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

1155 Market Street, 2nd Floor
San Francisco, CA 94103
T 415.551.4705
F 415.551.4710
TTY 415.551.3052

2011-2012 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, 2011.

Table A: Residential Charges Based on Size of Units

Size of Residential Units	Effective July 1, 2005	Effective July 1, 2008	Effective July 1, 2009	Effective July 1, 2010	**Effective July 1, 2011**
1 EDU (Equivalent Dwelling Unit)	**2,604.00**	**2,999.00**	**3,124.00**	**3,228.00**	**$ 3,341.00**
800 sq/ft or less: 1/3 EDU	2,604.00	1,000.00	1,031.00	1,065.00	$ 1,103.00
801-1700 sq/ft: 1/2 EDU	2,604.00	1,500.00	1,563.00	1,614.00	$ 1,671.00
1701-2500 sq/ft: 2/3 EDU	2,604.00	1,999.00	2,094.00	2,163.00	$ 2,238.00
2501-5000 sq/ft: 2 EDU	2,604.00	5,997.00	6,250.00	6,456.00	$ 6,682.00
5001 sq/ft or greater: 3 EDU	2,604.00	8,996.00	9,375.00	9,684.00	$10,023.00

Table B: Charges for Non-Residential Projects

Common Building Categories	Charge Per Square Foot				
	Effective July 1, 2005	Effective July 1, 2008	Effective July 1, 2009	Effective July 1, 2010	**Effective July 1, 2011**
Auto / transit services, gas stations	0.25	0.29	0.30	0.31	0.32
Clinics — Medical / Dental	0.21	0.24	0.25	0.26	0.27
Convalescent and Nursing Homes	2.90	3.34	3.48	3.59	3.72
Hospital	0.36	0.41	0.43	0.45	0.46
Hotels with eating	1.28	1.47	1.54	1.59	1.64
Hotels without eating	0.91	1.05	1.09	1.13	1.17
Office, general	0.29	0.33	0.35	0.36	0.37
Restaurants	7.48	8.61	8.97	9.27	9.59
Retail–Low, i.e. book, clothing, gallery, liquor, department, pet food only, pharmacy, dry cleaner agent, with no cleaning or wash and fold onsite	0.13	0.15	0.16	0.16	0.17
Retail–Medium, i.e. coffee sales (no kitchen), bar, market/food (no kitchen or butcher)	1.78	2.05	2.14	2.21	2.28
Retail–High, i.e. bakery, supermarket with kitchen or butcher, hair/nail salon, animal grooming/sales	5.42	6.24	6.50	6.72	6.95
School	0.11	0.13	0.13	0.14	0.14
Laundry	35.97	41.42	43.16	44.58	46.14
Car Wash	9.03	10.40	10.83	11.19	11.58

Edwin M. Lee
Mayor
Francesca Vietor
President
Anson Moran
Vice President
Ann Moller Caen
Commissioner
Art Torres
Commissioner
Vince Courtney
Commissioner
Ed Harrington
General Manager

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 footage), see **Table B**.

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

Prior Use credit is available to help offset the charge when there is evidence of continuous water use at the site for 12 months in the 5 years prior to the permit issuance.

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 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 building permit.

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

5) Who can I call if I have more questions?

For additional information on the Wastewater Capacity Charge, please call SFPUC staff at (415) 575-6941. Information is also available at *www.sfwater.org*