

# SUPPLEMENT to Rates and Rules

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# SUPPLEMENT to Rates and Rules

## 1. CHARGES FOR WATER SERVICE

### 1.1. Metered Service

A. Meter Charge – Fixed charge, previously known as the Readiness-to-Serve Charge, is for domestic, commercial, industrial, agricultural, public authority, and commercial-other customers. These charges are effective January 1, 2023 and were approved with adoption of the Sweetwater Authority (Authority) Governing Board’s Resolution 22-12.

Meter Size	Bi-monthly Charge	Monthly Charge	Daily Rate
5/8 x 3/4 inch	\$ 21.70	\$ 10.85	\$ .3617
1 inch	32.30	16.15	.5383
1-1/2 inch	51.18	25.59	.8530
2-inch	72.40	36.20	1.2067
3-inch	137.90	68.96	2.2985
4-inch	232.76	116.38	3.8793
6-inch	468.52	234.26	7.8087
8-inch	772.48	386.24	12.8747
10-inch	1,175.02	587.51	19.5837

B. Charges for the water delivered through the meter are in addition to the Meter Charge.

### 1.2. Water Commodity Charge

A. A variable commodity charge for all water used based on units of one-hundred (100) cubic feet (HCF) (or 748 gallons) and billed in two (2) components: (1) The Authority’s Commodity Charge, which covers the cost of supplying, treating and distributing water from any of the Authority’s sources, including imported water, and (2) the San Diego County Water Authority (SDCWA) Wholesale Water Purchase Charge, which includes the SDCWA Municipal and Industrial Untreated Supply Rate, Transportation Rate, and Treatment Rate, and covers the cost of purchasing and importing water from SDCWA when necessary.

B. The SDCWA Wholesale Water Purchase Charge also recovers revenue to fund the Authority’s rate stabilization fund, which will be used exclusively to offset impacts of reduced local water supply on rates. These charges are effective January 1, 2023 and were approved with adoption of the Governing Board’s Resolution 22-12.

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<b>Based on Units of Water Served</b>	<b>Authority Charge \$/HCF</b>	<b>SDCWA Wholesale Water Purchase Charge \$/HCF</b>
Single-family Residential:		
Tier 1: 0-10 HCF	\$ 4.31	\$ 0.54
Tier 2: 11-16 HCF	5.14	0.65
Tier 3: 17-27 HCF	5.29	0.66
Tier 4: 28+ HCF	6.37	0.80
Multi-family Residential	5.92	0.74
Commercial	5.66	0.71
Public Agency	6.99	0.87
Construction	8.54	1.07

**1.3. SDCWA and Metropolitan Water District (MWD) Charges**

- A. These charges reflect the pass-through charges from SDCWA and MWD. The charges are effective January 1, 2023 and were approved with adoption of the Governing Board’s Resolution 22-12.
- B. The six (6) components that apply to the pass-through charges are as follows:
  - 1) The Infrastructure Access Charge (IAC) funds a portion of SDCWA’s fixed costs. It is determined on the basis of the size of the meter serving a parcel and is a fixed charge levied on all retail meters within the service area.

<b>Meter Size</b>	<b>Bi-monthly Charge</b>	<b>Monthly Charge</b>
$5/8 \times 3/4$ inch	\$ 9.16	\$ 4.58
1-inch	14.66	7.33
$1-1/2$ inch	27.48	13.74
2-inch	47.62	23.81
3-inch	87.94	43.97
4-inch	150.22	75.11
6-inch	274.80	137.40
8-inch	476.32	238.16
10-inch or larger	714.48	357.24

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- 2) The Customer Service Charge is the Authority’s allocation of SDCWA’s cost to support its customer service function. This charge is based on a three (3) year rolling average of water purchased from SDCWA and is three (\$0.03) cents per HCF.
- 3) The Emergency Storage Charge is the Authority’s allocation of the costs of SDCWA’s Emergency and Carryover Storage Program. This charge is based on a three (3) year rolling average of water purchased from SDCWA and is eight (\$0.08) cents per HCF.
- 4) The Supply Reliability charge is the Authority’s allocation of the costs associated with SDCWA’s reliable water supplies. This charge is based on a five (5) year rolling average of water purchased from SDCWA and is eight (\$0.08) cents per HCF.
- 5) The MWD Readiness-to-Serve charge is the Authority’s allocation of the cost of MWD’s charge to collect costs associated with standby and peak water deliveries and emergency storage. This charge is based on an agency’s ten (10) year rolling average of firm demands and is one (\$0.01) cent per HCF.
- 6) The Capacity Charge is the Authority’s allocation of the cost of MWD’s charge to collect the cost of providing peak capacity. This charge is based on the maximum daily flow of water purchases over the three (3) previous fiscal years and is four (\$0.04) cents per HCF.

