

2012 WATER & SEWER RATES

Rate increase effective date April 1, 2012

City of Houston Ordinance 2010-305 requires the Combined Utility System (CUS) to implement an annual rate adjustment to be effective on April 1st of each year. The required water and wastewater rate adjustment under the ordinance for April 1, 2012 is 3.3%. This rate adjustment is based on the regional consumer inflation plus population percentage change for Houston.

The 2010 ordinance deferred half of the total increase in residential rates, to be implemented across 2011 through 2013. This year, in addition to the 3.3% yearly rate adjustment, the residential rates will increase an additional 5.6% for a total of 8.9%. The remaining increase next year will bring residential water rates in line with actual cost of service for residential customers.

This annual rate adjustment is intended to help cover cost increases that impact the provision of safe, clean drinking water and the collection and treatment of wastewater. This includes operational costs as well as the costs involved in repairing and replacing portions of the system's aging infrastructure. The bill you receive in May will reflect a full month of the rate adjustment. The new rate tables will be posted on the City's website at WWW.HOUSTONTWATERBILLS.ORG.

2012 WATER & SEWER RATES

Effective date April 1, 2012

The basic service charge for both water and sewer is affected by the water meter size. For all classes that include sewer, the water consumption is used to determine the appropriate sewer consumption charge.

Single-Family Residential – TU 01, 02, & 03:

The basic charge for each meter size is listed below. For simplicity, this table adds volume and base charges together for 1,000 to 6,000 gallons. From 7,000 to 12,000 gallons the rate is \$4.28 per 1,000 gallons, regardless of meter size. Starting at 13,000 gallons, the rate is \$7.06 per 1,000 gallons.

Water Rates				
	5/8 or 3/4" meters	1 inch meter	1.5 inch meter	2 or 3 inch meter
Basic charge, per meter size	\$ 4.34	\$ 5.38	\$ 8.15	\$ 9.60
The numbers below this line include both Base and Volume charges				
1,000 gallons	\$ 4.46	\$ 5.49	\$ 8.27	\$ 9.71
2,000 gallons	\$10.17	\$11.20	\$13.98	\$15.42
3,000 gallons	\$10.51	\$11.55	\$14.32	\$15.76
4,000 gallons	\$19.89	\$20.92	\$23.70	\$25.14
5,000 gallons	\$23.84	\$24.87	\$27.64	\$29.09
6,000 gallons	\$27.78	\$28.82	\$31.59	\$33.04
7,000 to 12,000 gallons	The total charge for 6,000 gallons + \$4.28 per 1,000 gallons			
Over 12,000 gallons	The total charge for 12,000 gallons + \$7.06 per 1,000 gallons			

Sewer Rates					
	5/8 or 3/4" meters	1 inch meter	1.5 inch meter	2 inch meter	3 inch meter
Basic charge, per meter size	\$9.23	\$9.70	\$11.24	\$11.71	\$20.98
The numbers below this line include both Base and Volume charges					
1,000 gallons	\$9.38	\$9.85	\$11.39	\$11.86	\$21.13
2,000 gallons	\$9.68	\$10.15	\$11.69	\$12.16	\$21.43
3,000 gallons	\$9.92	\$10.39	\$11.93	\$12.40	\$21.67
4,000 gallons	\$22.76	\$23.23	\$24.77	\$25.24	\$34.51
5,000 gallons	\$27.40	\$27.87	\$29.41	\$29.88	\$39.15
6,000 gallons	\$34.15	\$34.62	\$36.16	\$36.63	\$45.90
Over 6,000 gallons	The total charge for 6,000 gallons + \$6.75 per 1,000 gallons				

EXAMPLES OF RESIDENTIAL BILLINGS:

