

# YOUR DC WATER BILL

## WHAT CHANGES CAN YOU EXPECT?

### AOBA UTILITY COMMITTEE

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**August 2, 2017**

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**Apartment and Office Building Association of Metropolitan Washington**



**DC WATER  
RATES, FEES  
AND THE  
IMPERVIOUS  
SURFACE  
AREA CHARGE  
DISCOUNT  
PROGRAM**

- **Current DC Water Rates & Fees**
- **Overview of the Impervious Surface Area Charge (IAC)**
- **IAC Rate Structure**
- **Planning for the Future**
- **Additional Information about DC Water Rates**

**DC  
DEPARTMENT  
OF ENERGY  
AND THE  
ENVIRONMENT  
STORMWATER  
FEE**

- **Current Stormwater Fee**
- **History of the Stormwater Fee**
- **Why is the Stormwater Fee Necessary?**
- **Stormwater Fee Rate Structure**
- **Projected Increases to the Fee**

# DC WATER RATES & FEES

RATE CLASS	CURRENT FY 2017 RATES (Effective 10/01/16)		APPROVED FY 2018 RATES (Effective: 10/01/17)	
<b>WATER RATE</b>	Residential (Consumption up to 4Ccf)	\$3.23/CCF	Residential (Consumption up to 4Ccf)	<b>\$3.39/CCF</b>
	Residential (Consumption greater than 4Ccf)	\$4.06/CCF	Residential (Consumption greater than 4Ccf)	<b>\$4.26/CCF</b>
	Multifamily/DC Housing Authority	\$3.62/CCF	Multifamily/DC Housing Authority	<b>\$3.80/CCF</b>
	Non-residential	\$4.19/CCF	Non-residential	<b>\$4.40/CCF</b>
<b>SEWER RATE</b>	\$5.71/CCF		<b>\$6.00/CCF</b>	
<b>IMPERVIOUS SURFACE AREA CHARGE</b>	\$22.24/month or ERU		<b>\$25.18/month or ERU</b>	
<b>RIGHT OF WAY (ROW)/ PAYMENT IN LIEU OF TAXES FEE (PILOT)</b>	\$0.65/CCF Divided as follows: <u>ROW</u> \$.17/CCF <u>PILOT</u> \$.48/CCF		<b>\$0.67/CCF Divided as follows:</b> <u>ROW</u> <b>\$.18/CCF</b> <u>PILOT</u> <b>\$.49/CCF</b>	

**Source:** 21 DCMR § § 112, 556, 4100.3, and 4101.1. **Why multi-year rates?** DC Water first moved to a multi-year rate on October 1, 2016 citing the following as benefits: (1) greater revenue certainty; (2) increased budget discipline; and (3) better alignment between revenues and expenditures. **Source:** [DC WATER Operating Budgets, Approved FY 2018 Budgets, Section IV Rates and Revenues, page III-9.](#)

# DC WATER RATES & FEES CONTINUED

RATE CLASS	CURRENT FY 2017 RATES (Effective 10/01/16)	Approved FY 2018 RATES (Effective date 10/01/17)
STORMWATER FEE	<p style="text-align: right;"><b>\$2.67/ERU</b></p> <p><b>* Effective Nov. 1, 2010*</b></p>	<b>NO CHANGE</b>
WATER SYSTEM REPLACEMENT FEE	<p><b>*SEE SEPARATE CHARTS ON PAGE 6*</b></p> <p><b>*Charge for multifamily and commercial properties will vary by meter size.*</b></p>	<b>NO CHANGE</b>

# DC WATER RATES & FEES CONTINUED

## Current Customer Metering Fee:

Monthly fees based on meter size for installing, operating, & maintaining meters.

