

## **SECTION G. RATES AND SERVICE FEES**

UNLESS SPECIFICALLY DEFINED IN THIS SERVICE POLICY, ALL FEES, RATES, AND CHARGES AS STATED HEREIN SHALL BE NON-REFUNDABLE.

1. **Classes of Users** -- All users of the District's water and/or sewer services shall be classified as either: standard or non-standard service, as further defined in Section E (2) of this Service Policy. Either class of users may be further classified into sub-classes according to the meter size by which service is provided.
2. **Service Investigation Fee.** The District shall conduct a service investigation for each service application submitted to the District. An initial determination shall be made by the District, without charge, as to whether the service request is Standard or Non-Standard. An investigation shall then be conducted and the results reported under the following terms:
  - a. All Standard Service requests shall be investigated without charge and all applicable costs for providing service is published on the District's website at [www.jcsud.com](http://www.jcsud.com)
  - b. All Non-Standard Service requests shall be subject to a fee, appropriate to each project, of sufficient amount to cover all administrative, legal, and engineering fees associated with investigation of the District's ability to deliver service to the Applicant to:
    - (1) provide cost estimates of the project,
    - (2) develop detailed plans and specifications as per final plat,
    - (3) advertise and accept bids for the project,
    - (4) execute a Non-Standard Service Contract with the Applicant, and
    - (5) provide other services as required by the District for such investigation. A Non-Standard Service Contract will be presented to the Applicant within a suitable amount of time as determined by the complexity of the project. (See Section F)
3. **Deposit & Application for Service.** At the time the application for service is approved, an Applicant shall pay an application fee of \$35 for standard service. The Applicant shall also pay an account Deposit which will be held by the District, without interest, until settlement of the customer's final bill. The Deposit will be used to offset final billing charges of the account. In the event that a surplus of FIVE DOLLARS (\$5.00) or more exists after the final billing is settled, the balance will be paid to the customer within 45 days, when the District is provided with a suitable address. All requests for refunds must be filed within 90 days of termination. In the event that an outstanding balance exists after the Deposit is applied, the District shall attempt to collect the outstanding balance by all lawful means available.
  - a. The Deposit for standard water service is \$200.
    - (1) An applicant may provide a Letter of Reference in lieu of paying a security deposit if the Letter from the immediate past utility shows no penalties incurred in the previous 12 months, UNLESS:
      - i. the applicant was a previous customer of the District with active service throughout the last 12 months and having one or more penalties on record, the deposit is payable prior to service connection
      - ii. the applicant was a previous customer that left an outstanding bill, the deposit is due and payable
    - (2) Upon customer request, a deposit may be refunded as a credit to the active account provided that no penalty charge exists on the payment history ledger for the previous 12 months.
  - b. The Deposit for oversized or Master Metered Accounts shall be based on multiples of meter size equivalence or actual connections served.

4. **Easement Acquisition Fee.** When the District determines that dedicated easements and/or facilities sites are necessary to provide service to the Applicant, the Applicant shall be required to secure the necessary easements and/or sites in behalf of the District and/or pay all costs incurred by the District in validating, clearing, and retaining such easements or sites in addition to tap fees otherwise required pursuant to the provisions of this Service Policy. The costs may include all legal fees and expenses necessary to attempt to secure such easements and/or facilities sites in behalf of the District
5. **System Development Fee.** This charge appropriately assigns the system's capacity cost of growth to new customers. The fee applied to each new lot/tap is intended to provide funds to be used for capital improvements necessary to serve new customers.  
The System Development fee shall be \$2,400 per meter for standard **water** service (5/8"x3/4" meter).  
The System Development fee shall be \$2,480 per standard **sewer** service.

Non-Standard Service System Development Fees, according to meter size, are as follows:

<u>METER</u>	<u>WATER</u>	<u>SEWER</u>
3/4"	\$ 3,120	\$ 3,720
1"	\$ 5,280	\$ 6,200
1-1/2"	\$ 9,600	\$ 12,400
2"	\$ 24,000	\$ 19,840
3"	\$ 48,000	\$ 37,200
4"	\$ 96,000	TBD
6"	\$153,600	TBD

