

**AN ORDINANCE SETTING CHARGES, FEES, RATES  
AND DEPOSITS FOR CUSTOMERS SERVED BY THE  
UNION COUNTY WATER AND SEWER SYSTEM**

**BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF UNION COUNTY,  
NORTH CAROLINA, that**

**SECTION I. The following charges, fees, deposits, and monthly rates shall apply on and after the Effective Date of this Ordinance. For purposes of this Ordinance, FY 2015 shall mean July 1, 2014, to June 30, 2015; FY 2016 shall mean July 1, 2015, to June 30, 2016; and FY 2017 shall mean July 1, 2016, to June 30, 2017; provided that this Ordinance may extend beyond June 30, 2017, in accordance with the provisions of Section IV.**

**1. WATER RATES**

**A. Base Facility Fee** – monthly fixed charge for residential and non-residential water customers (based on meter size).

<b>METER SIZE</b>	<b>FY 2015</b>	<b>FY 2016</b>	<b>FY 2017</b>
3/4"	\$7.40	\$8.20	\$9.05
1"	\$18.60	\$20.55	\$22.70
1 1/2"	\$36.90	\$40.85	\$45.05
2"	\$59.00	\$65.35	\$72.05
3"	\$166.10	\$183.85	\$202.75
4"	\$369.10	\$408.65	\$450.65
6"	\$516.70	\$572.00	\$630.85

**B. Volumetric Rates** – charge for water per 1,000 gallons of usage based on the current Water Shortage Stage as declared by the County Manager.

- i. Residential Rates** – applies to accounts classified as residential.
- ii. Irrigation Rates** – applies to residential and non-residential accounts with a separate meter for irrigation systems.
- iii. Non-residential Rates** – applies to accounts classified as commercial, industrial or institutional as deemed by Union County Public Works.

		Standard Rates / Water Shortage Stage I			Water Shortage Stage II			Water Shortage Stage III			Water Shortage Stage IV		
		2015	2016	2017	2015	2016	2017	2015	2016	2017	2015	2016	2017
<b>Residential</b>													
<b>Tier 1</b>	0 - 3,000 gallons	\$ 1.95	\$ 2.10	\$ 2.20	\$ 1.95	\$ 2.10	\$ 2.20	\$ 1.95	\$ 2.10	\$ 2.20	\$ 2.62	\$ 2.80	\$ 2.99
<b>Tier 2</b>	3,001 - 7,000 gallons	2.65	2.80	3.00	2.65	2.80	3.00	2.65	2.80	3.00	3.95	4.25	4.53
<b>Tier 3</b>	7,001 - 10,000 gallons	3.75	4.00	4.25	3.75	4.00	4.25	7.76	8.16	8.50	8.39	9.15	9.52
<b>Tier 4</b>	10,001 - 15,000 gallons	5.85	6.05	6.20	9.44	9.73	9.91	16.11	16.62	16.90	17.40	17.99	18.28
<b>Tier 5</b>	> 15,000 gallons	10.10	10.10	10.10	16.35	16.16	16.15	27.94	27.62	27.60	30.20	29.90	29.85
<b>Irrigation</b>													
<b>Tier 1</b>	0 - 3,000 gallons	\$ 3.75	\$ 4.00	\$ 4.25	\$ 3.75	\$ 4.00	\$ 4.25	\$ 7.76	\$ 8.16	\$ 8.50	\$ 8.39	\$ 9.04	\$ 9.52
<b>Tier 2</b>	3,001 - 7,000 gallons	3.75	4.00	4.25	3.75	4.00	4.25	7.76	8.16	8.50	8.39	9.04	9.52
<b>Tier 3</b>	7,001 - 10,000 gallons	3.75	4.00	4.25	3.75	4.00	4.25	7.76	8.16	8.50	8.39	9.04	9.52
<b>Tier 4</b>	10,001 - 15,000 gallons	5.85	6.05	6.20	9.44	9.73	9.91	16.11	16.62	16.90	17.40	17.99	18.28
<b>Tier 5</b>	> 15,000 gallons	10.10	10.10	10.10	16.35	16.16	16.15	27.94	27.62	27.60	30.20	29.90	29.85
<b>Non-Residential</b>													
	Flat Rate	\$ 2.70	\$ 2.90	\$ 3.05	\$ 2.86	\$ 3.06	\$ 3.22	\$ 3.12	\$ 3.33	\$ 3.50	\$ 3.74	\$ 3.97	\$ 4.18
<b>Wholesale</b>													
	Flat Rate	\$ 2.25	\$ 2.40	\$ 2.55	\$ 2.38	\$ 2.53	\$ 2.69	\$ 2.60	\$ 2.76	\$ 2.93	\$ 3.12	\$ 3.29	\$ 3.49