**1.4. Separate Private Fire Protection Lateral**

These charges are effective January 1, 2023 and were approved with adoption of the Governing Board’s Resolution 22-12:

Lateral Size	Bi-Monthly Charge	Monthly Charge	Installation Charge
1-inch	\$ 1.18	\$ 0.59	By estimate only
1-1/2 inch	3.42	1.71	By estimate only
2-inch	7.30	3.65	By estimate only
3-inch	21.24	10.62	By estimate only
4-inch	45.28	22.64	By estimate only
6-inch	131.58	65.79	By estimate only
8-inch	280.42	140.21	By estimate only
10-inch	504.30	252.15	By estimate only
12-inch	814.60	407.30	By estimate only

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## **2. INSTALLATION CHARGES**

### **2.1. Charges for Permanent Meter and Lateral Service**

- A. The charge for meter and lateral installations will be based on actual cost and requires an initial deposit based on an Engineering Department estimate. The charge will include the SDCWA capacity charge and the Authority capacity fees as required in the Rates and Rules. A final bill for costs not covered by the deposit or refund of excess deposit will be made to the customer upon completion of the work. Pursuant to action of the Governing Board on September 25, 2019, costs for installing new facilities are ineligible to be financed through a payment plan with the Authority.
- B. Reduction in meter size on existing lateral: No service charge or refunds will apply.
- C. Relocation of meter and lateral: The charge for meter and lateral relocations will be based on actual cost and requires an initial deposit based on an Engineering Department estimate. A final bill for costs not covered by the deposit or refund of excess deposit will be made to the customer throughout the project as needed and upon completion of the work.

As discussed in Section 2.1.A, costs for installing new facilities are ineligible to be financed through a payment plan with the Authority.

- D. Increase in meter size: Charge will amount to any difference in the standard meter charge and cost of the new lateral; and will be based on actual cost and requires an initial deposit based on an Engineering Department estimate. A final bill for costs not covered by the deposit or refund of excess deposit will be made to the customer throughout the project as needed and upon completion of the work. The charge will also include any difference between the SDCWA capacity charge and the Authority capacity fees as required in the Rates and Rules. As discussed in Section 2.1.A, costs for installing new facilities are ineligible to be financed through a payment plan with the Authority.

### **2.2. Fire Hydrants**

- A. Charges for fire hydrants will be for actual installation costs.
- B. The charge for meter and lateral installations will be based on actual cost and requires an initial deposit based on an Engineering Department estimate. As discussed in Section 2.1.A., costs for installing new facilities are ineligible to be financed through a payment plan with the Authority.
- C. A final bill for costs not covered by the deposit or refund of excess deposit will be made to the customer upon completion of the work.

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## 2.3. Utility Payments

- A. In addition to the above water lateral, fire hydrant, and fire protection lateral installation charges, a charge for utility permit fees and applicable inspection deposits will be made to reimburse the Authority for such fees paid to that agency where work is performed.
- B. The amount of the fees and deposits will be determined at the time of application for service as established by that agency having that jurisdiction. A final bill for costs not covered by the deposit or refund of excess deposit will be made to the customer upon completion of the work.

## 2.4. Fringe Benefit and Overhead Charge

- A. Employee fringe benefit and overhead expenses are included in construction costs when Authority labor is used to install, maintain, or repair facilities and are a percentage of all labor time charged to the project.

<b>Effective January 1, 2023:</b>	
Fringe Benefit Charge	115%
Overhead Charge	53%
Total Employee Fringe Benefit and Overhead Charge	168%

## 3. TEMPORARY SERVICE

### 3.1. Construction Meter

- A. A Meter charge will apply for this type of service equal to the monthly charge for a three (3) inch meter as stated in Section 1.1.A.
- B. Charges for service for less than a thirty (30) day period will be prorated.
- C. The water commodity charge will be as stated in Section 1.1.
- D. The SDCWA-MWD surcharge is as stated in Section 1.3.B.1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6.

### 3.2. Additional Charges for Temporary Meters

<b>Meter Size</b>	<b>Approximate Capacity</b>	<b>Installation Deposit</b>
3-inch	400 GPM	\$ 1,700.00

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- A. The following shall be deducted from the meter deposit once the meter has been returned to the Authority, and the closing bill will be calculated as follows:
  - 1) Any unpaid charges for minimum monthly fees or water use.
  - 2) The cost of any repairs required or replacement of parts lost or damaged.
  - 3) The cost of a spanner wrench if one was issued and not returned – forty (\$40.00) dollars.
- B. If there is a balance due, a closing bill will be mailed; if there is a credit balance, a refund check will be processed.
- C. If the closing bill has not been paid within eight (8) weeks after the final bill is rendered, the account will be referred to the Authority’s collection agency due to nonpayment.
- D. Unauthorized use of water through fire hydrants or other Authority facilities either by direct means or through the tampering of a temporary meter shall be subject to an administrative fine of one-thousand (\$1,000) dollars, plus the estimated cost of unauthorized water which will be billed to the responsible party.