6. **Water Tap Fee-Installation Phase.** The District shall charge an installation fee for service as follows:
  - a. **Standard Service** shall include all current labor, materials, and administrative costs and filing fees necessary to provide individual metered water service which shall be charged on a per tap basis. This fee is \$1200.
  - b. **Non-Standard Service** shall include any and all construction labor and materials, inspection, administration, legal, and engineering fees, as determined by the District under the rules of Section F of this Service Policy. This fee shall be determined on a case-by-case basis.
  - c. **Standard and Non-Standard Service Installations** shall include all costs of any pipeline relocations as per Section E. 2.(c) (5) of this Service Policy or other system improvements.
- 6.5 **Sanitary Sewer Tap Fee - Available in the City of Joshua area only.** On occasion a request for sewer service is granted provided that it is feasible for the tap to be made with in-house forces on the existing collection system. The District may contract the sewer tap work to an approved contractor. The scope of work to do the tap is considered as Non-standard service since the cost may vary on a case by case basis. The policy is the same for sewer as in 6.b. and 6.c. above.
7. **Total Connection Fee.** This is the sum of the system development fee and the tap fee. *(If paid by credit card, a service charge of 1.5% will be added for the credit card fee incurred by the District) per TX Water Code Ch 49.2121*

*Water service and sewer service each has their own respective fee amounts.*

**Water:** The total connection fee for **water** standard service is \$3,600. For subdivision development with waterline, tap, box, angle curb valve, etc. are pre-installed, then the total connection fee for **water** service is \$2,900. (2400+500)

**Sewer:** For standard **sewer** service, where the tap has been made and a "stub-out" exists on the property to be served (as in new subdivision development), the **sewer** system development fee is \$2,480. Outside of new subdivision development where sanitary sewer service is readily available, the tap fee for standard sewer service is an additional \$1,240 (without pavement repairs). The total connection fee is \$2,480 + \$1,240 = \$3,720.

If pavement repairs *are* needed, \$600 adds to the tap fee (with pavement cut) so the total connection fee is \$2,480 + \$1,840 = \$4,320.

8. **Monthly Charges.**

a. **Water**

- 1) The monthly charge for standard metered water service is:  
Monthly minimum - \$33.
- 2) Each charge is assessed based on the meter (as per American Water Works Association maximum continuous flow specifications) equivalent to the size of the meter and is used as a base multiplier for the monthly minimum charge.

The following table establishes equitable rates depending on the classification of service as suggested by the AWWA and the TRWA:

METER SIZE	5/8" METER EQUIVALENTS	MONTHLY RATE
5/8"	1.0	\$ 33.00
3/4"	1.3	\$ 42.90
1"	2.2	\$ 72.60
1-1/2"	4.0	\$ 132.00
2"	10.0	\$ 330.00
3"	20.0	\$ 660.00
4"	40.0	\$1,320.00
6"	64.0	\$2,112.00

- b. **Gallonge Charge for Water** – In addition to the minimum charge, a gallonge charge shall be added at the following rates for usage during any one (1) billing period.

Up to 5K gal	\$4.25 per thousand
5K to 10K gal	\$5.25 per thousand
Over 10K gal	\$6.25 per thousand

- c. **Master Meter Charges** - Master metering is available upon application and must meet the criteria for qualification as prescribed in Section E.2.c.(3), and the fees charged will be as follows:

- (1) Apartments, mobile home parks, recreational vehicle parks and other similar establishments will be billed based on the meter size equivalent as listed in Section G.8.a.(2). See Meter Equivalency Table to determine monthly minimum. If a master meter account is being adequately served with a standard meter, the rate for a 1" meter will apply. The monthly charge for metered water service is stated in Section G.8.b. Gallonge Charge.
- (2) It shall be the responsibility of the owner/operator to notify the District of any additions in the number of units or spaces immediately upon completion of the additional units or spaces. Failure to make such notification to the District may result in additional charges or disconnection of service. The District may inspect the facilities for additions at any time it deems such inspection is necessary. The District reserves the right to determine the correct meter size.

**d. Sewer Rates**

(1) Sewer Rates (Monthly Charges)

Monthly minimum - \$21; In addition to the minimum charge, the usage charge shall be added at the following rate during any one (1) billing period:

\$4.00 per thousand gallons for residential accounts; which applies up to a maximum of 10,000 gallons water usage.

All non-residential accounts shall be charged for actual usage; this includes Mobile Home Parks and Multiple Dwelling Units.

(2) Sewer service only; no water service – for sewer service requests where another source of water is used other than that metered by the District (i.e. well water) the monthly rate will be determined on a case by case basis by the District according to the best means available.

- e. **Regulatory Assessment** - The District shall, as required by Texas law and TCEQ regulations, Section 5.235, Water Code, collect from each of its retail customers a regulatory assessment equal to one-half of one percent (0.5%) of the charge for retail water/wastewater service. This charge shall be collected in addition to other charges for utility service. This fee is collected on all charges pertaining to Section G.8. Monthly Charges of this Service Policy.
- f. **Portable meters** that are normally used for short-term needs that attach to fire hydrants or quick-fill projects will be assessed the following charge: A service availability fee of \$1,200 is paid up-front and a minimum per month bill is \$50 plus \$6.50 per 1,000 gallons used. See Section F.13.

