

# Water Rates and Charges - 2020

## Rates for Water by Class of Service

**ANNUAL RATE ADJUSTMENT:** The rates and fees herein provided are adjusted 1.6% beginning the first billing cycle of the 2019 calendar year. The rates thereafter will be adjusted annually beginning the first billing of each calendar year to reflect an average of the five previous published years' annual increases in the Consumer Price Index, All Items, 1982-84=100 for all Urban Consumers, Anchorage, Alaska Area ("CPI") as published by the United States Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics. (For example, 2019 rates reflected an increase based on the average CPI for 2011-2015.)

Note: \* ERU = Equivalent Residential Unit (\$48.96)

### **GROUP A - RESIDENTIAL**

Group A includes all residential customers living in single family or multiple family living units. Multiple family units include multi-plexes, apartments and townhouses, but exclude hotels, motels and similar transient accommodations. The accounts may be paid by individual occupants or owners of multiple units. When the entire water service to a multiplex or apartment building is billed to one account, the charge will be based on total number of living units in the building whether or not occupied. Living units are considered to be complete with kitchens, baths and plumbing for laundry units. No adjustment is made for the size of the unit, numbers of amenities or the size of the family occupying the unit. A 25% reduction is permitted for units that are not plumbed for laundry units provided a common laundry unit is not available in the building or apartment complex for apartment occupants. There will be no reduction if a common laundry facility is available. All **commercial** residential customers may elect to install, at their own expense, water meters, to be charged Group D metered commercial water and sewer rates. Customers electing to convert to metered rates are encouraged to consider that a pending Water and Sewer Rate Study may impact either or both ERU rates and metered rates, when deciding whether to invest in the costs of installing a water meter.

### **BASIS FOR MONTHLY FEE**

<b>Category/Description of Unit</b>	<b>Charge *</b>
<b>Living unit with plumbing for laundry, or common laundry facility available on premises</b>	<b>1 ERU</b>
<b>Living unit without plumbing for laundry and no common laundry available for use by the occupant</b>	<b>0.75 ERU</b>
<b>Rental apartment unit not occupied by owner when billed as a multiple unit of 3 or more apartments served from a single water service. (No credit will be given for unoccupied units.)</b>	<b>0.75 ERU</b>
<b>Duplex in one building treated as two residences served from a single water service</b>	<b>2 ERU</b>

**GROUP B - SMALL GENERAL SERVICE**

Group B includes commercial enterprises where the use of water is incidental to the commercial activity and is primarily limited to domestic and janitorial use. This class of service includes such businesses as hotels, motels, professional office buildings, barber shops, warehouses, libraries, public offices, churches and theaters, etc. Where a building, mall or group of facilities is served from a single service, the bill will be based on the total number of facilities to be served, and no credit will be given for vacant facilities. Group B customers may elect to install, at their own expense, water meters, to be eligible for Group D metered commercial water and sewer rates. Customers electing to convert are encouraged to consider that a pending Water and Sewer Rate Study may impact either or both ERU rates and metered rates, when deciding whether to invest in the costs of installing a water meter.

**BASIS FOR MONTHLY FEE**

Category/Description of Unit	Charge
<p><b>Hotels and motels not including bars and restaurants:</b>  <b>Basic charge per building</b>  <b>PLUS each guest room</b>  <b>PLUS each pair of public restrooms in excess of one pair</b></p>	<p><b>1.0 ERU</b>  <b>0.3 ERU</b>  <b>0.3 ERU</b></p>
<p><b>Office Building/Mall with offices and retail stores and businesses not including restaurants, bars, food markets:</b>  <b>Basic charge per building</b>  <b>PLUS each office/activity</b>  <b>PLUS each pair of public restrooms in excess of one pair</b></p>	<p><b>1.0 ERU</b>  <b>0.3 ERU</b>  <b>0.3 ERU</b></p>
<p><b>Single Office/retail shop/professional activity not in office building, per each office or activity</b></p>	<p><b>1.0 ERU</b></p>
<p><b>Barber, beauty, animal grooming shop:</b>  <b>Basic charge</b>  <b>PLUS charge per chair/tub</b></p>	<p><b>1.0 ERU</b>  <b>0.75 ERU</b></p>
<p><b>Libraries, public offices, professional offices, and similar activities:</b>  <b>Basic charge per building</b>  <b>PLUS each office/activity</b>  <b>PLUS each pair of public restrooms in excess of one pair</b></p>	<p><b>1.0 ERU</b>  <b>0.3 ERU</b>  <b>0.3 ERU</b></p>
<p><b>Doctors' offices, including medical clinics, emergency first aid station, dentists' offices and similar activities:</b>  <b>Basic charge per facility</b>  <b>PLUS per each examination room, dental chair or similar unit</b>  <b>PLUS per each office</b></p>	<p><b>1.0 ERU</b>  <b>0.5 ERU</b>  <b>0.3 ERU</b></p>