METER SIZE (INCHES)	MONTHLY FEE PER METER
5/8"	\$3.86
3/4"	\$4.06
1	\$4.56
1x1.25	\$4.83
1.5	\$6.88
1x1.5	\$6.88
2	\$7.54
2x1/2	\$8.00
2x5/8	\$8.00
3	\$76.98
3x5/8	\$77.94
3x1	\$77.94
3x3/4	\$77.94
4	\$137.37
4x3/4	\$138.15
4x1	\$138.15
4x1.5	\$138.15
4x2	\$138.15
4x2"5/8	\$181.04
6	\$268.14
6 x 1	\$272.70
6 x 1 x 1/2	\$323.09
6x1.5	\$323.09
6x3	\$323.09
6x3x1/2	\$323.09
6x3"3/4	\$323.09
8	\$323.29
8x2	\$323.29
8x4x1	\$358.26
8x4"3/4	\$358.26
10	\$317.91
10x2	\$403.62
10x6	\$403.62
10x6x1	\$403.62
12	\$329.66
12x6	\$329.66
16	\$349.45

# DC WATER RATES & FEES CONTINUED

## WATER SYSTEM REPLACEMENT FEE

MONTHLY FEE TO FUND THE ONE PERCENT (1%) RENEWAL & REPLACEMENT OF AGING WATER INFRASTRUCTURE FOR RESIDENTIAL, MULTIFAMILY AND NON-RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMERS. THE FEE IS BASED ON METER SIZE AND AVERAGE FLOW.

Meter Size (inches)	Meter Register Type	Monthly Water System Replacement Fee
5/8"	Single Register	\$ 6.30
3/4"	Single Register	\$ 7.39
1"	Single Register	\$ 9.67
1"x1.25"	Single & Multiple Register	\$ 15.40
1.5"	Single Register	\$ 41.35
2"	Single & Multiple Register	\$ 83.75
3"	Single & Multiple Register	\$ 232.13
4"	Single & Multiple Register	\$ 561.02
6"	Single & Multiple Register	\$ 1,292.14
8"	Single Register	\$ 5,785.51
8"x2"	Multiple Register	\$ 1,899.60
8"x4"x1"	Multiple Register	\$ 2,438.35
10"	Single & Multiple Register	\$ 6,679.65
12"	Single & Multiple Register	\$ 6,679.65
16"	Single Register	\$ 6,679.65

## KEY DEFINITIONS FOR WATER SYSTEM REPLACEMENT FEE

### Single Register

Meter that has only one device that displays the consumption volume.

### Multiple Register

Meter that has two or more devices that can display the consumption volume at different flow rates (high or low) or different uses, including, but not limited to, Demand Flow and Fire Flow.

# DC WATER RATES & FEES CONTINUED

## APPROVED SYSTEM AVAILABILITY FEE (SAF) | EFFECTIVE: JAN. 1, 2018

It is a **one-time fee** assessed to a property owner of any premises, building, or structure **to recover the cost of system capacity servicing, all meter water service, and sanitary sewer connections** which result from renovation or redevelopment projects that require an upsized meter service connection to the District's potable water system. The fee is assessed based on the peak water demand, excluding fire demand, for new meter water service connection and renovation or redevelopment projects that increase the peak water demand and associated SAF meter size for the property.

SAF Meter Size (inches)	Water System Availability Fee	Sewer System Availability Fee	Total System Availability Fee
1" or smaller	\$ 1,282	\$ 3,173	\$ 4,455
1"x1.25"	\$ 2,047	\$ 5,066	\$ 7,113
1.5"	\$ 5,491	\$ 13,591	\$ 19,082
2"	\$ 11,125	\$ 27,536	\$ 38,661
3"	\$ 32,500	\$ 80,442	\$ 112,942
4"	\$ 83,388	\$ 206,394	\$ 289,782
6"	\$ 229,246	\$ 567,408	\$ 796,654
8"	\$ 229,246	\$ 567,408	\$ 796,654
8"x2"	\$ 229,246	\$ 567,408	\$ 796,654
8"x4"x1"	\$ 229,246	\$ 567,408	\$ 796,654
10"	\$ 229,246	\$ 567,408	\$ 796,654
12"	\$ 229,246	\$ 567,408	\$ 796,654
16"	\$ 229,246	\$ 567,408	\$ 796,654