### C. Hydrant Meters

- i. **Temporary Hydrant Meters** – requires a \$300 deposit. Monthly usage will be billed at the Non-Residential rate and a base facility fee based on meter size is charged for each month (or partial month) the meter is used.
- ii. **Hydrant Permit Fee** – \$100 annual fee per vessel for permitted water service vehicles to obtain water from approved County hydrants. Monthly usage will be billed at the Non-Residential rate plus a monthly base facility fee based on meter size.

- D. **Automatic Fire Extinguishing Systems Base Facility Fee** – customers with a separate connection used specifically for the purpose of fire protection service will be charged a **\$100 base facility fee annually**. *Actual usage, if any, is charged at the Non-Residential rate.*

## 2. SEWER RATES

**A. Base Facility Fee** – monthly fixed charge for residential and non-residential sewer customers (based on meter size).

METER SIZE	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017
3/4"	\$9.85	\$10.50	\$11.15
1"	\$24.85	\$26.45	\$28.15
1 1/2"	\$49.35	\$52.55	\$56.00
2"	\$78.90	\$84.05	\$89.50
3"	\$222.05	\$236.50	\$251.85
4"	\$493.45	\$525.50	\$559.70
6"	\$690.75	\$735.65	\$783.50
*Flat Rate (Unmetered)	\$33.80	\$36.00	\$38.35

*\*Unmetered Sewer – customers who have an unmetered water source such as a private well.*

**B. Volumetric Rates** – charge for sewer per 1,000 gallons of water usage.

	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017
<b><u>Residential</u></b> 0 - 12,000 gallons	\$4.70	\$5.00	\$5.30
<b><u>Non-Residential</u></b> All Usage	\$4.70	\$5.00	\$5.30

**Irrigation meters are excluded from being assessed sewer charges.**

## 3. CAPACITY FEES

**A. Water Capacity Fees** – one-time charges, based on water meter size, to new service connections (or increases in service by an existing customer) specifically designed to pay for the costs associated with serving new customers.

METER SIZE	FEE
3/4"	\$1,200
1"	\$2,900
1 1/2"	\$5,800
2" & Greater	SEE NOTE
Fire Connection	NO FEE

*Note: Water Capacity Fees for meter sizes 2" and greater are a multiple of the estimated water demand as compared to the water demand of one (1) Equivalent Residential Unit (ERU). An ERU represents water usage of a typical single-family residential unit with a ¾" meter. For the purposes of this calculation, 1 ERU = 703 gpd (gallons per day).*

**Water capacity fees are not charged for residential irrigation meters when installed in conjunction with a domestic meter.**

**B. Sewer Capacity Fees** - one-time charges, based on water meter size, to new service connections (or increases in service by an existing customer) specifically designed to pay for the costs associated with serving new customers.