<b>Warehouses:</b> <b>Basic charge per building</b> <b>PLUS each pair of restrooms or showers exceeding one pair</b>	<b>1.0 ERU</b> <b>0.3 ERU</b>
<b>Churches, theaters, assembly halls, clubs, fraternal clubs:</b> <b>Basic charge per building</b> <b>PLUS each pair of restrooms exceeding one pair</b> <b>PLUS, for food/bar service, add charge for restaurant or bar</b>	<b>1.0 ERU</b> <b>0.3 ERU</b>
<b>Public restrooms in parks and similar activities, per each pair of restrooms</b>	<b>1.0 ERU</b>
<b>Boardwalk shops with sewage, per shop</b>	<b>0.5 ERU</b>
<b>Camping &amp; RV Parks:</b> <b>Per spigot</b> <b>Per camper/motorhome hookup</b>	<b>0.5 ERU</b> <b>0.2 ERU</b>
<b>Private schools, day care centers</b> <b>Basic charge</b> <b>PLUS per each 15 students or for children in excess of 25</b>	<b>2.0 ERU</b> <b>0.5 ERU</b>
<b>Public baths and showers:</b> <b>Basic charge</b> <b>PLUS per each bath or shower in excess of two</b>	<b>2.0 ERU</b> <b>0.5 ERU</b>

NOTE: Only one basic charge will be assessed per building where different activities occupy the same building. This does not exclude residential charges for living units within the same building.

**GROUP C - LARGE GENERAL SERVICE**

Group C includes commercial enterprises where water usage is greater than in Small General services and/or water is used for food preparation or other activities, but not for industrial processing. These activities will be metered when newly constructed or when remodeling and/or repairs makes installation of meters feasible. When a building, mall or group of facilities is served from a single service, the bill will be based on the total number of facilities served, and no credit will be given for vacant facilities. Group C customers with meters will be charged Group D metered commercial water and sewer rates. Customers wishing to convert to metered rates are encouraged to consider that a pending Water and Sewer Rate Study may impact either or both ERU rates and metered rates, when deciding whether to invest in the costs of installing a water meter.

**BASIS FOR MONTHLY FEE**

Category/Description of Unit	Charge
<p><b>Food/grocery markets:</b>  <b>Basic charge</b>  <b>PLUS per water-cooled refrigeration unit</b>  <b>PLUS per butcher/meat packing unit</b>  <b>PLUS per bakery</b>  <b>PLUS per snack bar/Deli</b></p>	<p><b>3.0 ERU</b>  <b>3.0 ERU</b>  <b>1.0 ERU</b>  <b>1.0 ERU</b>  <b>0.5 ERU</b></p>
<p><b>Restaurants and/or bars (A unit may be defined as a combination restaurant/bar if operated together or separate units if restaurant and bar are operated separately.) This category includes all drink and food service activities, including full service restaurants, hospital kitchens, dormitories, dining halls, school cafeterias, etc.:</b>  <b>Basic charge per unit</b>  <b>PLUS per every 8 seats in excess of 8 seats</b></p>	<p><b>2.0 ERU</b>  <b>0.5 ERU</b></p>
<p><b>Snack Bar - no seating</b></p>	<p><b>0.5 ERU</b></p>
<p><b>Garage/gas stations and retail, manufacturing and repair shops not using water for processing:</b>  <b>Basic charge</b>  <b>PLUS per pair of restrooms exceeding one pair</b>  <b>PLUS per each shower</b>  <b>PLUS per each wash bay</b></p>	<p><b>2.0 ERU</b>  <b>0.3 ERU</b>  <b>0.3 ERU</b>  <b>1.0 ERU</b></p>

