



# MSD

*It's all about clean water!*

## 2021 Sewer Rate Information



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## What’s New in 2021?

- MSD continues to offer a *Customer Assistance Program* to help low-income senior citizens pay their sewer bills.
- No sewer rate increase* for the 6th year in a row. An average single-family household spends about \$610 a year on sewer services.

## Your Sewer Bill

Sewer bills are based on the amount of water used by a property. Your sewer bill consists of two separate charges:<sup>2</sup>

- Minimum base charge
- Commodity charge

**Minimum Base Charge**  
(service fee that includes first 3 CCF of water used)



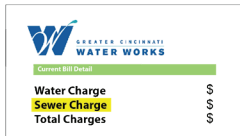
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**Commodity Charge**  
(cubic feet of water used above 3 CCF x sewer rate)



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**Your Sewer Bill**  
(usually combined with your water bill)



## Minimum Base Charge:

The minimum base charge is a service fee applied to all customers based on the size of the property’s water meter. It includes the first 3 CCF of water used each month, based on 30 days of service. If there are greater or less than 30 days of service, the amount is prorated.

### Meter Size (inches)

5/8  
3/4  
1  
1 1/2  
2  
3  
4  
6  
8  
10  
12

### Portion of Charge Covering OM&R<sup>3</sup>

\$ 7.27  
\$ 9.14  
\$ 12.86  
\$ 21.36  
\$ 30.12  
\$ 67.58  
\$ 112.00  
\$ 220.47  
\$ 328.94  
\$ 439.99  
\$ 509.19

## Commodity Charge Rates:

The commodity charge is applied to all customers who use more than 3 CCF of water each month. This charge is calculated by multiplying the CCF of water used above 3 CCF by the established sewer rate (see table).

*Winter Period<sup>4</sup> for Residential Customers:* From Jan-March, the commodity charge is based on the amount of water used. For April-Dec, the charge is based on the lesser of either (a) amount of water used that month **or** (b) average amount of water used from Jan-Mar. This average is known as the “winter period.” Commercial and industrial customers do not have a winter period.

First 3 CCF

*Included in the minimum base charge*

	Sewer Rate	Portion of Rate Covering OM&R <sup>3</sup>
Greater than 3 CCF, up to 50 CCF	\$5.879/ CCF	\$2.462/ CCF

	Sewer Rate	Portion of Rate Covering OM&R <sup>3</sup>
More than 50 CCF	\$4.701/ CCF	\$2.462/ CCF

## Notes:

<sup>1</sup> 1 CCF = 100 cubic feet or 748 gallons

<sup>2</sup> Industrial customers may be charged additional fees to cover the costs associated with their discharges.

<sup>3</sup> Public Law 95-217 requires public notice of the operation, maintenance, and replacement (OM&R) cost portion of the minimum base charge and sewer rate. By definition, replacement costs are those necessary to extend the life of facilities and not total replacement of the entire system.

<sup>4</sup> Many residential customers (single and two-family homes) use greater amounts of water during the warm, summer months (e.g., watering lawns, gardening), much of which never enters the sewer system. Since sewer bills are based on water usage, MSD uses a customer’s average water consumption during January, February, and March of each year as the maximum water usage to calculate the monthly commodity charge for the next 9 months (April-December). A new winter period maximum water consumption rate is established each year during the winter period.

# *It's all about clean water!*

Clean water is essential to a healthy environment.

The Metropolitan Sewer District of Greater Cincinnati (MSD) protects the environment by returning clean water to local streams and rivers and partnering with the community on green solutions.

Your sewer bill helps make our water cleaner and healthier by paying for:

- **Collection and Treatment of Wastewater**

Wastewater, also known as sewage, is what goes down your drain or gets flushed down the toilet. Wastewater travels through sewer pipes to a treatment plant where it is cleaned and released back into local waterways. Your sewer bill pays for operating and maintaining the sewers and treatment plants. It also pays for personnel, equipment, fuel, chemicals, electricity, and fleet vehicles needed to support the utility.

- **Repayment of Loans and Bonds to Fund Capital Projects**

MSD relies on bonds, loans, and cash to finance capital projects such as new sewers and upgrades to treatment plants. These projects keep our sewers in good, working condition and help reduce sewer overflows and address sewer backups.

## **For more information:**

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