# DC WATER PRETREATMENT FEES

<b>Waste Hauling - Annual Fee per Vehicle</b>	
Vehicles 0 - 49 gallons	\$160.00
Vehicles 50 - 799 gallons	\$2,265.00
Vehicles 800 - 1,499 gallons or more	\$6,170.00
Vehicles 1500 gallons or more	\$14,640
<b>Industrial User Permitting Fee</b>	
Permit Initial Fee	\$2,000.00
Permit Renewal Fee	\$600.00
<b>Industrial User Annual Compliance Fees</b>	
<b>Significant or Non-Significant Categorical Industrial User</b>	
1 Outfall	\$2,500.00
2 or more Outfalls	\$3,500.00
<b>Significant Non-Categorical Industrial User</b>	
1 Outfall	\$2,500.00
2 or more Outfalls	\$3,500.00
<b>Non-Significant Non-Categorical User</b>	
1 Outfall	\$550.00
2 or more Outfalls	\$700.00

## HISTORY OF THE IAC

The charge was previously embedded in the sewer rate. On May 1, 2009, DC Water unbundled the sewer rate and listed the IAC as a separate line item on the customer bill.

## WHY IS THE IAC NECESSARY?

DC Water implemented the IAC charge in 2009 to recover the cost of the \$2.6 billion federally-mandated Combined Sewer Overflow Long Term Control Plan (CSO LTCP) to control overflow into the local waterways. This includes building large metro-sized tunnels to store overflow until it can be treated at the Blue Plains Wastewater Treatment Plant.

# BILLING CYCLE FOR 'IMPERVIOUS ONLY' PROPERTIES



Impervious Only (IO) properties are properties that do not currently have metered water/sewer service (for example, parking lots) and may require the creation of new accounts.

DC Water bills IO properties with *three or more* ERUs monthly, and those with less than three every six months.

Customers who are billed for more than one property and who participate in DC Water's group billing program will be billed monthly for all properties.

# IAC RATE STRUCTURE

**Non-Residential and Multifamily Customers:** The fee is based upon the total amount of impervious surface area at a property. The total amount of impervious area is converted into ERUs and reduced down to the nearest 100 square feet.

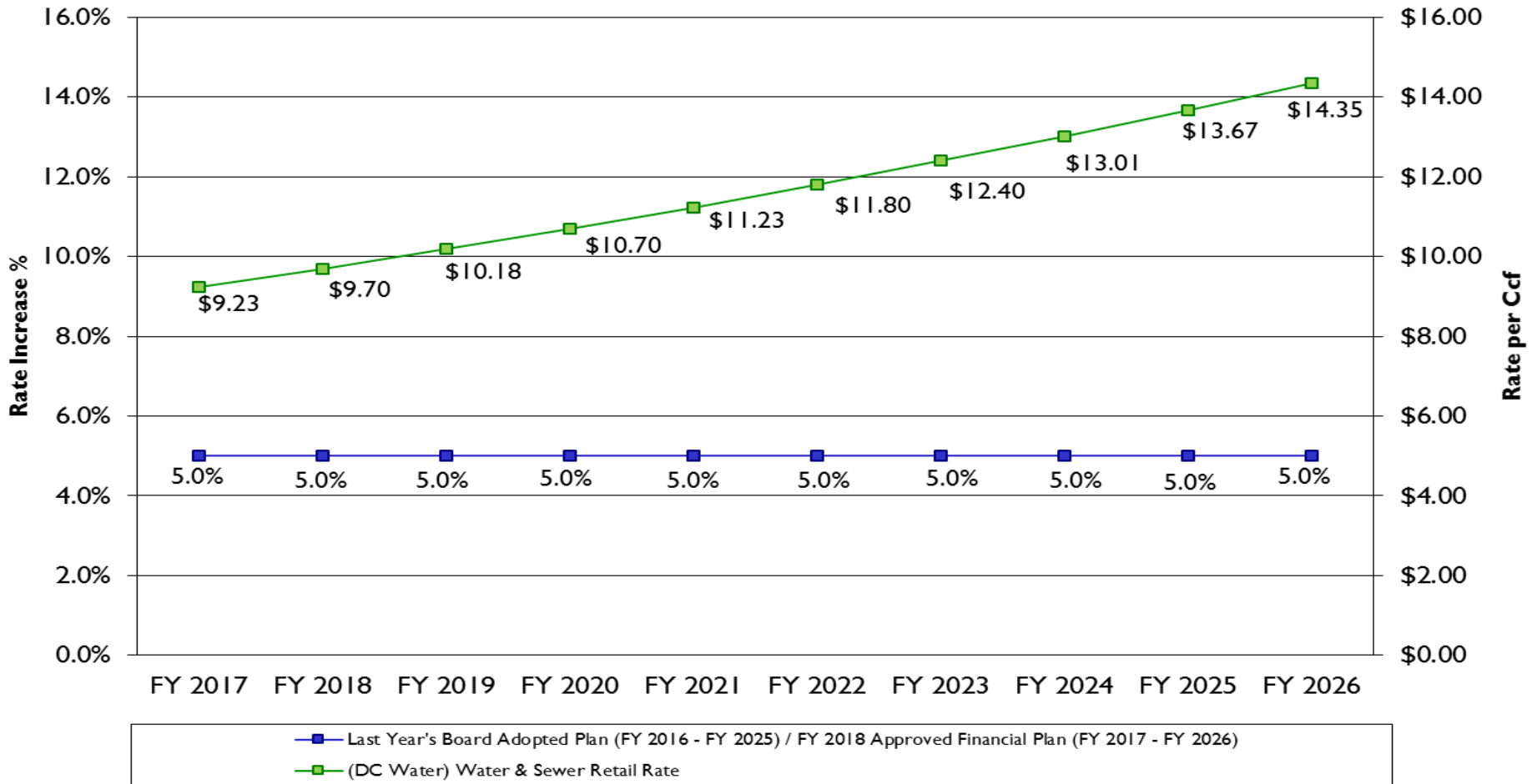
**Residential Customers:** DC Water has adopted a six-tier rate structure for residential customers. Residential customers include:

- ❑ Condominium or apartment units where each unit is served by a separate line and is individually metered and the unit is used for domestic purposes;
- ❑ Multifamily structures of less than four units where all units are served by a single service line that is master-metered; and
- ❑ Single-family dwellings.

<b>DC WATER'S SIX-TIER RESIDENTIAL RATE STRUCTURE FOR THE IAC</b>				
<b>Tier</b>	<b>Size of Impervious Area (Square Feet)</b>	<b>Equivalent Residential Unit (ERU)</b>	<b>FY 17 ERU Rate (Eff. 10/1/16)</b>	<b>FY 18 ERU Rate (Eff. 10/1/17)</b>
Tier 1	100 - 600	0.6	\$22.24	\$25.18
Tier 2	700 - 2000	1.0	\$22.24	\$25.18
Tier 3	2,100 - 3,000	2.4	\$22.24	\$25.18
Tier 4	3,100 - 7,000	3.8	\$22.24	\$25.18
Tier 5	7,100 - 11000	8.6	\$22.24	\$25.18
Tier 6	11,100 and more	13.5	\$22.24	\$25.18

# PROJECTED DC WATER RETAIL WATER AND SEWER RATE CHANGES

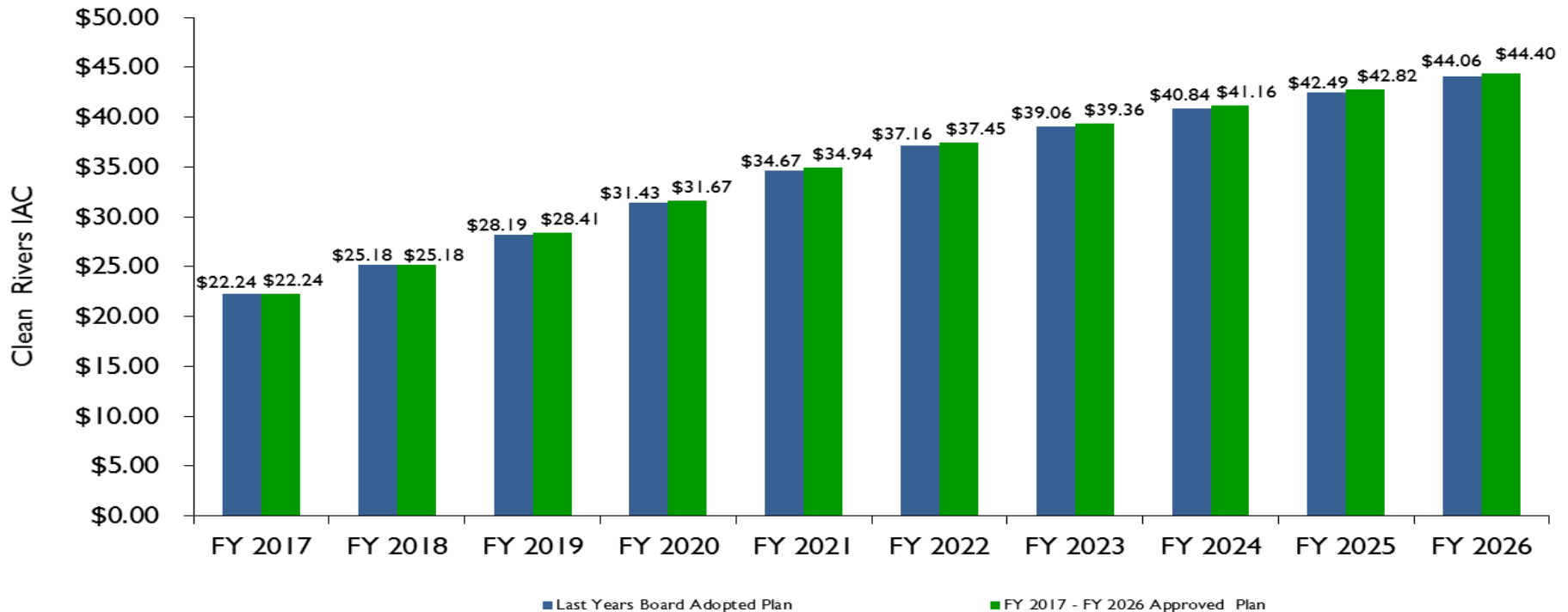
## FY 2017- FY 2026



Source: [DC WATER Operating Budgets, Approved FY 2018 Budgets, Section IV Rates and Revenues, page III-19.](#)

