



Sausalito-Marín City Sanitary District

How the District has kept costs low and efficiency high:

- Cross-trained employees, for increased staff flexibility and efficiency.
- Implemented new technologies that have made it possible to reduce an already lean staff by 20%, from 10 to 8 full time employees, while improving service.
- Currently evaluating ways to cut \$60,000 a year from testing costs without impacting quality.
- Expanded chemical storage facilities, saving \$21,000 per year by allowing acceptance of full tanker truck deliveries.

Customer Benefits From Rate Change

- Upgrade essential facilities, improving reliability and better protecting public health and the environment
- Share costs fairly based on actual cost of service
- Lower customer costs by avoiding borrowing and by improving economy of operation

Please share this information with tenants

NOTICE TO NON-RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY OWNERS OF PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED INCREASE IN SEWER SERVICE CHARGES

Wednesday, August 7, 7:30 p.m.,
Sausalito City Council Chambers, 420 Litho Street, Sausalito CA

Why A Rate Increase Is Needed

After almost a decade of holding the line on costs with no increase in rates, the District has found that it must now raise rates. Among the causes: pipelines, pumps, the treatment plant and other facilities that are now nearing one-half century old, and require millions of dollars in upgrades, along with the cumulative impact of inflation

Well Maintained But Aging System

Engineering studies by independent consultants concluded that while the District's half-century old system is well maintained, it is aging and requires substantial, ongoing improvements to ensure that the system continues to meet state and federal quality and reliability standards. The system includes pipelines, pumps and a wastewater treatment plant.

New Rates: Enough For Essential Needs

A study by an independent financial firm concluded that the proposed rate increases will provide just enough funds for the District to pay for the costs of operations, maintenance, administration, essential capital improvements, as well as meet emergency and other reserve needs during the next 10-years. Instead of borrowing, the District has selected a pay-as-you-go approach that saves money in the long run.

Non-Residential Rates

The proposed rate increase would be phased in over three years. The current base charge for a non-residential customer who has sewage volume and strength characteristics comparable to a single family residence is \$160 per year (\$13.33 per month). Assuming no changes in sewage characteristics, the charge would rise to \$197 per year in July 2002, \$242 per year starting in July 2003, and \$298 per year starting in July 2004.

Note for Unincorporated Areas

Customers in unincorporated areas, including Marin City, are charged an additional amount for the repair and maintenance of their wastewater collection pipelines. This charge is currently 25% per year. It will be 22% starting in July 2002, 19.5% per year starting in July 2003, and 17% per year starting in July 2004.

Please Contact Us

If you have questions or comments about the proposed sewer rate increase or wish to protest, you may:

Address The Directors: Attend the Public Hearing on August 7 at 7:30 p.m. in the Sausalito City Council Chambers, 420 Litho St.

Phone: at 332-0244.

E-mail: ann-smcsd@2xtreme.net

Write: No. 1 Fort Baker Rd., Sausalito, CA 94966.

Protests against the proposal must be submitted in writing, must identify the owner(s) of the property or properties for which the protest is entered, and be signed by the property owner. If written protests against the proposed sewer service charge rates are presented by a majority of owners of parcels affected, the District will not approve the charge.



Printed on recycled paper.
Each ton of recycled paper
saves 7,000 gallons of water

Fairness Principle

Customers pay only for the actual cost of their service. Rates are based on two factors: the quantity of flow and its strength (cost to process in the treatment plant).

Flow. Rates are based on Equivalent Dwelling Units, or EDUs. One EDU is equal to the typical water use by a single-family home or dwelling unit each day (180 gallons).

Current Annual Charge	July 2002	July 2003	July 2004
\$160 per EDU	\$197 per EDU	\$242 per EDU	\$298 per EDU

Strength. The sewer service charge for a non-residential customer is influenced directly by the sewage strength loading factor applicable to the customer's business activity. Sewage which is comparable to domestic (i.e., residential) sewage has a loading factor of 1.0 (for example, offices). Other business activities that produce higher strength sewage, for example, food service and certain industrial customers, have higher loading factors.

Commercial, Institutional and Industrial Rates

The sewer service charge payable by a non-residential customer is calculated individually based upon the volume and strength of the customer's sewage measured in EDUs, and the annual sewer service charge rate in effect at the pertinent time. EDUs are based on the customer's annualized water usage in 100-cubic feet water units multiplied by the customer's applicable loading factor. Using the EDU rates in the table above, your water usage data from last year, and your assigned loading factor, the estimated sewer service charges for your business would be:

Annualized Water Usage (FY 2001-02): _____ Water Units

Applicable Loading Factor: _____

Calculated EDUs (water units x loading factor): _____ EDUs

Anticipated Annual Charges including unincorporated area sewer maintenance component if applicable:

July 2002: \$ _____ July 2003: \$ _____ July 2004: \$ _____

Note: These charges are projections only and will vary based on actual water usage and any changes in wastewater strength. However, the same EDU rate that applies to residential users also applies to non-residential users and the proposed increases in EDU rates are identical. **For assistance, call 332-0244.**

Important Information About Your Sewer Rates and Service

If You Have Questions, Please Call (415) 332-0244

Board of Directors: William R. Berkman, President;
Joseph H. Bell; Vice- President; Donald L. Beers;
Raymond G. Gergus; Norman C. Wohlschlaeger.
General Manager: Robert Simmons. **Secretary:** Ann Arnott

PRSRT STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
COMPLETE MAILING
SERVICE, INC.



**Sausalito-Marín City
Sanitary District**
#1 Fort Baker Rd
Sausalito CA 94966
Phone: 332-0244

**To the Property Owner(s) at
Assessor Parcel Number:**