# APPLICABLE TO BILLINGS AND SERVICES ON OR AFTER OCTOBER 1, 2023 (Except where indicated otherwise)

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	Background and Authorization	

In providing essential public water, sewer and reclaimed water services to Chapel Hill, Carrboro and portions of southern Orange County, Orange Water and Sewer Authority (OWASA) incurs substantial operating and capital expenses. As a community-owned non-profit public utility, OWASA has no authority to levy taxes, nor does it receive tax revenues from local governments for ongoing operations. OWASA finances its water, sewer and reclaimed water operations and extensive capital improvements almost entirely through customer paid fees and charges.

North Carolina G.S. 162A-9 requires that OWASA's "rates, fees and charges shall be fixed and revised so that the revenues of the Authority, together with any other available funds, will be sufficient at all times" to fund operating and maintenance expenses and to pay the principal and interest on all debt issued or assumed by OWASA. OWASA's rates are established under cost-of-service rate-making methodology. OWASA's customers pay for the cost of providing the services and/or facility capacity required to meet customer demand.

The OWASA Board of Directors has determined that the provisions in this Schedule of Rates, Fees, and Charges are necessary to adequately sustain OWASA's near-term and long-range utility operations. Revenues generated by these rate adjustments will provide OWASA with the financial resources necessary to: (1) fund operating costs; (2) adequately maintain existing water, sewer, and reclaimed water facilities; (3) fully comply with environmental and public health standards; (4) meet debt service requirements; (5) create additional facility capacity to stay abreast of water, reclaimed water and sewer service demand in a growing, dynamic community; and (6) maintain adequate reserves.

Except where indicated otherwise, fees go into effect on October 1, 2023.

#### SECTION I: WATER RATES AND FEES

#### **MONTHLY WATER RATES**

Water charges are billed monthly at approximately 30-day intervals. Charges are due upon receipt of the bill and become delinquent 25 days after the billing date. Monthly water rates consist of two components: a monthly service charge and a commodity (volume) charge.

### Water Service Charge

This charge recovers costs related to certain direct and indirect customer service efforts, meter and lateral maintenance, and capital costs associated with supplying water to the customer's property. Applicable to all metered water accounts, independent of the quantity of water consumed, the monthly charge is based on meter size as follows:

Meter Size	As of Oct. 1, 2022 Monthly Service Charge	Proposed for Oct. 1, 2023
5/8"	\$19.17	\$20.90
3/4" Combination Fire and Domestic Service Meter	\$19.83	\$21.61
1"	\$38.53	\$41.99
1" Combination Fire and Domestic Service Meter	\$39.17	\$42.70
1-1/2"	\$83.30	\$90.80
2"	\$125.72	\$137.04
3"	\$258.57	\$281.84
4"	\$422.10	\$460.09
6"	\$919.09	\$1,001.81
8"	\$1,307.17	\$1,424.82

#### Water Irrigation Service Charge

This charge is calculated to recover certain direct and indirect customer service, meter and lateral maintenance, and capital costs associated with supplying water for irrigation through irrigation-only meters. Applicable to all metered irrigation water accounts, regardless of the quantity of water consumed, the monthly charge is based on meter size as follows:

	As of Oct. 1, 2022	Proposed for Oct. 1,
Meter Size	<b>Monthly Service Charge</b>	2023
5/8"	\$30.71	\$33.47
1"	\$61.38	\$66.90
1-1/2"	\$113.62	\$123.84
2"	\$174.75	\$190.47
3"	\$345.89	\$377.02
4"	\$530.95	\$578.74
6"	\$1,044.46	\$1,138.46
8"	\$1,660.99	\$1,810.48

Monthly service charges for compound meter arrangements are based on the largest meter in the grouping. In addition to the applicable charge for the primary meter, existing OWASA-owned sub-meters are billed according to the above schedule. OWASA-owned sub-meters are no longer available, and no additional sub-meters will be installed. Meter readings and service charges for first and final bills are prorated based on days of service.

(NOTE: In accordance with state law, all new in-ground irrigation systems installed on lots platted and recorded in the office of the register of deeds in the county or counties in which the real property is located after July 1, 2009 and supplied by a public drinking water system are required to have a separate meter to measure the volume of water used through the irrigation system.)

### Water Commodity Charge

This charge recovers the direct and indirect costs of water supply and treatment, water distribution, general administration and capital costs not recovered by the monthly service charge. This charge is applicable to all water accounts based on meter readings of water consumed. When a billing period includes a change in commodity rates, the charges are prorated based on the ratio of days in the billing period at the old and new rates. Metered monthly consumption will be billed in thousand-gallon increments rounded down to the nearest thousand gallons. Unbilled consumption due to rounding will be carried forward and billed in the month when the next thousand-gallon increment is registered by the meter.

When no meter reading is available due to an inoperative, damaged or inaccessible meter, consumption will be estimated based on prior usage at the location.

### Individually Metered Residential Accounts Except Irrigation-only Accounts

Individually metered residential accounts will be billed under an increasing block rate structure designed to encourage efficient water use by applying increasing commodity charges (rate per thousand gallons) to incremental increases in water use.

	Volume of Use (Gallons)	As of Oct. 1, 2022 Commodity Rate per 1,000 Gallons	Proposed for Oct. 1, 2023
Block 1	1,000 to 2,000	\$3.43	\$3.74
Block 2	3,000 to 5,000	\$8.33	\$9.08
Block 3	6,000 to 10,000	\$10.22	\$11.14
Block 4	11,000 to 15,000	\$14.27	\$15.56
Block 5	All use 16,000 and up	\$25.82	\$28.15

#### Multi-family Master-metered Residential Accounts

Multi-family master-metered residential accounts have one (or more) OWASA meter that serves more than one residential dwelling. Examples include apartment complexes, duplexes and condominiums. Multi-family master-metered residential accounts shall be charged the following year-round commodity rate.

