



Water & Wastewater Billing Information

SACWSD water & wastewater billing structure utilizes a base monthly fixed charge as well as a tiered water rate structure that increases at higher levels of water usage. The tier systems purpose is to promote water conservation, keep costs affordable, and preservation of this critical resource. Bills are calculated each month based on actual water usage of the household. The District routinely audits customer's water bills for high usages and District staff take every effort to determine if a high usage is due to a leak on a property or consumption before a bill will be sent out. Wastewater rates follow a common wastewater billing practice throughout the wastewater industry that utilizes a Winter Quarter Average (WQA). The WQA establishes a fixed wastewater rate to be applied throughout the year. The Winter Quarter Average (WQA) is based on the average water consumption in January, February, and March. Currently we have a tiered rate structure consisting of a base rate and 3 tiers, with the highest usage tier being defined as 3,000 gallons and over on average.

Water usage fluctuates throughout the year and typically result in higher consumption during the summer months and lower consumption during the winter. Throughout the summer it is common for households to experience higher water bills related to irrigation usage and an increase in water related activities. This trend happens every year and occurs for all water Districts and therefore the majority of residences water bills will go up during the summer to reflect the higher water use. Each household is unique and has different water usage patterns, therefore no water and wastewater bill is the same.

This year we experienced a wet spring and early summer. This resulted in lower than normal May and June water usage. If you used 7 thousand gallons of water in June, your residential customer's water portion of a bill would be \$43.95. It has not been uncommon to see residential accounts use 20 thousand or more gallons of water in the hotter months of July and August. If you used 20 thousand gallons of water in July, your residential customer water portion of a bill would be \$114.56.

Here are a few things to do to possibly lower your summer time water usage:

- Adhere to the mandatory watering schedules to help prevent overwatering your lawn. Those schedules are as follows:

Irrigation shall not occur between the hours of 10 a.m. and 6 p.m.

Watering days based on last number of street address (odd or even)

Sunday, Wednesday, Friday- Even Addresses

Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday- Odd Addresses

- Routinely walk your yard and watch your sprinkler zones to see if you have any leaks (areas that are swelling or pooling from leaking water)

- Routinely check your irrigation system timer to make sure it is still watering on your desired schedule. Power outages and battery failure can sometimes reset your timer, which may lead to watering multiple times a day and possibly every day of the week. Also make sure that you set your timer to a normal watering schedule after the initial establishment of new sod.
- Another way to save water is to create a water wise landscape that utilizes low-water use plants to maximize water efficiency and create a landscape that is sustainable in Colorado's dry climate.
- Regularly check for leaks throughout the home. Common places leaks can be found include toilets, showers and faucets. Leaks can go undetected for long periods of time and result in higher water bills.

If a customer suspects they have a leak or an unusual water and wastewater bill the District recommends calling customer service at 303-288-2646, or fill out a contact us form on the District website SACWSD.org.