

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

Unless specifically defined in this Tariff, all fees, rates, and charges as stated shall be non-refundable.

1. ***Service Investigation Fee.*** The Corporation shall conduct a service investigation for each service application submitted at the Corporation office. An initial determination shall be made by the Corporation, 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 shall be quoted in writing to the Applicant within ten (10) working days of application.
  - 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 Corporation's ability to deliver service to the Applicant to;
    - (1) provide cost estimates of the project,
    - (2) to present detailed plans and specifications as per final plat,
    - (3) to advertise and accept bids for the project,
    - (4) to present a Non-Standard Service Contract to the Applicant, and
    - (5) to provide other services as required by the Corporation for such investigation. A Non-Standard Service Contract shall be presented to the Applicant within a suitable amount of time as determined by the complexity of the project. (See Section F.)
  
2. ***Membership Fee.*** At the time the application for service is approved, a refundable Membership Fee must be paid for each service requested before service shall be provided or reserved for the Applicant by the Corporation.
  - a. The Membership Fee for water service shall be equal to 12 times the amount of the Service Availability Charge that corresponds to the Meter Equivalent of a 5/8"x3/4" (standard) meter.
  
3. ***Easement Fee.*** When the Corporation determines that private right-of-way easements and/or facilities sites are necessary to provide service to the Applicant, the Applicant shall be required to make good faith efforts to secure easements on behalf of the Corporation and/or pay all costs incurred by the Corporation in validating, clearing, and retaining such right-of-way in addition to tap fees otherwise required pursuant to the provisions of this Tariff. The costs may include all legal fees and expenses necessary to attempt to secure such right-of-way and/or facilities sites in behalf of the Applicant. (See Section E 3., Section F 8. b.)
  
4. ***Installation Fee.*** The Corporation shall charge an installation fee for service as follows:
  - a. **Standard Service** shall include all current labor, materials, engineering, legal, customer service inspection, and administrative costs necessary to provide individual metered water or wastewater service and shall be charged on a per tap basis as computed immediately prior to such time as metered service is requested and installed. Where a water main has previously been installed on the Applicant's property, the standard installation fee is ~~\$1,076 (equipment \$195, labor \$450, materials \$431)~~ **\$1,267.19**. Where a water main, tap, service line, and meter box has previously been installed on the Applicant's property, the standard installation fee is ~~\$275.00~~ **\$382.50**.
  - b. **Non-Standard Service** shall include any and all construction labor and materials, inspection, administration, legal, and engineering fees, as determined by the Corporation under the rules of

Section F of this Tariff.

- c. Standard and Non-Standard Service Installations shall include all costs of any pipeline relocations as per Section E 3(e) of this Tariff.

5. **Capital Improvement Fee.** In addition to the Membership Fee, each Applicant shall be required to pay a Capital Improvement Fee. This fee shall be assessed immediately prior to providing or reserving service on a per service unit basis for each tap/lot and shall be assigned and restricted to the tap/lot for which the service was originally requested. The current Capital Improvement Fee is ~~\$3,228.00~~ **\$3,800.00** per service unit.

6. **Monthly Charges.**

a. **Service Availability Charge (Base Rate)**

(1) Water Service - The monthly charge for metered water service, which may or may not include allowable gallonage, is based on demand by meter size. Each charge is assessed based on the number of 5/8" X 3/4" meters (as per American Water Works Association maximum continuous flow specifications) equivalent to the size indicated and is used as a base multiplier for the Service Availability Charge and allowable gallonage. Rates and equivalents are as follows:

<b>Residential</b>	<b>Meter Equivalent</b>	<b>Rate</b>
5/8"	1	31.58
3/4"	1.3	41.06
1"	2.2	69.48
<b>Irrigation</b>		
5/8"	1	31.58
3/4"	1.3	41.06
1"	2.2	69.48
1.5"	4	126.32
2"	6.4	202.12
<b>Commercial</b>		
5/8"	1	31.58
3/4"	1.3	41.06
1"	2.2	69.48
1.5"	4	126.32
2"	6.4	202.12
3" Comp.	14	442.12
<b>Industrial</b>		
1.5"	4	126.32
2"	6.4	202.12
3" Comp.	14	442.12

**Apartment Complexes/Town Homes**

Per Unit/Room = Current Service Availability Charge (Base Rate)

- b. **Volumetric Rates for Residential, Irrigation, and Commercial Accounts** – In addition to the Service Availability Charge, a volumetric charge shall be added at the following rates for usage during any one (1) billing period and are listed below.