As of Oct. 1, 2022 - \$7.39 per thousand gallons Proposed for Oct. 1, 2023 - \$8.06

#### Non-residential Accounts Except Irrigation Accounts

To achieve demand reduction during peak water use periods, a seasonal conservation rate structure will be applied to all non-residential accounts other than irrigation-only accounts. A reduced water commodity charge is in effect during lower demand months (October through April), and a higher commodity charge is in effect during high demand months (May through September).

	As of Oct. 1, 2022 Rate	Proposed for Oct. 1, 2023
Off-peak seasonal rate per 1,000 gallons (October through April)	\$5.43	\$5.92
Peak seasonal rate per 1,000 gallons (May through September)	\$10.32	\$11.24

### **Irrigation-only Accounts**

To promote conservation of water used for irrigation and to achieve greater equity between rates for irrigation-only use and irrigation use through a domestic meter, irrigation-only accounts shall be charged the following year-round commodity rate.

As of Oct. 1, 2022 - \$11.10 per thousand gallons Proposed for Oct. 1, 2023 - \$12.09

# WATER COMMODITY SURCHARGES APPLICABLE UNDER WATER SHORTAGE DECLARATION STAGES – No changes proposed for this section

# Conservation Water Commodity Charges Under Mandatory Water Use Restrictions

Water commodity charges will be temporarily increased during periods of declared Water Shortages and mandatory water use restrictions regardless of the time of year. These applicable surcharges are summarized in the following table.

Individually-Metered Residential			Multi-family Master-metered Residential	Non-Residential and Irrigation- Only			
Block:	Res. Block	Res. Block	Res. Block	Res. Block	Res. Block 5		
Use Level: (gallons)	1,000 to 2,000	3,000 to 5,000	6,000 to 10,000	11,000 to 15,000	16,000 and up		
Stage 1	No surcharge	No surcharge	1.25 times normal Block 3 rate	1.5 times normal Block 4 rate	2 times normal Block 5 rate	1.15 times year- round rate	1.15 times seasonal and irrigation-only rate
Stage 2	No surcharge	1.25 times normal Block 2 rate	1.5 times normal Block 3 rate	2 times normal Block 4 rate	3 times normal Block 5 rate	1.25 times year- round rate	1.25 times seasonal and irrigation-only rate
Stage 3 and Emergency	No surcharge	1.5 times normal Block 2 rate	2 times normal Block 3 rate	3 times normal Block 4 rate	4 times normal Block 5 rate	1.5 times year- round rate	1.5 times seasonal and irrigation- only rate

#### INTERLOCAL WATER TRANSFER CHARGES - No changes proposed for this section

The purpose of this charge is to recover costs associated with the provision of supplemental water supply under contractual agreement with other water purveyors. The specific rates to be charged will be negotiated with the other party based upon specific conditions using the cost-of-service rate-making approach and approved by OWASA.

#### TEMPORARY HYDRANT METER CHARGE

Subject to availability, a Customer may obtain a temporary hydrant meter from OWASA for a period of up to 60 days. A customer may submit a written request to use the hydrant meter for one additional 60-day period but granting said request will be subject to availability and is at OWASA's sole discretion. Service from a fire hydrant is subject to interruption when the hydrant is needed for fire protection, compliance with water conservation standards, and other applicable law. For situations where temporary water service is needed for a period longer than 120 days, the user can purchase a metering device of a size, make and model specified by OWASA. A service charge, payable in advance, shall be collected for setting and removing the meter.

Service Charge - \$260 Proposed for Oct. 1, 2023 - \$270

In addition, a security deposit shall be required.

### Temporary Hydrant Meter Security Deposit \$1,000

Monthly billings for temporary hydrant meters consist of two charges: (1) a service charge for that size meter, and (2) the seasonal commodity charge, including surcharges where applicable, based on monthly readings of the meter. When the hydrant meter is returned, the security deposit shall be applied to the final bill plus any damages. The Customer is responsible for paying OWASA for damages that exceed the amount of the Security Deposit. Any credit balance will be refunded within thirty (30) days.

# WATER SYSTEM DEVELOPMENT FEE - Changes in this section go into effect on July 1, 2023

Water system development Fees are calculated to recover a portion of the capital costs of providing water system facility capacity. The system development fee is applicable to each new connection to a water main, regardless of who may have paid for the installation of the water main to which the connection is to be made. For the purpose of system development fees, customer accounts are divided into three categories: (1) Single-family Residential, (2) Multi-family Residential, Individually- metered; and (3) Non-residential. The Non-residential category includes master-metered multi-family customers and all commercial, University, and other institutional accounts. The use of these categories is justified by distinctive patterns of water and sewer consumption.

Property Description	Fee As of Oct. 1, 2022	Proposed for July 1, 2023
5/8" Meter or 3/4" Combination Fire and Domestic Service,	, , ,	,
Single-family Residential:		
<500 square feet	\$620	<u>\$346</u>
501-800 square feet	\$620	\$515
801-1300 square feet	\$770	\$820
1301-1700 square feet	\$864	\$1,050
1701-2400 square feet	\$1,142	\$1,360
2401-3100 square feet	\$1,767	\$1,855
3101-3800 square feet	\$2,442	\$2,578
>3800 square feet	\$4,295	\$4,690
1" Meter, Single-Family Residential (all square footages)	\$7,338	\$8,160
5/8" Meter or 3/4" Combination Fire and Domestic Service Meter, Multi-family Residential	\$830	\$862
1" Meter, Multi-Family Residential (all square footages)	\$7,338	\$8,160
5/8" Meter or 3/4" Combination Fire and Domestic Service Meter, Non-residential*	\$2,933	\$3,264
1" Meter, Non-residential*	\$7,338	\$8,160
1-1/2" Meter, Multi-Family Residential and Non-residential*	\$14,666	\$16,319
2" Meter, Multi-Family Residential and Non-residential*	\$23,466	\$26,109
3" Meter, Multi-Family Residential and Non-residential*	\$46,933	\$52,228
4" Meter, Multi-Family Residential and Non-residential*	\$73,332	\$81,606
6" Meter, Multi-Family Residential and Non-residential*	\$146,664	\$163,213

	Fee	Proposed
	As of Oct.	for July
Property Description	1, 2022	1, 2023
8" Meter, Multi-Family Residential and Non-residential*	\$234,663	\$261,139

### \* Same fee for Irrigation-Only accounts.

A person or party completing a development or re-development project may be eligible to request and receive a credit on the water system development Fees due if their project directly results in the permanent abandonment of previously existing water meters which were connected to residences, buildings or facilities connected to and having a documented demand on the OWASA water system.