<p><b>Public schools, if non-metered, excluding swimming pools or food service:</b></p> <p><b>Basic charge</b></p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;"><b>Elementary School</b></p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;"><b>Jr. High School</b></p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;"><b>High School</b></p> <p><b>PLUS swimming pool</b></p> <p><b>PLUS charge for food service based on rate for restaurants</b></p>	<p><b>7.0 ERU</b></p> <p><b>7.0 ERU</b></p> <p><b>8.0 ERU</b></p> <p><b>15.0 ERU</b> <b>(Pg. 3-4)</b></p>
<p><b>Hospital &amp; Nursing Homes, if un-metered, excluding food service:</b></p> <p><b>Basic charge</b></p> <p><b>PLUS charge for food service based on rate for restaurants</b></p>	<p><b>6.0 ERU</b> <b>(Pg. 3-4)</b></p>
<p><b>Laundry (self service or commercial units), un-metered [new laundries will be metered]:</b></p> <p><b>Basic charge</b></p> <p><b>PLUS per each laundry unit of 12 pounds or less capacity</b></p> <p><b>PLUS per each laundry unit larger than 12 pounds capacity</b></p>	<p><b>2.0 ERU</b></p> <p><b>1.0 ERU</b></p> <p><b>2.0 ERU</b></p>

**GROUP D - METERED COMMERCIAL & INDUSTRIAL SERVICE**

Group D includes metered commercial and industrial enterprises (non-commercial residential Group A customers are not currently eligible for metered rates). All new commercial activities shall be metered, and existing facilities will be converted to meters when remodeling and repairs make installation of a meter feasible. Meters must include readouts at a location acceptable to the City, to allow for accurate meter readings. Remote readers are required.

The cost of initial installation of a meter in a new facility will be paid by the customer. The cost of maintenance, repair and replacement of all meters will be at customer expense. The customer will provide a meter, and the user will pay the cost of installation, where an existing service is converted to meter and the commercial use/activities of the user have not changed. If the meter is required due to changed usage, the customer will pay all costs, including the cost of the meter. Failure to repair or replace a faulty meter will result in the billing department estimating the meter reading or returning the customer to non-metered billing at the utility's discretion, until such time as the meter is replaced. If the customer fails to replace a faulty meter within 90 days of being informed of the need to replace the meter, the City may, at its expense, replace the meter and charge the customer as a work order, at double the costs incurred to replace the faulty meter, to encourage customers to repair and replace their own equipment. In all cases, the City will specify and/or approve the type of meter and its installation.

A commercial customer in any Group may request to be converted to meter rates. If the customer request is approved to convert to meter rates, the customer will install a meter at the customer's expense, and thereafter charges will be based on metered usage. A customer cannot convert from metered to fixed rate billing.

## BASIS FOR MONTHLY FEE

### Minimum Charge for Each Metered Service

Service Size	Minimum Monthly Charge
3/4" - 1" Service	\$24.36
1-1/2" - 2" Service	\$48.74
2-1/4" - 4" Service	\$245.75
Over 4" Service	\$1,228.54

Note: The minimum charge per metered service does not include fire sprinkler service.

### Charge for Consumption

Consumption per Month per Meter	Charge per 1,000 Gallons
First 50,000 Gallons	\$6.17
Next 500,000 Gallons	\$4.92
Next 1,000,000 Gallons	\$3.76
Next 2,000,000 Gallons	\$3.08
All Additional Gallons	\$1.57

The consumption metered on several metered services serving the same owner will not be combined to calculate the monthly bill. Each will be computed as a separate bill.

The City may negotiate or renegotiate special contracts with a user that consumes in excess of 20 million gallons of water per calendar year. Such contracts will set or amend a rate which will assure that the user pays its full share of the utility's fixed and variable operating and maintenance costs. All special contracts and renegotiations of existing special contracts shall be approved by resolution of the City Council.