# PROJECTED CHANGES TO THE IAC

## FY 2017- FY 2026

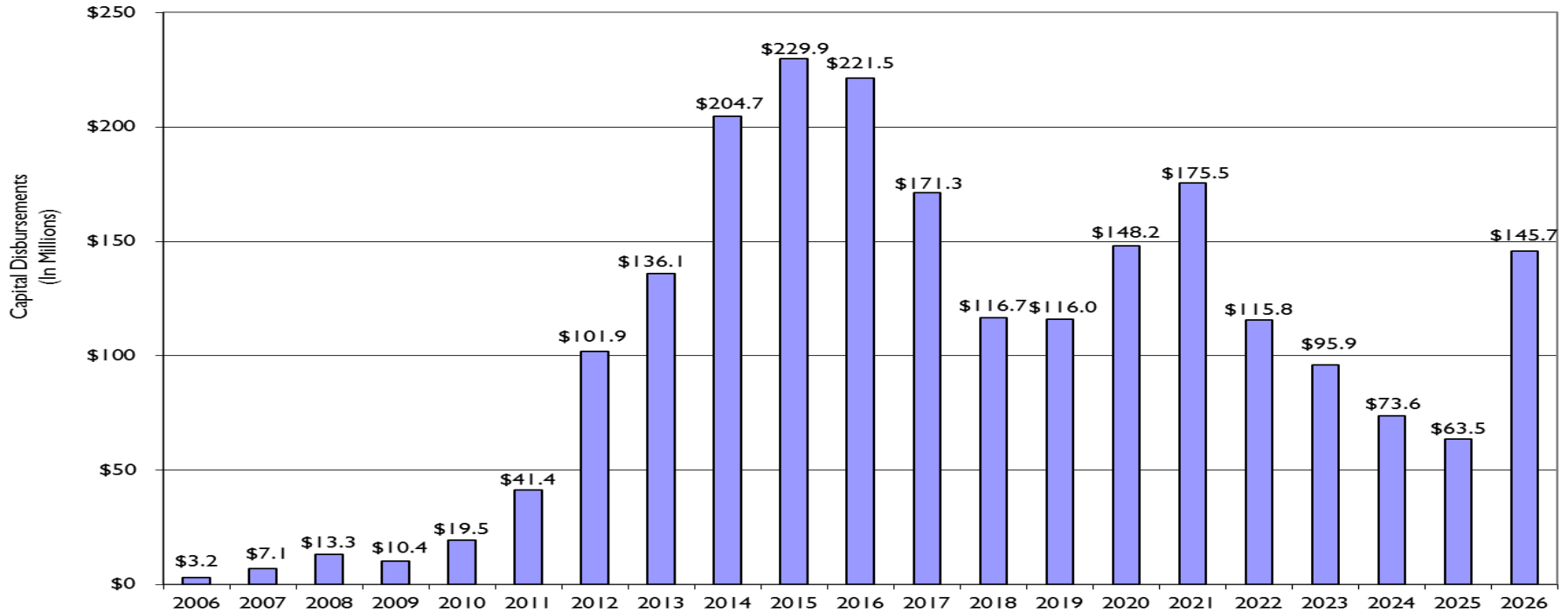


- The projected charges displayed in the chart above are primarily driven by anticipated debt service costs necessary to support the twenty year \$2.6 billion Clean Rivers Project, which includes the federally mandated CSO-LTCP and the nine-minimum controls program.
- The annual Clean Rivers Project costs for the average Tier 2 residential customer (700 – 2,000 sq. ft. of impervious area) is projected to increase from \$302.16 in FY 2018 to \$532.80 in FY 2026.

Source: [DC WATER Operating Budgets, Approved FY 2018 Budgets, Section IV Rates and Revenues, page III-20.](#)

# POTENTIAL IMPACT OF CLEAN RIVERS PROJECT ON RATES

## Clean Rivers CSO LTCP Disbursements by Fiscal Year



In December 2004, the Board reached an agreement with the federal government on the Clean Rivers Project (CSO-LTCP) and entered into a related consent decree. Actual and projected disbursements by fiscal year for the Clean Rivers Project are shown in the chart above and are the drivers for changes in the Clean Rivers Impervious Area Charge over the ten-year plan. Wholesale customers contribute 7.1 percent to the Clean Rivers Project. To mitigate impacts, DC Water continues to look for federal support for this program. As of September 30, 2016, \$224.8 million has been received through federal appropriations. Lifetime capital costs for the