If OWASA determines that a credit is due, the amount of the credit shall be based on the current water system development Fees that would apply to the size of the water meters that are permanently abandoned as a direct result of the project. However, the credit due shall not exceed the amount of the water system development Fees that would otherwise apply to the development or re-development project. System development fee credits are not transferable to any other project or property.

If an existing water meter is removed from service and/or is replaced with a smaller meter, OWASA will not issue any credit or refund to the customer for any previously paid system development fees.

#### WATER SERVICE AND METER INSTALLATION CHARGE

This charge is to recover costs of extending service from the OWASA distribution system to individual properties and includes the installation of a service connection from the water main to the meter and the setting of the meter to serve the customer's premises, subject to satisfactory easement or license being provided by the applicant. Where a suitable OWASA stub-out for service has been made and is available, the "meter-only" charge shall apply. Customer requested meter/water service relocations shall be performed on a time and materials basis. Complete new and/or additional water service installation and meter-only charges are as follows:

Service Description	As of Oct. 1, 2022 Fee	Proposed for Oct. 1, 2023
Complete Water Service Installation, 5/8" meter	\$4,030	\$4,440
Complete Water Service Installation, 3/4" Combination Fire and Domestic Service Meter	\$4,390	\$4,880
Complete Water Service Installation, 1" meter	\$4,130	\$4,790
Meter Only Installation, 5/8" meter	\$260	\$210
Meter Only Installation, 3/4" Combination Fire and Domestic Service Meter	\$570	\$640
Meter Only Installation, 1" Combination Fire and Domestic Service Meter	\$630	\$680
Meter Only Installation, 1" meter	\$390	\$340
Meter Only Installation, 1-1/2" meter	\$640	\$560
Meter Only Installation, 1-1/2" Combination Fire and Domestic Service Meter	\$970	\$980
Meter Only Installation, 2" meter	\$460	\$340
Meter Only Installation, 2" Combination Fire and Domestic Service Meter	\$1,190	\$1,290

	As of Oct. 1, 2022	Proposed for Oct.
Service Description	Fee	1, 2023
Remote Read Box with 5/8" Detector Meter	\$550	\$440

Complete installation costs are determined on a time and materials basis for 1-1/2 inch and 2- inch meters. For 3-inch and larger meters, the applicant shall be responsible for providing a meter box or vault constructed to OWASA standards. All meters, regardless of size, shall be purchased from OWASA at cost plus 10%.

Deliver fee for 3-inch and large meters:

As of Oct. 1, 2022 - Delivery Fee - \$120 Proposed for Oct. 1, 2023 - \$130

A remote read box and 5/8" detector meter shall be required on all private fire protection service connections. The remote read box shall be purchased from OWASA and installed by the applicant. OWASA shall install the 5/8" detector meter at the applicant's expense.

#### **WATER MAIN TAPPING FEE**

This charge is for making a tap into an OWASA water main. The tap fee shall be paid in advance of OWASA performing the work, with a minimum of 48-hours advance notice given to OWASA.

The applicant shall be responsible for opening the ditch, providing adequate working clearance at the point of tap, adequately shoring the trench sidewalls, dewatering and such other associated activities as may be needed to provide a suitable and safe condition for OWASA personnel to complete the tap. Additionally, the applicant shall be responsible for providing an appropriate size tapping sleeve and tapping valve, and a backhoe or similar device shall be available on-site for lowering the tapping unit into the ditch line. All permits, bonds and paving shall be the responsibility of the applicant. The charge shall be for time and equipment plus an allowance for overhead, subject to minimum amount.

As of Oct. 1, 2022 - Minimum Charge \$360 Proposed for Oct. 1, 2023 - No change proposed

The base fee noted above includes one (1) site visit by OWASA to determine if the applicant is ready for OWASA to perform the tap. A reinspection fee will be charged for each additional site visit required to determine if the water main is accessible and all required material and safety measures are in place. The tap will not be performed until any applicable reinspection fees are paid in full.

As of Oct. 1, 2022 – Tap Reinspection Fee \$120 Proposed for Oct. 1, 2023 - \$130

# HYDRAULIC FIRE FLOW TESTING

This charge is calculated to recover the cost of hydrant 'fire flow' testing of the water distribution system. Test results provide data to developers and engineers to determine available flows and pressures in the systems they are designing for new developments.

As of Oct. 1, 2022 - \$190 Proposed for Oct. 1, 2023 - \$390

### **SECTION II: SEWER RATES AND FEES**

#### **MONTHLY SEWER RATES**

Sewer charges are billed monthly at approximately 30-day intervals. Charges are due upon receipt of the bill and become delinquent 25 days after the billing date. Monthly sewer rates consist of two components: a monthly service charge and a sewer commodity (volume) charge.

