

SECTION 3 SEWER CHARGES

3.1 General

The WPCA shall adopt a schedule of sewer connection and use charges in accordance with the relevant provisions of state law.

3.2 Basis for Charge

1. The annual charge for each property shall be based upon the average daily discharge of sanitary wastes by an average single-family dwelling unit.
2. Any non-residential property will be given an Equivalent Dwelling Unit number based upon the average discharge of sanitary wastes per day for such use as compared to the average discharge of sanitary wastes per day by a single family dwelling unit.
3. Because each lot is deemed to be capable of use for at least one single-family dwelling, a minimum of one EDU shall be assigned to each property, irrespective of the actual use of the property. The WPCA may waive this provision if a lot owner demonstrates that his or her lot may not lawfully be used for any purpose that would require a discharge of sewage.
4. Equivalent Dwelling Units for properties with multiple uses will be based upon the sum of the Equivalent Dwelling Units for each use.

3.3 Base Rate

1. The Canton WPCA will annually adopt a projected Operation, Maintenance and Replacement Budget. The Budget, so adopted, shall be divided by the anticipated number of Equivalent Dwelling Units to be connected to the system, to establish the base rate to be charged for each Equivalent Dwelling Unit (EDU). In computing an individual use charge (base rate multiplied by the property's EDU number), the number of Equivalent Dwelling Units shall be rounded to the nearest one-half ($\frac{1}{2}$) EDU, with a minimum charge of one (1) EDU. The charge derived from this calculation shall be rounded off to the nearest cent.
2. The "operation and maintenance" portion of the budget will be adjusted annually to reflect the actual costs incurred in the previous fiscal year. A surplus or deficit will be applied to the budget for the following year, as applicable. The net budget (Gross Operations, Maintenance and Replacement Budget plus Surplus or Deficit in the Operation and Maintenance portion of the Budget) will be used to calculate the base rate to be charged for each EDU.

3.4 Review of Charge

The sewer use charge will be reviewed annually by the Superintendent who shall forward any recommendations the WPCA. The WPCA shall set the annual fees for residential and commercial users at their August monthly meeting. The Tax Office will be notified in writing within seven (7) business days of the rates being set to be used for that October yearly billing.

3.5 Administration

1. The Superintendent will be responsible for maintaining all books, accounts and records of the sewerage system, with the exception that the Tax Collector's office will be responsible for maintaining records regarding the collection of sewer fees, charges, interest, and penalties.
2. Bills for the use of the sewerage system and for other charges in connection therewith will be sent annually to the users of the sewerage system or to the owners of premises on which the sewerage system is used, containing statements of amounts due, on or before September 30th each year, and at such other times as the WPCA may determine.
3. The processes for collection of delinquent sewer fees, charges and assessments shall be in accordance with the relevant provisions of state law.
4. Upon appropriate agreement, water usage for metered properties shall be provided to the Tax Office on a quarterly basis (September, December, March and June) for collection. The Tax Collector will be required to notify the WPCA monthly of sewer collections and submit a report of the outstanding balances still outstanding.
5. Payment of the initial charge will be due at the time of the connection of the user to the sewerage system and will cover the period from the time of such connection through the first billing period. Subsequent use charges will be due and payable in full in accordance with standard billing procedures.
6. In the case of nonpayment of a sewer fees, the Tax Office will submit a list of accounts that are delinquent upon the request of the WPCA.
7. If the sewer use fee, charge or assessment remains unpaid after it becomes due and payable, the WPCA or Tax Collector may maintain and recover in an action of contract or in any other appropriate action, suit or proceeding either in the name of the Town, the Tax Collector, or the WPCA against the person assessed for such sewer use fee, charge or assessment. The Tax Office will use all collection tools available through the State Statutes for the collection of delinquent fees and assessments.

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8. Owners of property against which the use charge is levied shall be liable for payment and for interest, fees and charges from the due date until such charge is paid in full. Interest shall be computed in the manner provided by state law.
9. All sewer usage charges are the responsibility of the owner(s) of record of the property. Unpaid sewer usage charges will become a lien against the property and are subject to interest, fees and charges in accordance with state law.
10. If the sewer use charge for any property exceeds Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00), the use charge may be paid in two (2) equal installments, the first due on October 1st and the second due on April 1st. Newly connected sewer users shall be charged a pro rata amount of the applicable annual user charge for each month or portion thereof of sewer use.

3.6 Sewer Connection Charges

1. The WPCA shall adopt a schedule of sewer connection charges in accordance with the relevant provisions of state law.
2. Sewer connection charges shall be due and payable in full at the time of connection. A certificate of occupancy for use of the property will not be issued by the Building Official until such payment is received by the Tax Collector.
3. The WPCA may charge reasonable fees for the cost of engineering review of proposed sewer laterals and trunk lines and for the cost of inspection of construction of such lines.
4. The WPCA shall use a schedule of connection charges based upon EDU's.
5. The WPCA shall review the schedule of sewer connection charges and shall set a schedule of charges for sewer connections for each year.
6. The connection charges EDU shall be established on an annual basis by the WPCA. All connection charges must be paid in full to the Tax Collector prior to request for inspection of connection.

