

Revised Proposed EQR Schedule for Monthly Sewer Bills

What does “EQR” mean?

EQR stands for “equivalent residential unit.” It is a measure of the volume of water necessary to meet the demand and consumptive use requirements of an average, single residential unit. (Here, “unit” means “dwelling.”) EQRs are used to determine monthly sewer bills. Your monthly water bill is calculated separately from your monthly sewer bill.

How are EQRs used to determine monthly sewer bills?

One (1) EQR represents the average water use for a single residential unit. Buildings that use more water, such as restaurants, use more water than the average residential unit, so they pay more per month. Vacant land is not charged for monthly utility services unless a tap already exists on the property.

How can I calculate my monthly EQRs and determine my monthly sewer bill?

Use the table on the back of this sheet to determine the types of water-using structures (or “units”) you have on your property and add up the total number of EQRs. Multiply the total number of EQRs by the per-EQR rate. The result is your monthly sewer bill.

The current proposed rate is \$68.00 per 1.00 EQR.

Example 1: “I have one main residence and one separate ADU with water-using fixtures on my property.”

One single-family residential unit is 1.00 EQR, and one ADU is 0.30. Adding them together totals 1.30 EQRs. At \$68.00 per EQR, the total monthly sewer bill would be \$88.40.

Calculation – $\$68.00 \times 1.30 = \88.40

Example 2: “I own a restaurant with two long-term rental units on the second floor.”

One restaurant is 1.25 EQRs and each long-term rental unit is 0.60 EQRs. Adding them together totals 2.45 EQRs. At \$68.00 per EQR, the total monthly sewer bill would be \$166.60.”

Calculation – $\$68.00 \times (1.25 + 1.20) = \166.60

Example 3: “I have two residential structures on my property. Both use water.”

One of the structures is considered a single-family residential unit and the second is considered an ADU. One single-family residential unit is 1.00 EQR, and one ADU is 0.30. Adding them together totals 1.30 EQRs. At \$68.00 per EQR, the total monthly sewer bill would be \$88.40.

Calculation – $\$68.00 \times 1.30 = \88.40

Example 4: “I use a sprinkler to water my yard. Will this affect my monthly EQR rate?”

No. Water that is used to irrigate your yard does not go into the sewer system, so it is not factored into monthly sewer rate (i.e. your EQR rate). Water used for irrigation will be shown on your monthly water bill.

EQR Calculation Table

| Unit Type | EQRs |
|---|-------------|
| Single-family residential unit | 1.00 |
| Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU) with water fixtures | 0.30 |
| Long-term rental buildings (such as apartments), per rented residential and commercial unit | 0.60 |
| Hotels with kitchen facilities, per room (short-term rentals only, i.e. fewer than 30 days per rental period) | 0.65 |
| Restaurants, bars, and brewpubs | 1.25 |
| Office buildings and retail stores (including grocery stores) | 1.00 |
| Planned unit developments (PUDs), per unit | 0.60 |
| Commercial laundromat | 1.00 |
| Gas stations, per fuel nozzle | 0.50 |
| Churches | 1.00 |
| Schools | 2.00 |
| Hot tubs, per 250 gallons | 0.10 |
| Swimming pools | 1.00 |