1,000 gallons, \$ 4.46 Water
5/8" meter \$ 9.38 Sewer
\$13.84 Total/Month

7,000 gallons, \$ 32.06 Water
5/8" meter \$ 40.90 Sewer
\$ 72.96 Total/Month

14,000 gallons, \$ 67.58 Water
5/8" meter \$ 88.15 Sewer
\$155.73 Total/Month

Water Charges	Sewer Charges
\$27.78 for 6,000 gallons plus 1,000 gallons at \$4.28 = \$32.06	\$34.15 for 6,000 gallons plus 1,000 gallons at \$6.75 = \$40.90
\$27.78 for 6,000 gallons plus 6,000 gallons at \$4.28 plus 2,000 gallons at \$7.06 = \$67.58	\$34.15 for 6,000 gallons plus 8,000 gallons at \$6.75 = \$88.15

Multi-Family – TU 14-19:

- 14 (duplex – 2 units)
- 15 (tri-plex – 3 units)
- 16 (quad-plex – 4 units)
- 17 (master-metered townhomes – any number of units)
- 18 (apartments — 5+ units)
- 19 (trailer parks)

Consumption is no longer included with the basic charge. The volume charges are applied to all usage.

Rate	Meter size (Inches)	Basic Water Charge	Basic Sewer Charge
Basic Charge (0 consumption)	5/8	\$ 4.74	\$8.34
	3/4	\$ 4.89	\$8.34
	1	\$ 5.88	\$8.76
	1.5	\$ 8.90	\$10.16
	2	\$10.48	\$10.58
	3	\$27.74	\$18.96
	4	\$37.82	\$21.48
	6	\$64.82	\$30.70
	8	\$169.25	\$74.56
	10	\$169.25	\$90.63
Volume Charge	All	+ \$3.65 per 1,000 gallons	+ \$5.30 per 1,000 gallons

Commercial – TU 21-60:

Consumption is no longer included with the basic charge. The volume charges are applied to all usage.

Rate	Meter Size (Inches)	Basic Water Charge	Basic Sewer Charge
Basic Charge (0 consumption)	5/8	\$ 4.74	\$8.34
	3/4	\$ 4.89	\$8.34
	1	\$ 5.88	\$8.76
	1.5	\$ 8.90	\$10.16
	2	\$10.48	\$10.58
	3	\$27.74	\$18.96
	4	\$37.82	\$21.48
	6	\$64.82	\$30.70
	8	\$169.25	\$74.56
	10	\$169.25	\$90.63
Volume Charge	All	+ \$3.74 per 1,000 gallons	+ \$5.30 per 1,000 gallons

Industrial, No Surcharge – (WSC 6) TU 21-60, 61, 62:

Industrial rates include a monthly basic charge and volume charges for both water and sewer. No consumption is included with the basic charge for water or sewer. Some customers are billed for sewer only, based on readings from non-City of Houston water meters.

Rate	Meter Size (Inches)	Water Charge	Basic Sewer Charge
Basic Charge (0 consumption)	5/8	\$ 4.74	\$14.11
	3/4	\$ 4.89	\$14.11
	1	\$ 5.88	\$14.11
	1.5	\$ 8.90	\$14.11
	2	\$10.48	\$14.11
	3	\$27.74	\$18.79
	4	\$37.82	\$21.48
	6	\$64.82	\$30.70
	8	\$169.25	\$74.56
	10+	\$169.25	\$90.63
Volume Charge	All	+ \$3.74 per 1,000 gallons	Up to 2,000 gallons at \$3.26 per 1,000 gallons
			All over 2,000 gallons \$6.52 + \$5.81 per 1,000 gallons.

Transient Meters – TU 71:

These accounts have rental fees, base charges and consumption charges.

Rate	Basic Water Charge		
	1"	2"	3"
Basic Charge/Rental Fee (0 consumption)	\$15.83	\$21.11	\$26.38
Volume Charges	+\$4.20 per 1,000 gallons		

Please refer questions to Rockette Simpson at 713-371-1355 or fax to 713-371-1349.

Lawn/Outdoor Meters – TU 72:

No consumption is included with the basic charge. Volume charges are applied to all usage, but there are two rate tiers. The “defined quantity” marks the point where the tier changes, which is different for each meter size. Volume up to the defined quantity are charged at the lower rate tier; volume in excess of the defined quantity are charged at the higher rate tier.