### Sewer Service Charge

This charge is calculated to recover the direct and indirect customer service, service and inspection maintenance, and capital costs associated with providing sewer service to the customer's property. Meter readings and service charges for first and final bills are prorated based on days of service. Applicable to all sewer accounts, regardless of whether there is a commodity charge, the monthly service charge is based on the size of the meter where sewer usage is measured as follows:

Meter Size	As of Oct. 1, 2022 Monthly Service Charge	Proposed for Oct. 1, 2023
5/8" or 3/4" Combination Fire and Domestic Service	\$15.65	\$17.06
1"	\$26.88	\$29.30
1-1/2"	\$46.34	\$50.52
2"	\$70.07	\$76.38
3"	\$132.51	\$144.43
4"	\$202.55	\$220.78
6"	\$371.38	\$404.80
8"	\$633.74	\$690.77

The monthly sewer service charge shall apply to any meter(s) used to directly or indirectly measure the volume of wastewater discharged from a customer's premises, regardless of whether the water source to the customer is from OWASA's drinking water and/or reclaimed water system, or a non-OWASA water source including but not limited to harvested rainwater or groundwater.

#### Sewer Commodity Charge

This charge is calculated to recover the remaining direct and indirect costs of wastewater treatment and collection, maintenance, inspection, customer service and administration and sewer capital costs not recovered by the monthly service charge. When a billing period includes a change in commodity rates, the charges are prorated based on the ratio of days in the billing period at the old and new rates. Metered monthly consumption will be billed in thousand-gallon increments rounded down to the nearest thousand gallons. Unbilled consumption due to rounding will be carried forward and billed in the month when the next thousand-gallon increment is registered by the meter. This charge is applicable to all accounts receiving sewer service based on the water meter reading, sewer meter reading if applicable, or estimated volume of discharge as determined by OWASA.

The sewer commodity charge is applicable to all customers discharging wastewater into the OWASA sewer system, regardless of whether that discharge results from the customer's use of OWASA's drinking water or reclaimed water, or their use of a non-OWASA water source, including but not limited to harvested rainwater or groundwater.

As of Oct. 1, 2022 - \$8.45 per thousand gallons Proposed for Oct. 1, 2023 - \$9.21

Individually-metered residential customers will not be charged for monthly sewer use in excess of 15,000 gallons.

# <u>INTERLOCAL WASTEWATER COLLECTION, TREATMENT AND DISPOSAL CHARGES – No changes proposed for this section</u>

The purpose of this charge is to recover costs associated with the provision of wastewater collection, treatment and disposal services under contractual agreements with other wastewater service providers. The specific rates to be charged will be negotiated with the other party based upon specific conditions using the cost-of-service rate-making approach and approved by OWASA.

### MONTHLY RATES FOR SEWER-ONLY ACCOUNTS

For sewer-only accounts where there is no OWASA meter for directly or indirectly measuring the volume of wastewater discharged by the customer, the monthly sewer service and commodity charges shall be fixed and be the total of:

(1) a monthly service charge which shall be determined by the water meter size which would be required to supply water service to the property,

plus

(2) a sewer commodity charge per 1,000 gallons of the estimated volume of wastewater expected to be discharged by the customer (using national engineering standards as the basis); provided however, that in no case shall the billable quantity be less than 4,000 gallons per month.

As of Oct. 1, 2022 - \$8.45 per 1,000 gallons Proposed for Oct. 1, 2023 - \$9.21 per 1,000 gallons

For special commercial and industrial customer classifications where the proportion of water consumed to wastewater discharged is extremely large, a metered sewer account may be approved. Metered sewer accounts must also pay the appropriate monthly sewer service charge based on the sewer meter size.

If a customer that has a standard metered water and sewer service (sewer gallons billed are based on the water gallons billed) also discharges wastewater resulting from the use of OWASA reclaimed water, harvested rainwater, groundwater, or sources other than OWASA drinking water, that customer shall be billed a monthly service charge and commodity charges calculated in accordance the *OWASA Rainwater Harvesting Systems Requirements and Charges Policy* for said additional discharge; provided, however, that the minimum threshold for which the charges shall apply is 3,000 gallons per month. For this purpose, such systems serving single-family residential customers are deemed to fall below this threshold, provided there is also a standard metered water and sewer service.

#### SEWER SYSTEM DEVELOPMENT FEE - Changes in the section go into effect on July 1, 2023

The purpose of this fee is to recover a portion of the capital costs of providing sewer system facility capacity. The system development fee is applicable to each new connection to a sewer main, regardless of

who may have paid for the installation of the main to which the connection is to be made. For the purpose of the system development fee, customer accounts are divided into three categories: (1) Single-family Residential; (2) Multi-family Residential, Individually-metered; and (3) Non-residential. The Non-residential category includes master-metered Multi-family customers plus all other commercial, University, and other institutional accounts. The use of these categories is justified by distinctive patterns of water and sewer consumption.

Property Description	Fee As of Oct. 1, 2022	Proposed for July 1, 2023
5/8" Meter or 3/4" Combination Fire and Domestic Service, Single-family		
Residential:		
<500 square feet	<u>\$1,632</u>	<u>\$1,147</u>
501-800 square feet	\$1,632	\$1,708
801-1300 square feet	\$2,207	\$2,045
1301-1700 square feet	\$2,251	\$2,313
1701-2400 square feet	\$2,391	\$2,616
2401-3100 square feet	\$2,652	\$2,976
3101-3800 square feet	\$2,912	\$3,344
>3800 square feet	\$3,466	\$4,084
1" Meter, Single-Family Residential (all square footages)	\$11,329	\$13,694
5/8" Meter or 3/4" Combination Fire and Domestic Service, Multi-family Residential	\$2,196	\$1,886
1" Meter, Multi-Family Residential (all square footages)	\$11,329	\$13,694
5/8" Meter or 3/4" Combination Fire and Domestic Service, Nonresidential	\$5,673	6,004
1" Meter, Nonresidential	\$14,192	\$15,008
1-1/2" Meter, Multi-family Residential and Nonresidential	\$28,366	\$30,017
2" Meter, Multi-family Residential and Nonresidential	\$45,386	\$48,023
3" Meter, Multi-family Residential and Nonresidential	\$90,773	\$96,065
4" Meter, Multi-family Residential and Nonresidential	\$141,832	\$150,102
6" Meter, Multi-family Residential and Nonresidential	\$283,664	\$300,204
8" Meter, Multi-family Residential and Nonresidential	\$453,863	\$480,323

In addition to the sewer system development fee, an excess sewer capacity fee of four percent (4%) of the applicable sewer system development fee shall be charged to recover the costs of excess sewer capacity installed in an area covered by an agreement between OWASA and a developer for credit payments to the constructing developer. This fee shall apply to residential and non-residential customers.