## 4. OTHER FEES, CHARGES, AND DEPOSITS

<b>4.1.</b>	<b>After Hours Service</b>	\$160.00
<b>4.2.</b>	<b>Abandonment of Service</b> All lateral sizes	By estimate only
<b>4.3.</b>	<b>Billing Fee for Non-Compliant Floating Meters</b>	
A.	Failure to report the monthly read for billing purposes	110.00
B.	Failure to renew the required fire permit	225.00
C.	Exceeding the twelve (12) month period for having a temporary floating meter without Authority approval	335.00
<b>4.4.</b>	<b>Credit Card Chargeback/Reversal Fee</b>	30.00
<b>4.5.</b>	<b>Delinquent Accounts</b>	
A.	Late Fee	40.00
B.	Handling Fee	85.00
C.	Illegal Connection Fee	225.00
D.	Damaged Padlock or Barrel Lock	20.00
E.	Damaged ¾-inch Locking Device	60.00
F.	Damaged 1-inch Locking Device	60.00
G.	Damaged 3/4-inch Locking Pipe Plug	60.00
H.	Damaged 1-inch Locking Pipe Plug	90.00

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<b>4.6.</b>	<b>Deposit for Meter Test</b>	165.00
<b>4.7.</b>	<b>Drought-Related Fines</b> Administrative fines may be levied for violations of prohibited water conservation measures. See the Drought Response Plan for detailed information on these fines.	
<b>4.8.</b>	<b>Easement Quitclaims</b> Process the removal of an Authority easement from a property as requested by the property owner. A value may be assessed, applicable to the easement, if it is determined that the Authority or its predecessor provided compensation to acquire the easement.	1,000.00
<b>4.9.</b>	<b>Emergency Shut-Off Service</b> 5/8-inch through 2-inch meter service 3-inch and larger meter service	65.00 Actual cost, including overhead
<b>4.10.</b>	<b>Estimated Service Damage Charge</b>	500.00
<b>4.11.</b>	<b>Fire Flow Tests (per hydrant or location)</b> Fire hydrant flow tests requested to complete fire sprinkler calculations or to determine available flow in a specific area.	1,500.00
<b>4.12.</b>	<b>Hydraulic Flow Analysis (per hydrant)</b>	300.00
<b>4.13.</b>	<b>Missed Water Connection Appointment</b>	50.00
<b>4.14.</b>	<b>Remote Services</b> Remote water services are not in compliance with the Authority's construction specifications. This fee recovers the cost to process the approval by the General Manager for a remote water service requested by the property owner, for a parcel that is land-locked and does not front a water main in an Authority easement or public right-of-way.	930.00
<b>4.15.</b>	<b>Returned Check Charge</b>	30.00
<b>4.16.</b>	<b>Security Deposit</b> A security deposit will be determined by the meter size for the property.	5/8" - 150.00 1" - 300.00 1-1/2" & above - \$ 500.00

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## 4.17. Document Reproduction Fee

Black and White	Fee Per Copy
8-1/2 x 11	\$ 0.10
8-1/2 x 14	\$ 0.10
11 x 17	\$ 0.20
24 x 36	\$ 3.75 (.75/SF)
<b>Color</b>	
8-1/2 x 11	\$ 1.60
8-1/2 x 14	\$ 1.60
8-1/2 x 17	\$ 1.80
11 x 17	\$ 2.80
24 x 36	\$10.00

Maps (Color Only)	Fee Per Copy
8-1/2 x 11	\$ 15.00
8-1/2 x 14	\$ 20.00
8-1/2 x 17	\$ 25.00
11 x 17	\$ 30.00
24 x 36	\$ 50.00
<b>Electronic Records</b>	
Including, but not limited to: Video, CD, DVD	Direct cost plus the current staff costs
<b>Mailing Service Fee</b>	
Envelope	\$ 0.50
Postage per ounce	USPS Rate

## 5. CAPACITY FEES

5.1. Collection of capacity fees is necessary to allocate the cost of existing infrastructure to new water connections or to existing water connections which require additional capacity to serve the property due to change in use or expansion of use.

5.2. This fee was established per Resolution 17-02 on January 25, 2017:

A. Single-Family Residential:

Effective Date	Capacity Fee (1)	Unit (2)
July 1, 2021	\$5,490	Equivalent Dwelling Unit

- 1) Updated as of July 1, 2021 based on the 2021 Capacity Fee Study.
- 2) Equivalent Dwelling Unit = Single Family Residential Account, based on gallons per capita per day pursuant to the Authority’s 2020 Urban Water Management Plan (90), and the average household size per US Census data (3.3 persons per household).

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B. Other (Multi-Family Residential, Mobile Home, Irrigation or Commercial):

	<b>EDU</b>	<b>Estimated Usage (3) (gallons per day)</b>	<b>Factor of Base EDU Capacity Fee (4)</b>
All Customers-Base	1	297	100%
Multi-Family Services	1	165	56%
Mobile Home Park Services	1	107	36%

- 1) Based on FY water use presented in the 2020 Urban Water Management Plan.
- 2) Discussion of EDU factors can be found in the 2021 Capacity Fee Study.