Rate	Meter Size (Inches)	Basic Water Charge	Defined Quantity (First Tier of Volume Charges)
Basic Rate, per meter size, (plus first tier of volume charges)	5/8	\$23.62	None – all consumption at 2 nd tier
	3/4	\$23.62	None – all consumption at 2 nd tier
	1	\$26.48	None – all consumption at 2 nd tier
	1.5	\$70.30	Up to 10,000: + \$2.74 per 1,000 gallons
	2	\$108.66	Up to 16,000: + \$2.74 per 1,000 gallons
	3	\$235.90	Up to 35,000: + \$2.74 per 1,000 gallons
	4	\$399.37	Up to 60,000: + \$2.74 per 1,000 gallons
	6	\$822.43	Up to 125,000: + \$2.74 per 1,000 gallons
	8	\$1189.34	Up to 180,000: + \$2.74 per 1,000 gallons
	10	\$1189.34	Up to 180,000: + \$2.74 per 1,000 gallons
Volume Charges Second Tier (All meter sizes)	All consumption over defined quantity: + \$6.32 per 1,000 gallons		

Customers may choose to close these accounts in winter, subject to the usual \$5.00 fee for re-opening them. This will avoid monthly basic charges if there is no consumption. Customers will remain responsible for all charges in any month water passes through the meter, even if the account is closed.

EXAMPLES OF LAWN BILLING:

5/8" Meter w/2,000 gallons	1" Meter w/12,000 gallons	3" meter w 60,000 gallons	6" meter w 60,000 gallons
Basic: 23.62	Basic: \$26.48	Basic: \$235.90	Basic: \$822.43
2nd tier: 2*6.32 <u>\$12.64</u>	2 nd tier: 12*6.32 <u>\$75.84</u>	1 st tier: 35*2.74 \$95.90 2 nd tier: 25*6.32 <u>\$158.00</u>	1 st tier: 60*2.74 <u>\$164.40</u>
TOTAL: \$36.26	TOTAL: \$102.32	TOTAL: \$489.80	TOTAL: \$986.83

Other Classes:

Industrial w/Surcharge – (WSC 9) TU 21-60, 61, 62, 63:

Industrial rates include a monthly basic charge and volume charges for both water and sewer. Some customers are billed for sewer only, based on readings from non-City of Houston water meters. These customers take their water from non-City of Houston sources and may choose to install a water meter of the type and standard approved by the department for the purpose of measuring the amount of water taken into such facilities. The water consumption indicated by such meter shall be the basis of determining the sewer charge. Rates are the same as if the water is from City of Houston source.

No consumption is included with the basic charge for water or sewer. While the basic charge for water and sewer is determined by meter size, the volume charge for sewer may vary based on the results of effluent testing.

Rate	Meter Size (Inches)	Water Charge	Basic Sewer Charge
Basic Charge (0 consumption)	5/8	\$4.74	\$14.11
	3/4	\$4.89	\$14.11
	1	\$5.88	\$14.11
	1.5	\$8.90	\$14.11
	2	\$10.48	\$14.11
	3	\$27.74	\$18.79
	4	\$37.82	\$21.48
	6	\$64.82	\$30.70
	8	\$169.25	\$74.56
	10+	\$169.25	\$90.63
Volume Charge	All	+ \$3.74 per 1,000 gallons	See below

Additional surcharges for industrial sewer accounts are determined by application of a special formula to the results of effluent tests:

$$R = X + (BOD * 8.337 * Y/1000) + (SS * 8.337 * Z/1000)$$

Or $R = \text{Rate} / \text{TG}$ as 47-122(b)(2)(b), whichever is greater

Where:

$X = \$3.90$ per 1000 gallons, $Y = \$0.6723 / \text{lb.}$, $Z = \$0.2653 / \text{lb.}$

$BOD =$ Five-day, 20 degrees Centigrade biochemical oxygen demand content of the waste delivered, in mg/l.