A person or party completing a development or re-development project may be eligible to request and receive a credit on the sewer system development fees due if their project directly results in the permanent abandonment of previously existing water meters and sewer services which were connected to residences, buildings or facilities connected to and having a documented demand on the OWASA sanitary sewer system.

If OWASA determines that a credit is due, the amount of the credit shall be based on the current sewer system development fees that would apply to the size water meters that are permanently abandoned as a

direct result of the project. However, the credit due shall not exceed the amount of the sewer system development fees that would otherwise apply to the development or re-development project. System development fee credits are not transferable to any other project or property.

If an existing water or sewer meter upon which consumption is based is removed from service and/or is replaced with a smaller meter, OWASA will not issue any credit or refund to the customer for any previously paid system development fees.

### **SEWER TAP CHARGE**

This charge is for making a tap of the applicant's private sewer lateral into the main sewer line or sewer manhole of OWASA. The tap fee must be paid in advance of OWASA performing the work, with a minimum of 48 hours advance notice given to OWASA.

The applicant shall be responsible for opening the ditch, providing adequate working clearance at the point of tap, adequately shoring the trench sidewalls, dewatering and such other associated activities as may be needed to provide a suitable and safe condition for OWASA to connect the service lateral of the applicant into the facilities of OWASA. The minimum charge is based on a standard 4" service tap to the OWASA sewer line. All lines 6" in diameter and larger must be tapped into a manhole. All permits, bonds and pavement repairs are the responsibility of the applicant. The charge shall be for time and equipment plus an allowance for overhead, subject to a minimum.

As of Oct. 1, 2022 - \$480 Proposed for Oct. 1, 2023 - \$670

The base fee noted above includes one (1) site visit by OWASA to determine if the applicant is ready for OWASA to perform the tap. A reinspection fee will be charged for each additional site visit required to determine if the sewer main is accessible and all required material and safety measures are in place. The tap will not be performed until any applicable reinspection fees are paid in full.

As of Oct. 1, 2022 – Tap Reinspection Fee \$120 Proposed for Oct. 1, 2023 - \$130

#### HIGH STRENGTH WASTE SURCHARGE

The purpose of this charge is to recover operation and maintenance costs from customers whose wastewater discharge into the system is in excess of certain parameters for normal strength domestic wastewater as determined by OWASA. Based on local sampling and analysis, normal strength domestic wastewater has been determined to have the following pollutant characteristics.

Normal Strength Domestic Wastewater	
Carbonaceous Biochemical Oxygen	205 mg/l
Demand (CBOD)	205 mg/l
Suspended Solids (SS)	235 mg/l
Ammonia Nitrogen (NH <sub>3</sub> -N)	25 mg/l
Phosphorus (P)	6.5 mg/l

High Strength Waste Surcharges shall apply at the following rates to all wastes exceeding the above concentrations:

As of Oct. 1, 2022	
Carbonaceous Biochemical Oxygen Demand (CBOD)	\$0.56 per pound for all CBOD in excess of 205 mg/l
Suspended Solids (SS)	\$0.68 per pound for all SS in excess of 235 mg/l
Ammonia Nitrogen (NH <sub>3</sub> -N)	\$3.97 per pound for all NH <sub>3</sub> -N in excess of 25 mg/l
Phosphorus (P)	\$15.99 per pound for all P excess of 6.5 mg/l

Proposed for Oct. 1, 2023	
Carbonaceous Biochemical Oxygen Demand (CBOD)	\$0.61 per pound for all CBOD in excess of 205 mg/l
Suspended Solids (SS)	\$0.74 per pound for all SS in excess of 235 mg/l
Ammonia Nitrogen (NH <sub>3</sub> -N)	\$4.33 per pound for all NH <sub>3</sub> -N in excess of 25 mg/l
Phosphorus (P)	\$17.43 per pound for all P excess of 6.5 mg/l

### SECTION III: RECLAIMED WATER RATES AND CHARGES

No changes proposed for Section III

### MONTHLY RECLAIMED WATER RATES

Reclaimed water (RCW) charges will be billed monthly at approximately 30-day intervals. Charges are due upon receipt of the bill and become delinquent 25 days after the original billing date. Monthly reclaimed water rates consist of two components: a monthly service charge and a commodity (volume) charge.

The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (UNC) funded the construction of the first phase of the reclaimed water system, and the methodology for determining reclaimed water charges applicable to UNC is stipulated by a contract between OWASA and UNC. For this reason, reclaimed water charges have been established for two major customer classes: UNC uses, and non-UNC uses. As determined necessary by OWASA, and in accord with OWASA's contractual obligations to UNC, reclaimed water service to non-UNC customers may be temporarily interrupted to ensure the UNC's reclaimed water demand can be met from the facilities and capacity paid for by UNC.

#### Reclaimed Water Service Charge

This fixed monthly charge is calculated to recover direct and indirect costs including but not limited to customer service and billing, meter and lateral maintenance, general and administrative services, and fixed costs associated with supplying reclaimed water to the customer's property. The Reclaimed Water service charge is applicable to all metered reclaimed water accounts, independent of the quantity of reclaimed water consumed. Meter readings and service charges for first and final bills are prorated based on days of service.

UNC Reclaimed Water Use (covers all UNC reclaimed water uses served by the facilities paid for by UNC) \$24,000 per month.

Non-UNC RCW Customers	
Meter Size	Per Month
5/8"	\$8.37
1"	\$16.74
1.5"	\$30.96
2"	\$47.62

Service charges for non-UNC reclaimed water meters larger than 2" will be determined on a case-by-case basis following an evaluation of the reclaimed water demands of the customer.