0-10,000 gallons_____	\$4.82/1,000 gallons
10,001-20,000 gallons_____	\$5.41/1,000 gallons
20,001-50,000 gallons_____	\$6.60/1,000 gallons
50,001-70,000 gallons_____	\$7.67/1,000 gallons
70,001-100,000 gallons_____	\$9.37/1,000 gallons
All above 100,000 gallons_____	\$10.48/1,000 gallons

- c. **Volumetric Rates for Industrial Accounts, Apartment Complexes, and Town Homes**– All water shall be billed at \$6.61 per 1,000 gallons

- d. **Volumetric Rates for Residential Accounts certified as owned and occupied by Senior or Disabled Citizens as defined by this Tariff:**

0-5,000 gallons_____	Included with Base Rate
5,001-10,000 gallons_____	\$4.82/1,000 gallons
10,001-20,000 gallons_____	\$5.41/1,000 gallons
20,001-50,000 gallons_____	\$6.60/1,000 gallons
50,001-70,000 gallons_____	\$7.67/1,000 gallons
70,001-100,000 gallons_____	\$9.37/1,000 gallons
All above 100,000 gallons_____	\$10.48/1,000 gallons

7. **Assessments.** – If at the end of the fiscal year, or in the event of emergency repairs, the Board of Directors determines the total amount derived from the collection of water charges to be insufficient for the payment of all costs incident to the operation of the Corporation’s system during the year in which such charges are collected, the Board shall make and levy an assessment against each Member of the Corporation as the Board may determine or as may be required by Rural Development, so that the sum of such assessments and the amount collected from water and other charges is sufficient to fully pay all costs of the operation, maintenance, replacement and repayment on indebtedness for the year’s operations.
8. **Late Payment Fee.** Once per billing period, a penalty of ~~\$5.00~~ **10.00**, 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.

**NOTE:** For Political Subdivisions and state agencies the above late payment fee does not apply. Instead a late penalty of 1% shall be assessed for any amount unpaid on the 46<sup>th</sup> day after the bill is received by the state agency or political subdivision and an additional 1% shall be assessed for each month thereafter that the bill remains unpaid. (Government Code Chapter 2251)

9. **Returned Check Fee.** In the event a check, draft, or any other similar instrument is given by a person, firm, corporation, or partnership to the Corporation for payment of services provided for in this Tariff, and the instrument is returned by the bank or other similar institution as insufficient or non-negotiable for any reason, the account for which the instrument was issued shall be assessed a return check charge of \$35.00. (See Miscellaneous Transaction Forms)
10. **Reconnect Fee.** The Corporation shall charge a fee of ~~\$25.00~~ **\$50.00** for reconnecting service after the Corporation has previously disconnected the service for any reason provided for in this Tariff except for activation of service under Section E.3.b. Re-Service. There will be an additional ~~\$25.00~~ **\$50.00** charged for reconnections not made during normal business hours
11. **Service Trip Fee.** The Corporation shall charge a trip fee of ~~\$25.00~~ **\$50.00** for any service call or trip to the Member's tap as a result of a request by the Member or resident for response to damage of the Corporation's or another Member's facilities, for customer service inspections due to suspicion of meter tampering, bypass or diversion of service, or for the purpose of disconnecting or collecting payment for services.
11. **Equipment Damage Fee** If the Corporation'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, replacement, and other Corporation actions. This fee shall be charged and paid before service is re-established. If the Corporation's equipment has not been damaged, a fee equal to the actual costs for all labor, material, equipment, and other actions necessary to correct service diversions, unauthorized taps, or reconnection of service without authority shall be charged. All components of this fee will be itemized, and a statement shall be provided to the Member. If the Corporation's facilities or equipment have been damaged due to negligence or unauthorized use of the Corporation's equipment, right-of-way, or meter shut-off valve, or due to other acts for which the Corporation incurs losses or damages, the Member shall be liable for all labor and material charges incurred as a result of said acts or negligence. The minimum charge for the above listed items will be ~~\$25.00~~ **\$50.00**. Any property which has a water line that is intentionally tied in directly to the facilities owned by Sardis-Lone Elm Water Supply Corporation without being connected to a meter supplied by Sardis will subject to a minimum fee of \$500.00 in addition to the charge for the estimated amount of water that was diverted from Sardis' facilities.
12. **Meter Test Fee.** The Corporation shall test a Member's meter upon written request of the Member. Under the terms of Section E of this Tariff, a charge of \$50.00 shall be imposed on the affected account.
13. **Transfer Fee.** An Applicant for service who is a Transferee shall complete all required application forms, etc., and pay a Transfer Fee of ~~\$15.00~~ **\$25.00**.
14. **Information Copy Fee.** A fee for the copying of any public information will be charged to the person requesting that information in compliance with the cost rules of the Government Code Section 552.261 et. seq.
15. **Customer Service Inspection Fee.** A fee of ~~\$30.00~~ **\$50.00** will be assessed each Applicant before permanent continuous service is provided to new construction. An Inspection Deposit Fee of \$250.00 shall be collected at such time as new service and installation is applied for. This deposit is not collected