**GROUP E - SPECIAL RATES AND FEES**

Group E includes charges for other categories of service not included in Groups A through D.

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|--|---|
| <b>1. Equivalent Residential Unit (ERU)</b>  | <b>\$48.96</b>  |
| <b>2. Fire Hydrant Use Permit: From May 1 to August 31 a Fire Hydrant Permit may be issued. Fire Hydrants will be turned on and off by Water or Fire Department Personnel. If the City determines that a meter and a backflow preventer are required, these will also be installed by Water Department personnel. This rate is set for contractors or other temporary water users, but not for bulk water service to ships or tanker trucks serving ships or industries, as follows:</b> | <b>Tapping Fee \$101.54<br/>PLUS daily fee: \$50.77<br/>PLUS weekly fee: \$304.60</b>   |
| <b>3. Water Service Connection Fee (done by City):</b>   | <b>Up to 1" service not longer than 60 feet, one-time charge of \$2,842.91.</b><br><br><b>In excess of 60 feet - actual cost, but not less than \$2,842.91.</b><br><br><b>PLUS cost of paving and curb replacement.</b> |
| <b>Water Service Connection Fee (done by Contractor):</b>  | <b>\$170.89 connection fee PLUS cost of paving and curb replacement.</b>  |
| <b>4. Water Service Inspection Fee (for service installed by others):</b>  | <b>\$101.54</b>   |

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|---|---|
| <p>5. <b>Water Turn-On or Turn-Off (per visit, excluding new service and new account name): No charge for the first turn-on for new service or new account.</b></p> <p>Seasonal turn-on/turn-off will be charged as "Seasonal turn-ons or turn-offs" (including new account name or same account name; waived if &lt;2 months between turn-off and turn-on; only one waived charge per account per 12-month period; Seasonal can apply to summer or winter)</p> | <p><b>First turn-on and/or turn-off: No Charge</b></p> <p><b>All other turn-ons or turn-offs:</b><br/> <b>During business hours: \$50.77</b><br/> <b>During non-business hours: \$152.59</b></p> <p><b>Seasonal turn-on: \$170.89</b><br/> <b>Seasonal turn-off: \$170.89</b></p> |
| <p>6. <b>Unauthorized Use of City Equipment (including fire hydrants, key boxes, turn-on and/or turn-off):</b></p>  | <p><b>\$1,015.35</b></p>  |
| <p>7. <b>Restoration of Water Service (including repair of damage by owner or contractor to city facilities)</b></p>  | <p><b>Actual cost, including city overhead, labor, materials and equipment.</b></p>   |
| <p>8. <b>Locate Service:</b></p>  | <p><b>Locate between May 1 and Oct. 31 - no charge</b></p> <p><b>Locate between Nov. 1 and April 30 - \$152.29</b></p> <p><b>Large projects requiring several locates will be under a special agreement with the water utility and may include an additional fee.</b></p>         |
| <p>9. <b>Thaw Wire:</b></p>   | <p><b>Locate between May 1 and Oct. 31 - no charge</b></p> <p><b>Locate between Nov. 1 and April 30 - \$152.29</b></p>  |

- 10. Security Deposit:**
- Domestic (Single Fam. & Duplex) \$50.77**
- Commercial & Multiple Dwellings: \$152.29**
- Fire Hydrant usage: \$304.60**
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- 11. Contractor Work:**
- Any contractor tapping into a city main, or otherwise working on a city water line, must be properly licensed to perform the work and must also provide a \$5,000.00 bond or equivalent cash guarantee payable to the city.**
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- 12. Ship Water**  
**(Water furnished to temporarily moored vessels):**
- Less than 1,000 gallons from Seward Boat Harbor facilities not requiring city assistance or the use of fire hydrants: No Charge**
- All service not included above:**
- Basic Charge (during regular business hours): \$101.54**
- Basic Charge (outside regular business hours)@ \$203.07**
- PLUS \$9.45 per 1000 gallons for all water used.**
- Note: Customer will be responsible for actual charges related to all work and materials required to provide water to vessel. The Point of delivery for potable water supplied by the City shall be at the customer side of the meter/backflow preventer, and the customer is responsible for water quality from the delivery point to the vessel.**