#### Reclaimed Water Commodity Charge

This charge is calculated to recover the direct costs for reclaimed water treatment and distribution and all other direct and indirect costs not recovered by fixed monthly service charges. This charge is applicable to all reclaimed water accounts based on meter readings of reclaimed water consumed.

When a billing period includes a change in commodity rates, the charges are prorated based on the ratio of days in the billing period at the old and new rates. Metered monthly consumption will be billed in thousand-gallon increments rounded down to the nearest thousand gallons. Unbilled consumption due

to rounding will be carried forward and billed in the month when the next thousand-gallon increment is registered by the meter.

<b>Customer Type</b>	Rate per 1,000 gallons
UNC Accounts	\$0.60
Non-UNC Accounts	\$2.18
Bulk (tanker) Sales	\$0.00

### RECLAIMED WATER SYSTEM DEVELOPMENT AND CONNECTION FEES

### Reclaimed Water System Development Fees

The purpose of this fee is to recover the capital costs of providing reclaimed water system facility capacity and to fund future expansion of that capacity. Since the University (UNC) has paid to construct the reclaimed water system, UNC will not be required to pay a reclaimed water system development fee for UNC facilities that are connected to and can be served by capacity available in the reclaimed water facilities paid for by the UNC.

Reclaimed water system development fees are applicable to each non-UNC connection to the reclaimed water system, regardless of who may have paid for the installation of the main to which the connection is to be made. Reclaimed water system development fees for non-UNC customers are as follows:

Meter Size	Fee
5/8"	\$1,229
1"	\$3,073
1-1/2"	\$6,146
2"	\$9,833

Reclaimed water system development fees for connections to be served by meters larger than 2 inches shall be determined on a case-by-case basis following an evaluation of the reclaimed water demands of the customer.

#### Reclaimed Water Service Connection Fees

Reclaimed water service connection fees, including meter installation and meter fees, shall be the same as the fees applicable to potable water system service connections, as specified in Section I of this schedule.

### SECTION IV: MISCELLANEOUS CHARGES

#### SERVICE INITIATION FEE – No changes proposed for this section

The purpose of this charge is to defray the labor and administrative costs associated with the establishment of a water and/or sewer account when a visit to the customer's location is necessary. This includes establishing service and account records for billing and is applicable to all accounts.

# \$45 per event \$80 per event, outside of normal business hours of OWASA

### RETURNED CHECK CHARGE - No changes proposed for this section

Checks or automatic bank drafts made payable to OWASA are accepted as payment on account subject to collection. When a check or bank draft is not honored for payment by the bank or other institution on which it is drawn, a Returned Check Charge will be applied to the customer's account as follows:

Returned Check: \$25 Dishonored Draft: \$25

The customer will be notified of the returned check charge and instructed to pay the amount due immediately. Failure to respond within the time allowed will result in disconnection of water service and an additional charge for reconnection. The customer may also be required to pay a security deposit or an additional security deposit.

# <u>CHARGE FOR TEMPORARY DISCONNECTION/SUBSEQUENT RECONNECTION AT CUSTOMER'S REQUEST – No changes proposed for this section</u>

OWASA customers may request to have their service temporarily disconnected and subsequently reconnected. In emergency conditions, there will be no charge to the customer for this service. Additionally, no more than once in any twelve-month period, a customer may request to have their service temporarily disconnected and subsequently reconnected at no charge for routine plumbing system maintenance. For requests to temporarily disconnect and subsequently reconnect service in any situation other than those listed above, the charges listed below will apply.

The purpose of this charge is to recover the cost to temporarily disconnect and subsequently reconnect water service at the request of a customer. In situations where charges apply, the charge may be waived if the customer provides documentation that a master cutoff valve has been installed within thirty (30) days of the date of the temporary service disconnection.

\$45 per event, during OWASA's normal business hours \$80 per event, outside OWASA's normal business hours

### <u>LATE PAYMENT FEE</u> – No changes proposed for this section

This fee is designed to recover a portion of the cost of delinquent payment collection efforts that arise prior to service termination and are not recovered by charges for reconnection of delinquent accounts, and to encourage customers to make timely payments, thereby reducing the overall cost of a delinquent account to the customer base. The late payment fee applies when a customer's account is delinquent as

defined above.

Late Payment Fee: For past due balances of \$10.00 or more, \$2.40 plus 0.42% a

month (5% APR) of the outstanding balance.

#### <u>SECURITY DEPOSITS – No changes proposed for this section</u>

OWASA requires security deposits from customers to ensure payment of the final bill. To offset administrative costs in handling these monies, no interest is paid on security deposits.

Security deposits shall be required on all accounts other than those of (1) residential customers, whether detached or attached units, who have a satisfactory credit history as determined by a credit check, and (2) local, state and federal governments or agencies thereof. Security deposits shall be required for accounts other than those in (1) and (2) above and shall be \$50 or \$100 depending on credit worthiness for residential customers. All security deposits must be paid at the time application for service is made and in advance of service initiation.

Any residential customer whose service has been disconnected for non-payment of billing charges twice within a six-month period and for whom OWASA does not have a security deposit will be required to pay a \$50 or \$100 deposit depending on credit worthiness prior to reconnection of service.

Non-residential security deposits are required based on credit worthiness and will be computed as one or two times the average monthly bill of the previous customer at the same location over the past calendar year. If there is no previous customer at the service location, the security deposit will be determined by OWASA based on the best information available, such as OWASA's experience with similar types, sizes, etc. of businesses.

Repeated disconnections will require additional security deposits until the customer has accumulated a security deposit balance, which will cover an average of three months' billing charges.

Security deposits may be refunded upon written request after the customer has established a satisfactory payment history for twelve (12) consecutive months. Otherwise, security deposits will be applied to the final bill when a customer's account is terminated with any remaining balance refunded to the customer.