9. **Late Payment Fee.** Once per billing period, a penalty of 10 % shall be applied to delinquent bills. This late payment penalty shall not be applied to any balance to which the penalty was applied in a previous billing, but shall be applied to any unpaid balance during the current billing period.
10. **Returned Check Fee.** In the event a check, draft, or any other similar instrument is given by a person, firm, District, or partnership to the District for payment of services provided for in this Service Policy, and the instrument is returned by the bank or other similar institution as insufficient or non-negotiable for any reason, the account(s) for which the instrument was issued shall be assessed a return check charge of \$25. (For one check payment covering more than one account, one NSF fee shall apply per that single instrument). After three (3) NSF checks occur during a year, the District can require only cash, money order or cashier's check from that customer.
11. **Lock off Trip Fee.** After a customer has received a second notice on the overdue account and the time allowed for payment has passed, a lock off trip fee of \$50 will be charged to the account at the time the work order is issued to disconnect service.
12. **Reconnect/Re-Service (After Hours) Fee.** The District shall charge a fee of \$50 for reconnecting service after regular office hours, after the District has previously disconnected the service for any reason provided for in this Service Policy except for activation of service under Section E.3.c. Re-Service. The customer requesting reconnection will be assessed this fee if the request is made after 4 pm and before 11 pm. This stipulation exists in an effort to complete the reconnect work order during regular working hours. If a call comes in after 11 pm to reconnect service, it will be scheduled for the next work day.
13. **Service Trip Fee.** The District shall charge a trip fee of \$50 for any service call or trip to the Customer's tap as a result of a request by the Customer or resident (unless the service call is in response to damage of the District's or another Customer's facilities) or for the purpose of disconnecting or collecting payment for services.
- a. trip fee - \$50
  - b. angle curb repair - \$35 for labor plus parts

14. ***Fee for Unauthorized Actions (Tampering).*** If the District's facilities or equipment have been damaged by tampering, by-passing, installing unauthorized taps, reconnecting service without authority, or other service diversion, a fee shall be charged equal to the actual costs for all labor, material, and equipment necessary for repair or replacement of the District's facilities and shall be paid before service is re-established. The fee shall also include the actual costs for all labor, material, equipment, and other actions necessary to correct service diversions, unauthorized taps, or reconnection of service without authorization. All components of this fee will be itemized, and a statement shall be provided to the Customer. If the District's facilities or equipment have been damaged due to unauthorized use of the District's equipment, easements, or meter shut-off valve, or due to other unauthorized acts by the Customer for which the District incurs losses or damages, the Customer shall be liable for all labor and material charges incurred as a result of said acts or negligence. *Note:* Payment of this fee will not preclude the District from requesting appropriate criminal prosecution for any act resulting in equipment damage or theft of service.
- A tampering fee of \$100 plus parts, incidentals, and a trip fee if applicable, will be assessed.
15. ***Meter Test Fee.*** The District shall test a Customer's meter upon written request of the Customer. Under the terms of Section E of this Service Policy, a charge of \$85 shall be imposed on the affected account.
16. ***Customer Service Inspection Fee.*** A fee of \$75 will be assessed each Applicant before permanent continuous service is provided to new construction or if the District suspects a cross-connection or other undesirable plumbing practices that may exist.
17. ***Franchise Fee Assessment.*** A fee as a percentage of the amount billed for water service will be assessed each customer whose meter is located inside the corporate limits of a City, as may be required by the City.
18. ***Posted Notice of Disconnection of Service.*** A fee of \$50 will be charged by the District whenever it is necessary to post Notice of Disconnection as required in Section E.11.g.
19. ***Additional Assessments.*** In the event any federal, state or local government imposes on the District a "per meter" fee or an assessment based on a percent of water/sewer use or charges, this fee or assessment will be billed and collected as a "pass through" charge to the customer.
20. ***Reuse or Reclaimed Water.*** Reuse water is taking the effluent water and converting it into something useful; as an industrial process that meets the applicable minimum standards as set in the TCEQ's rules titled Use of Reclaimed Water. A rate of \$2.50 plus an amount for electricity cost brings the charge to \$2.78 per thousand gallons. (*approved 02/19/2008 at a regularly scheduled Board of Directors Meeting.*)
21. ***Temporary Service.*** Temporary Water Service is a separate classification of water service made available generally for cleaning, testing wastewater facilities, etc. at an unoccupied location. Applicant shall complete a Temporary Service Application form. If meter at location is inactive, a \$100 activation fee will apply. If the meter is active, the applicant must provide a current meter reading; otherwise a service trip fee applies. Standard billing applies for water used. The District determines when and how long this classification is appropriate to exist.
22. ***Other Fees.*** The actual and reasonable costs for any services outside the normal scope of utility operations that the District may be compelled to provide at the request of a Customer shall be charged to the Customer.