METER SIZE	FEE
3/4"	\$3,090
1"	\$7,720
1 1/2"	\$15,440
2" & Greater	SEE NOTE
Fire Connection	NO FEE

*Note: Sewer Capacity Fees for meter sizes 2" and greater are a multiple of the estimated sewer demand as compared to the sewer demand of one (1) Equivalent Residential Unit (ERU). The number of sewer capacity ERU's shall be equivalent to the number of ERU's as calculated for Water Capacity Fees unless the applicant can demonstrate that there is water consumption within their development that would not generate wastewater flow.*

**Sewer capacity fees are not charged for irrigation meters.**

#### **4. TAP FEES**

**A. Water Tap Fees** – amount charged for installing a new water tap (based on meter size).

METER SIZE	FEE
3/4"	\$400
1"	\$525
≥ 1 1/2"	COST
Fire Connection	COST

**B. Sewer Tap Fees** - amount charged for installing a new sewer tap (based on line size).

SIZE OF LINE	FEE
4"	\$630
6"	\$825
>6"	COST

**5. MISCELLANEOUS FEES**

- A. Account Setup Fee** – a fee charged for establishing a new account or transferring an account. **\$25.00**
  
- B. Deposit Fee** – amount collected when service is established for a customer who does not own the property. The deposit, less the final bill amount, is returned to the customer when service is terminated. **\$50.00**  
*Deposit balances of less than \$1.00 will not be refunded.  
Interest accrued on deposits is not refundable to customers.*
  
- C. Late Payment Fee** – applied when customer has not paid monthly bill by due date. **\$10.00 or 5% of the current past due amount, whichever is more**
  
- D. Disconnect Processing Fee** – applied when customer has two outstanding bills and has not paid the balance by the due date of the 2<sup>nd</sup> bill. Fee applicable at 5:00 p.m. on the due date of the 2<sup>nd</sup> bill whether the service is physically disconnected or not. **\$50.00**
  
- E. Returned Check Fee** – fee charged when checks are returned, automatic drafts are rejected or credit/debit card transactions are reversed after payment has been credited to a customer’s account. **\$25.00**
  
- F. Meter Verification Fee** – fee charged if customer requests a meter test and the meter is found to be registering correctly. If the meter is registering incorrectly, this fee is not charged. **\$25.00**
  
- G. Meter Installation Fee** – fee charged at the time of meter set (actual cost of meter assembly plus labor costs to install).

METER SIZE	INSTALLATION FEE
3/4"	\$185
1"	\$275
1 ½"	\$1,400
2" & Greater	ACTUAL COST

H. **Meter Removal Fee** – fee charged for the removal of a meter whether at the request of the customer or initiated by UCPW for meter tampering. **\$25.00**

I. **Meter Reset Fee** – fee charged for resetting a meter. **\$25.00**

J. **Meter Tampering Fee** – fee charged for damage or alteration of a meter assembly or for bypassing or relocating a meter.

1 <sup>st</sup> Offense	\$100
2 <sup>nd</sup> Offense	\$200
3 <sup>rd</sup> Offense	\$300

K. **Temporary Construction Meter Deposit Fee** – an amount collected for a meter set at the beginning of or during the construction phase of any new development (residential or non-residential), prior to the issuance of a Certificate of Occupancy. **The amount of the deposit will vary based on meter size and will be equal to the Meter Installation Fee.** The deposit, less amounts owed for services provided or damages to UCPW property, is returned to the customer when service is converted to a permanent service. Deposit balances of less than \$1.00 will not be refunded. Interest accrued on deposits is not refundable to customers.

L. **Plan Review Fees** – fees charged for review and approval of engineering plans submitted for new development:

<b>Residential</b>	<b>\$100 plus \$20 per lot</b>
<b>Non-residential</b>	<b>\$100 plus \$10 per 1,000 sq ft of building(s) area</b>

**SECTION II. Partial payments will be applied first to late charges or fees, then to sewer charges, and then to water charges.**

**SECTION III.** This Ordinance shall supersede any ordinance, or any portion of an ordinance, that conflicts with this Ordinance. Except as superseded, such other ordinance(s) shall continue in full force and effect.

**SECTION IV.** This Ordinance shall become effective as of the 1st day of July, 2014 (the “Effective Date”), and shall continue until amended, superseded, or repealed. In the event this Ordinance is not amended, superseded, or repealed for that period following June 30, 2017, the provisions of this Ordinance (including the charges, fees, rates, and deposits established for FY 2017) shall continue to apply until this Ordinance is amended, superseded, or repealed.