# **BULK WASTEWATER CHARGES**

#### Normal Domestic Septage

The purpose of these charges is to recover the costs associated with the service rendered by OWASA to those customers who discharge normal domestic septic tank wastes into the wastewater treatment facilities of OWASA. Applicable to those customers who have an account established at OWASA's Customer Service Office, charges for handling normal domestic septage will be billed to the customer on a monthly basis. The monthly bill will include two components: (1) an administrative charge for special services required to receive this type waste and rendering the monthly bill; and (2) a charge for the treatment of the septage as determined by OWASA. This charge is calculated as follows:

As of Oct. 1, 2022	
Administrative Charge	\$30 per trip, plus
Volume Charge and High Strength Surcharge	\$182.63 per thousand gallons

Proposed for Oct. 1, 2023	
Administrative Charge	\$30 per trip, plus
Volume Charge and High Strength Surcharge	\$199.06 per thousand gallons

#### Other High Strength Waste

Other wastes may be discharged to OWASA's septage facilities only with prior approval by OWASA and upon OWASA's direct inspection of the actual discharge. The costs associated with these services will be as follows:

 $NH_3$ -N= Ammonia Nitrogen CBOD= Carbonaceous Biochemical Oxygen Demand TSS= Total Suspended Solids P= Phosphorus

Administrative Charge of \$30 per trip, plus Volume and High Strength Surcharge calculated as follows:

As of Oct. 1, 2022
A + B + C + D + E = Calculated Dollars per Thousand Gallons, where:
$A = pounds$ of $NH_3$ -N per thousand gallons in waste x \$3.97 per pound
B = pounds of CBOD per thousand gallons in waste x \$0.56 per pound
C = pounds of TSS per thousand gallons in waste x \$0.68 per pound
D = \$8.45 per 1,000 gallons Sewer Commodity Charge
E = pounds of P per thousand gallons in waste x \$15.99 per pound
Waste concentrations shall be determined by OWASA

Proposed for Oct. 1, 2023	
A + B + C + D + E = Calculated Dollars per Thousand Gallons, where:	
A = pounds of NH <sub>3</sub> -N per thousand gallons in waste x $$4.33$ per pound	
B = pounds of CBOD per thousand gallons in waste x $\$0.61$ per pound	
C = pounds of TSS per thousand gallons in waste x $$0.74$ per pound	
D = \$9.21 per 1,000 gallons Sewer Commodity Charge	
E = pounds of P per thousand gallons in waste x \$17.43 per pound	
Waste concentrations shall be determined by OWASA	

#### TANK SALES OR BULK WATER SALES

The purpose of this charge is to recover the labor and administrative costs associated with the supply of bulk quantities of water to tank trucks or trailers from a metering point on the premises of OWASA. Applicable to all tank or bulk water sales, the following charges apply for each loading.

As of Oct. 1, 2022	
Administrative Charge	\$25 per trip, plus
Commodity Charge	\$7.86 per thousand gallons or portion thereof

Proposed for Oct. 1, 2023	
Administrative Charge	\$25 per trip, plus
Commodity Charge	\$8.56 per thousand gallons or portion thereof

Bulk sales are subject to administrative regulations and controls for protection of the wastewater system and efficient operation. Water tank trucks or trailers are only authorized to withdraw water from locations approved by OWASA and for which adequate usage monitoring measures are provided. Charges for bulk sales are not subject to seasonal adjustments.

## <u>DIRECT SALES OF SUPPLIES - No changes proposed for this section</u>

Applicable to the direct sale of supplies from inventory to municipalities or contractors, the supplies will be billed at the most recent cost plus a handling charge of 10%.

<u>BOAT RENTAL AND LAKE USE FEES – Changes will go into effect as of the beginning of the lake recreation season in March 2024</u>

Fees are applicable to all persons using row boats and canoes on University Lake and Cane Creek Reservoir during scheduled hours of operation as established by OWASA. Boat rental and lake user charges are:

OWASA Customers and Orange County Residents		
Charge for each flat-bottomed boat or canoe rental	\$4.50 for one-half day plus the applicable lake use fee	
	for each person	
Trolling motor rental	\$15.00 for one-half day	
Kayak rental	\$15.00 for one-half day plus the applicable lake use	
	fee for each person	
Private Boat Launching Fee	\$3.50 per boat plus the applicable lake use fee for	
	each person	
Lake Use Fee, Under 12 Years Old	\$2.00 per person	
Lake Use Fee, 12-64 Years	\$4.50 per person	
Lake Use Fee, 65 Years and over	No charge	

Individual Season Pass		
Flat-bottom boat or canoe rental	\$82.00 per person. Each additional person pays	
	appropriate lake use fee.	
Kayak rental (this is a new charge)	\$176.00 per person	
Lake Use Pass – Adult	\$46.00	
Flat-bottom boat with trolling motor rental	\$163.00 per person. Each additional person pays	
	appropriate lake use fee.	

Group Season Pass		
Flat-bottom boat or canoe rental	\$163.00 (maximum of 3 people per pass.) Each	
	additional person pays appropriate lake use fee.	
Flat-bottom boat with trolling motor rental	\$245.00 (maximum of 3 people per pass.) Each	
	additional person pays appropriate lake use fee.	

For visitors who are not OWASA Customers or Orange County Residents		
Charge for each flat-bottomed boat or canoe rental	\$8.00 for one-half day plus the applicable lake use fee	
	for each person	
Trolling motor rental	\$22.00 for one half day	
Kayak rental	\$20.00 for one-half day plus the applicable lake use	
	fee for each person	
Private Boat Launching Fee	\$7.00 per boat plus the applicable lake use fee for	
	each person	
Lake Use Fee, Under 12 years old	\$2.50 per person	
Lake Use Fee, 12-64 Years	\$5.50 per person	
Lake Use Fee, 65 Years and over	\$2.50 per person	
UNC Men's Crew Club and Women's Rowing	By agreement between UNC-Chapel Hill and	
Team	OWASA	

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Upon a customer's written request, OWASA will conduct a special field test of the customer's 5/8" water meter or 3/4" combination fire and domestic service meter. There will be no charge for testing meters (1) which have not been tested during the past five years, or (2) which are found to be overregistering. Over-registering meters will be replaced by OWASA at no charge to the customer.

