.00	84,800.00	87,592.00	90,649.00	92,849.00	$ 95,342
10"	116,929.00	121,900.00	125,913.00	130,308.00	133,471.00	$ 137,055
12"	218,606.00	227,900.00	235,402.00	243,619.00	249,532.00	$ 256,233
16"	381,395.00	397,500.00	410,585.00	424,917.00	435,230.00	$ 446,918

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2) How is the Water Capacity Charge Calculated?

Residential: Charges are calculated both by the Square Foot Method, **Table A** and the Meter Size Method **Table B**; the assessed charge will be the lesser of the two.

Non-Residential: Charges are based solely on the Meter Size Method, **Table B**.

Mixed Use: If there are separate water meters for the residential & non-residential units each will be assessed separately and the total of the two will be the Charge. If there is one water meter for the entire development then the Meter Size Method will be used, **Table B**.

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.

Permits submitted on or before June 6, 2007 may pay only half of the assessed Charge or no Charge at all depending on when the permit was issued, see Table C.

Table C: Timing of Assessment & Payment Due

Permits Submitted	Permits Issued	Charge Amount	Payment Due
June 7, 2007 and after	Jan. 1, 2008 and after	100% of Charge	50% of Charge collected at DBI with permit issuance Balance payable to SFPUC within 12 months of issue date of permit.
Jan. 1, 2006 – June 6, 2007	Jan. 1, 2008 and after	50% of Charge	50% of Charge collected at DBI with permit issuance Remainder payable to SFPUC within 12 months of issue date of permit.
Prior to Jan. 1, 2006	Prior to Jan. 1, 2008	No Charge	

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

50% of the total Water 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 Temporary Certificate of Occupancy from DBI or a building permit marked as complete.
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 site 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

4) 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.