plan (exclusive of the nine – minimum controls program) total approximately \$2.3 billion, and this year's proposed ten-year plan includes \$1.2 billion of projected Clean Rivers Project disbursements. **Source:** [DC WATER Operating Budgets, Approved FY 2018 Budgets, Section IV Rates and Revenues, page IV-31.](#)

**SAMPLE BILL: Building with 50,000/sq. ft. of impervious surface area.**

<b>FY 2017 October 1, 2016</b>	<b>50 x \$22.24</b>	<b>=</b>	<b>\$1,112.00</b>
<b>FY 2018 October 1, 2017</b>	<b>50 x \$25.18</b>	<b>=</b>	<b>\$1,259.00</b>
<b>FY 2019 October 1, 2018</b>	<b>50 x \$26.02</b>	<b>=</b>	<b>\$1,301.00</b>
<b>FY 2020 October 1, 2019</b>	<b>50 x \$28.25</b>	<b>=</b>	<b>\$1,412.50</b>
<b>FY 2021 October 1, 2020</b>	<b>50 x \$30.60</b>	<b>=</b>	<b>\$1,530.00</b>
<b>FY 2022 October 1, 2021</b>	<b>50 x \$32.54</b>	<b>=</b>	<b>\$1,627.00</b>
<b>FY 2023 October 1, 2022</b>	<b>50 x \$35.07</b>	<b>=</b>	<b>\$1,753.50</b>



# ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ABOUT DC WATER RATES

**General Overview of Rates:** [DC Water Overview of Customer Rates.](#)

## **Calculating the IAC for a Commercial Property:**

1. Amount of impervious area at a property/1000 Square feet (1 ERU) = X
2. Multiply X by **\$22.24 (FY 2017 rate)** = IAC
3. **Example** - using 50,000 square feet of impervious surface area  
 $50,000/1000 = 50 \times \$22.24 = \$1,112/\text{month}$  impervious surface area charge