3.7 Annual Sewer Usage Charges

1. In accordance with the relevant provisions of state law, a use charge shall be levied annually on all properties connected to the Town of Canton's sanitary sewer system.
2. Basic sanitary sewage units will be charged in accordance with the fee schedule established by the WPCA per annum per equivalent dwelling unit (EDU) of 255 gallons per

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day (GPD) for a fiscal year beginning July 1st and ending June 30th and payable October 1st.

- Single family dwelling units
 - Individual apartment or condominium units
 - Home industries employing less than four (4) outside employees
 - Office units used by ten (10) or less employees
 - Industrial facilities employing ten (10) or less employees and having no process waste
 - Churches
 - Firehouses
 - Day care facilities used by less than twelve (12) children
 - Retail units with no public rest rooms and less than ten (10) employees
 - Retail units with public rest rooms and six (6) or less employees
3. Larger users will be charged per each 1,000 gallons of metered annual usage or per each 100 cubic feet of metered annual usage (depending on type of meter), subject to a minimum charge as established annually by the WPCA. A meter for measuring water usage that discharges into the sanitary sewer is required.
- Hotels and motels
 - Office units used by eleven (11) or more employees
 - Industrial facilities employing eleven (11) or more employees
 - Day care, Child Care Center used by twelve (12) or more children
 - Retail units having no public rest rooms and eleven (11) or more employees
 - Retail units having public rest rooms and seven (7) or more employees
 - Schools (public and private)
 - Health Spas, Gymnasiums or Sports facilities with showers

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- Restaurants, Night Clubs, Taverns, and Clubs
 - Commercial Laundries or Laundromats
 - Nursing Homes
 - Commercial food preparation or caterers
 - Car washes, gas stations or commercial garages having floor drains
 - Processing waste
 - Other uses not defined elsewhere
4. Notwithstanding the schedule of use above, these rates will only apply if the discharge to the sewer is similar in content and quantity to the sewage of a basic sewage unit. The WPCA may impose a surcharge for wastewater that is concentrated or difficult to treat. Pre-treatment may be required as may be determined by the WPCA. The basic sewage unit charge per EDU specifically does not apply to uses which by their nature have a higher than ordinary discharge to the sewer system (such as dental offices or businesses doing hair washing or pet washing) or for any other use in which the discharge is not from residential bathrooms, kitchens, and laundry facilities.
 5. If the sewer user claims that only a portion of the water usage is discharged to the Town's sewer system, the sewer user may install and maintain a separate water meter at his or her expense to measure separately the portion of the water usage that is discharged to the sewage treatment system. The separate water meter will be read by authorized personnel of the WPCA.
 6. For a use requiring metered usage where the sewer user is not a customer of the Connecticut Water Company, the sewer user shall install and maintain a water meter at his or her own expense to measure the portion of water usage that is discharged to the sewer. The water meter shall be installed in accordance with the standards of the Connecticut Water Company. The water meter shall be read by authorized personnel of the WPCA.
 7. For a use requiring metered usage where water usage experience cannot be determined, meters have been bypassed or are inoperative, or for new or changed sewer uses, the sewer use charge may be based upon engineering estimates of water usage. Such estimates shall be subject to audit and adjustment.

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8. For a use requiring metered usage, either the user or the WPCA may request an audit. If the rate as determined by the audit differs significantly from the rate as billed, then the difference shall be added to or subtracted from the charge for the next billing period.
9. These rates apply only if the discharge to the sewer is similar in content and quantity to the sewage that would be expected from an average single-family residence, and specifically shall not apply to uses that include commercial food preparation, gasoline stations or commercial garages having floor drains, laundries (for other than small amounts of laundry used on the premises), uses that by their nature have a higher than ordinary discharge to the sewer (such as dental offices or businesses doing hair washing or pet washing), or any other use in which the discharge to the sewer is not similar in content and quantity to discharge from residential bathrooms, kitchens and laundry.
10. A surcharge may be imposed by the WPCA for waste that is concentrated or difficult to treat. Pretreatment may be required.

3.8 Administrative Responses for Failure of Payment

1. The WPCA may assess a late payment charge of 1.5% per month on an outstanding balance (including interest and service charges) of a fee not fully paid within 30 days of notice of the charge from the WPCA. The WPCA may also assess a service charge of \$50 for each check returned for insufficient funds or otherwise dishonored.
2. The WPCA may take one or more of the following actions if a user does not fully pay its charge, any late payment or interest charge, or fees:
 - Deny the user's application to renew its permit upon expiration of the permit until full payment is made, and, for an initial permit, not allow use until full payment is made;
 - Suspend use until full payment is made;
 - Bring a civil action for collection of the amount owed the WPCA, including reasonable attorneys' fees and costs incurred by the WPCA in pursuing such action;
 - Suspend the user's water and/or sewer service, with, where required, the approval of the municipal supplier; and
 - Take any other action available to the WPCA under law or regulation.
3. Imposition of a charge shall not limit the WPCA's ability to take any enforcement action authorized by law or regulation, or any other action authorized by law or regulation,

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regardless of any charge assessed or paid. Payment of a charge does not relieve a person of any other liability under any federal, state, WPCA, or local law or regulation.

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