If, however, the meter has been tested within the past five years and the results of the meter test indicate proper or under-registering, the customer will be charged:

As of Oct. 1, 2022 - Meter test - \$80 Proposed for Oct. 1, 2023 - \$90

#### SHOP TESTING OF METER

Upon a customer's written request, OWASA will conduct a special shop test of water meters that are larger than 3/4 inches. There will be no charge for testing meters (1) which have not been tested during the past five years, or (2) which are found to be over-registering. Over-registering meters will be replaced by OWASA at no charge to the customer.

If, however, the meter has been tested within the past five years and the results of the meter test indicate proper or under-registering, the customer will be charged:

As of Oct. 1, 2022 - Shop meter test - \$180 Proposed for Oct. 1, 2023 - Shop meter test \$190

#### FIELD TEST OF LARGE METERS

Upon a customer's written request, OWASA will conduct a special field test of water meters that are larger than 5/8 inches. There will be no charge for testing meters (1) which have not been tested during the past five years, or (2) which are found to be over-registering. Over-registering meters will be replaced by OWASA at no charge to the customer.

If, however, the meter has been tested within the past five years and the results of the meter test indicate proper or under-registering, the customer will be charged a meter test fee based on the actual time and equipment required to complete the field test.

As of Oct. 1, 2022 - Minimum charge \$380 Proposed for Oct. 1, 2023 - Minimum charge \$400

#### REINSPECTION FEE

OWASA will initially inspect grease traps, cross connections and water and sewer taps at no cost to the customer. Should a subsequent reinspection be required for any of these fixtures, a fee will apply to each reinspection.

As of Oct. 1, 2022 – Tap Reinspection Fee \$120 Proposed for Oct. 1, 2023 - \$130

# <u>PLAN REVIEW AND CONSTRUCTION OBSERVATION FEES – No changes proposed for this section</u>

The purpose of this charge is to recover the operating cost for providing review of construction plans for the extension of water, sewer and non-UNC reclaimed water facilities. The charge also recovers the operating cost for providing field observation, water sampling, laboratory testing, video inspection, pressure testing, etc. associated with the installation of these facilities. The plan review and construction observation fees are applicable to any project which includes extensions of the public water, sewer or non-UNC reclaimed water systems; new services; backflow prevention; or a grease interceptor (or grease trap), regardless of the party which may be undertaking the improvements. The plan review and construction observation fees are applied separately to water, sewer and non-UNC reclaimed water main extensions with a minimum of \$100 each, as shown in the table below.

Service	Plan Review	<b>Construction Observation</b>
Water	\$3.63/lf, minimum \$100	\$3.69/lf, minimum \$100
Sewer	\$3.63/lf, minimum \$100	\$3.69/lf, minimum \$100
Reclaimed Water	\$3.63/lf, minimum \$100	\$3.69/lf, minimum \$100

Fees for Plan Review are due when the engineering drawings are submitted for review. Plans submitted with modifications or changes other than those required by OWASA are subject to a complete second review and payment of additional plan review fees. Fees for Construction Observation are collected prior to OWASA issuing a Permit to Construct. Additional fees for projects which increase in scope (e.g., the number of feet of mains is lengthened after initial fee payment) shall be collected prior to receiving plan approval from OWASA. No refunds will be granted for projects which decrease in scope after fee payment.

A fee is required for any project requiring Partial Certification to place a portion of the project into service before the entire project as designed is completed. Fees shall be paid before the Partial Certification will be submitted to the state.

#### Partial Certifications - \$225 per additional submittal to the state

A fee will apply to each reinspection or retesting required after the initial testing or sampling event for the component being tested, except fees for Purity Sample Resampling, which begin after the second sampling event. A Contractor who does not cancel an appointment with a minimum of one business hour's advance notice and is not prepared to conduct the test at the scheduled time will be billed a fee for rescheduling. Fees shall be paid before the reinspection or retesting will be scheduled.

Reinspection / Retesting Fees		
Purity Sample Resampling (after second failure)	\$600 plus \$150 per sample location	
Water Pressure Retest	\$225 per additional test	
Gravity Sewer Air Testing and Flashing Retest	\$75 per section tested	
Manhole Vacuum Retest	\$75 per additional test	
Rescheduling Fee for Failure to Cancel an Appointment	\$75	

### <u>CHARGES FOR MISCELLANEOUS SERVICES – No changes proposed for this section</u>

Charges for miscellaneous services provided by OWASA shall be on a time and materials basis and include out-of-pocket expenses, cost of materials and services supplied by third parties, and overhead. Typical applications would be for repair of damages to water and sewer lines by outside parties, relocation of mains, services and meters, special services for billing information, expenses related to spill containment responses, etc.

#### TRANSFER OF CHARGES – No changes proposed for this section

Any unpaid balance from past due charges for water and/or sewer services of terminated accounts or Charges for Miscellaneous Services will be transferred to any available active account(s) through which the customer is receiving services. The payment status of the active account through which the customer is receiving service will be determined by the payment status of transferred accounts.

OWASA may temporarily withhold service from a customer or refuse service to a customer when such a customer (including but not limited to individuals, corporations, or partnerships), owes OWASA any past due balance.

Accounts or portions of accounts, including charges for material or damaged property that are disputed and delinquent fees and delinquent assessment charges, may be submitted to the courts by the Executive Director, upon approval by General Counsel, for collection if such amounts do not exceed \$1,500. For amounts exceeding \$1,500, approval of the Board of Directors shall also be required prior to filing an action for collection.