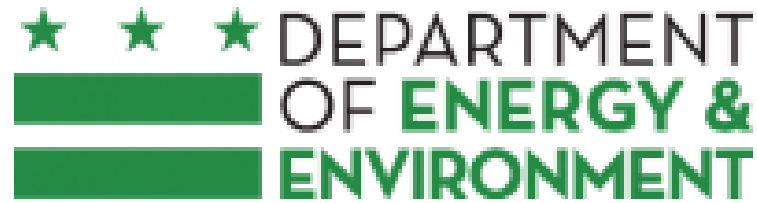
**IAC Information:** [DC Water Overview of Impervious Surface Area Charge.](#)

## **DC Water Contact – Impervious Surface Area Charge**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Email</b>	<b>Phone</b>
Customer Service	<a href="mailto:imperviousbilling@dcwater.com">imperviousbilling@dcwater.com</a>	(202) 354-3600

## **SIGN UP FOR HIGH USAGE NOTIFICATION ALERTS (HUNA) FROM DC WATER**

DC Water's High Usage Notification Alerts (HUNA) program is available to all customers, including multifamily and commercial ratepayers. HUNA automatically notifies you if your water usage is higher than normal for 4 consecutive days. Notifications methods are not mutually exclusive, so customers can be notified by any combination of telephone, e-mail, and text. Register at My DC Water ([mydcwater.dewater.com](http://mydcwater.dewater.com)) or request alerts by telephone by calling (202) 354-3600. To learn more, visit the following link: [DC Water's High Usage Notification Alerts \(HUNA\) program.](#)



# **DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY AND THE ENVIRONMENT (DOEE)**

# **STORMWATER FEE**

## CURRENT DC STORMWATER FEE

**As of Nov. 1, 2010, the stormwater fee is \$2.67/ERU.**

## HISTORY OF THE STORMWATER FEE

Previously, the stormwater fee was based on a percentage of the water and sewer charges.

## WHY IS THE STORMWATER FEE NECESSARY?

In May 2009, DOEE began assessing the stormwater fee based on the amount of impervious surface area at a property. At that time, DOEE established a rate of \$2.57/ERU. DOEE increased the rate on November 1, 2010 to the current rate of \$2.67/ERU.

DOEE is responsible for ensuring the District's compliance with the District's separate storm sewer system (MS-4) permit, which accounts for roughly two-thirds of the city's storm water control infrastructure.

DOEE periodically adjusts the stormwater fee to generate any additional revenue needed to meet increased federal requirements for controlling stormwater pollution. The fee generates approximately \$13.2 million.



**Source:** [DOEE Website—Stormwater Management Division—Stormwater Fee History](#); DOEE October 29, 2010 Notice of Final Rulemaking (“... the fee remains structured to generate approximately \$13.2 million per year.”).

**Non-Residential Customers:** The fee is based upon the total amount of impervious surface area at a property. The total amount of impervious area will be converted into ERUs, reduced to the nearest 100 square feet. Non-residential customers include all customers not within the residential class.

**Residential Customers:** DOEE has adopted a six-tier rate structure for assessing residential customers the stormwater fee.

## **HOW DOES DOEE DEFINE RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMERS?**

**21 DCMR 556.2** A residential customer means a single-family dwelling used for domestic purposes, a condominium or apartment unit where each unit is served by a separate service line and is individually metered and the unit is used for domestic purposes, or a multifamily structure of less than four apartment units where all the units are served by a single service line that is master metered. Residential customers shall be assessed ERUs for the square feet of impervious surface on the property, as follows:

- (a) 0.6 ERUs for 100 to 600 square feet of impervious surface;
- (b) 1.0 ERU for 700 to 2,000 square feet of impervious surface;
- (c) 2.4 ERUs for 2,100 to 3,000 square feet of impervious surface;
- (d) 3.8 ERUs for 3,100 to 7,000 square feet of impervious surface;
- (e) 8.6 ERUs for 7,100 to 11,000 square feet of impervious surface; and
- (f) 13.5 ERUs for 11,100 square feet or more of impervious surface.

# NO INCREASES FOR FY 2017-FY 2018!



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