for existing services that are being transferred to a new owner(s). The Inspection Deposit Fee shall be refunded to the original applicant that paid the fee only if the corporation is notified that all improvements connected to the water system at the location in question have been completed and that the inspection can be performed at least 2 business days prior to the actual closing date of the property or the date of occupancy, whichever is sooner.

16. **Regulatory Assessment.** A fee of 0.5% of the amount billed for water service will be assessed each customer; this assessment is required under Texas law and TCEQ regulations. **NOTE:** The regulatory assessment is not to be collected from state agencies, wholesale customers, or buyers of non-potable (not drinkable) water. (Ref. TCEQ RG-199 revised Oct. 2002. TCEQ Section 291.76 (c))
17. **Additional Assessments.** In the event any federal, state or local government imposes on the Corporation a “per meter” fee or an assessment based on a percent of water/sewer charges, this fee or assessment will be billed and collected as a “pass through” charge to the customer.
18. **Groundwater District Production Fee.** A fee of ~~\$0.16~~ **\$0.13** per thousand gallons of water used by each customer; this fee is collected to pay a portion of the monthly fees charged the Corporation by the Prairielands Groundwater Conservation District based on the amount of water pumped from the Corporation’s wells located within the boundaries of the District.
19. **Other Fees.** All services outside the normal scope of utility operations that the Corporation may be compelled to provide at the request of a customer or Member shall be charged to the recipient based on the cost of providing such service.
20. **Temporary Construction Meter Account Fee.** A temporary construction meter account may be established to accommodate the need for the sale of water on a temporary basis. Examples of these accounts are fire hydrant meters used by individuals or companies for temporary irrigation or commercial purposes. These accounts are established when water is available for such usages and will be terminated immediately in the event that mandatory water rationing is enforced. The minimum monthly charge for the account is \$53.00 and the water will be billed at \$7.95/1,000 gallons with the payment due on the first day of each month. There will be a \$500.00 deposit for each hydrant meter issued by the Corporation and all meters used for temporary service will be issued by the Corporation.
21. **Backflow Prevention Assembly Test.** A fee of ~~\$60.00~~ **\$75.00** will be assessed for each backflow prevention assembly device tested by Sardis personnel.
22. **Labor and equipment Rates.** Technician/Operator hours will be billed at ~~\$65.00~~ **\$75.00** per employee for each hour of work performed. The use of equipment such as tractors and/or excavators will be billed at an additional ~~\$50.00~~ **\$100.00**/hour for each piece of equipment used.

**Note: Standard Installation Fee Calculations are as follows:**

- **Labor (3 employees x 2 hours each x \$75.00) = \$450.00**
- **Machinery (1 Tractor x 2 hours x \$100.00) = \$200.00**
- **Materials per quote = \$617.19**
- **Total Installation Fee = \$1,267.19**