$SS =$ Suspended solids content of the waste delivered, in mg/l.

Any questions on how the surcharges are calculated, or regarding prohibited discharges, should be referred to the Wastewater Operations Branch by calling 832-395-5800 or by emailing pretreatment@houstontx.gov.

Resale – TU 73:

These customers purchase water from the City of Houston for resale.

Rate	Meter Size (Inches)	Basic Water Charge
Basic Charge, per meter size (0 consumption)	5/8	\$17.91
	3/4	\$17.91
	1	\$20.77
	1.5	\$51.26
	2	\$78.17
	3	\$169.23
	4	\$285.08
	6	\$584.32
	8 and above	\$846.45
Volume Charge (All meter sizes, all consumption)	\$4.49 per 1,000 gallons	

Emergency Backup Service – TU 74:

The Contact Center at 713-371-1400 can answer routine questions about these accounts. To notify UCS of EBS use, fax the report to 713-371-1359.

Rate	Meter Size (Inches)	Basic Water Charge
Basic Charge, per meter size (0 consumption)	5/8,3/4	\$6.81
	1	\$9.68
	1.5	\$14.28
	2	\$19.01
	3	\$39.82
	4	\$63.21
	6	\$122.10
	8	\$180.87
	10+	\$187.23
Volume Charge (All meter sizes, all consumption)	\$6.94 per 1,000 gallons	

Un-Metered Fire Line Charge – TU 21-60, 75:

Un-metered fire lines are charged a flat fee every month, under the provisions of City of Houston Ordinance §47-64. These lines must be equipped with backflow prevention assemblies.

Corresponding size of the diameter of service line	Monthly Charge for Basic Service
<i>5/8 inch</i>	\$12.42
<i>3/4 inch</i>	\$12.42
<i>1.0 inch</i>	\$12.42
<i>1.5 inch</i>	\$49.49
<i>2.0 inch</i>	\$72.99
<i>3.0 inch</i>	\$72.99
<i>4.0 inch</i>	\$72.99
<i>6.0 inch</i>	\$81.30
<i>8.0 inch</i>	\$138.78
<i>10.0 inch</i>	\$187.22

Metered Fire Line Charge Only – TU 21-60:

These customers have their fire service isolated from the remainder of the water supply, and served through an independent meter. Normally they will have zero consumption, but a consumption charge applies if consumption occurs.

Rate	Meter Size (Inches)	Basic Water Charge
Basic Charge, per meter size (0 consumption)	5/8	\$4.74
	¾	\$4.89
	1	\$5.88
	1.5	\$8.90
	2	\$10.48
	3	\$27.74
	4	\$37.82
	6	\$64.82
	8 and above	\$169.25
Volume Charge (All meter sizes, all consumption)	\$3.74 per 1,000 gallons	

Un-Metered Sewer Only Customer – TU 81-82:

Special rates apply to sewer customers without City of Houston water or effluent meters. These are monthly rates, but will continue to be billed on a bi-monthly basis.

Class	Monthly Fee
Single Family Residential	\$22.78
Duplex	\$50.78
Multi-family (3+ units)	\$29.70 per single family unit
Commercial	\$56.05 per unit (defined in §47-1002)
Industrial	\$56.03 per unit (defined in §47-1002)

Contract Treated, Untreated, and Reclaimed Water (TU 91):

For rates and questions on these accounts contact the Contract Water Section at (713) 641-7826 or (713) 641-9549.

Agricultural and Rice Farmers (TU 91):

For rates and questions on these accounts contact the Contract Water Section at (713) 641-7826 or (713) 641-9549.

Groundwater Reduction Plan (GRP) Participants (TU 91):

For rates and questions on these accounts contact the Contract Water Section at (713) 641-7826 or (713) 641-9549.

Contract Sewer (TU 91):

For rates and questions on these accounts contact the Contract Water Section at (713) 641-7826 or (713) 641-9549.