

2026 WATER & WASTEWATER RATES

Rate increase effective date April 1, 2026

The City of Houston adjusts water and wastewater rates each year on April 1 as required by City ordinances. These adjustments may include:

- An automatic inflation adjustment based on the Houston-area Consumer Price Index. The inflation adjustment for April 1, 2026, is 1.37%.
- Scheduled rate adjustments adopted through the City's 2021 Water & Wastewater Cost of Service Rate Study (Rate Study) (Ordinance No. 2021-515), which established a five-year plan to ensure the utility system can continue to operate, maintain and improve critical water and wastewater infrastructure, protect the financial integrity of the utility system, and meet other system obligations. The Rate Study adjustment for April 1, 2026, is 6.5%.

Starting April 1, 2026, the average rate increase across all customers will be 7.87% for combined water and wastewater service.

Please note this does not mean all customers are receiving a 7.87% increase on their bill. Each customer's adjustment is calculated based on their customer category and usage. To calculate your estimated new bill visit www.HoustonWaterBills.org. New rate tables will be posted on April 1, 2026.

What You Need to Know

As Houston continues to grow, we must provide water and wastewater services to our valued customers. These rate adjustments are necessary to address increases in the costs of operating, maintaining, repairing, and expanding the combined water and wastewater utility system; pay debt service on the utility system's bonds and other obligations; protect the financial integrity of the utility system; and comply with certain bond covenants and all other applicable law.

Customers are encouraged to take advantage of the website to sign up for e-bills, automatic payments, and to obtain tips on ways to minimize water usage. Utility Billing is continuously looking for ways to better serve you. If you have any questions, please call 713-371-1400.

Contents

2026 WATER & WASTEWATER RATES	3
Single-Family Residential:.....	3
Multi-Family:.....	5
Commercial:.....	6
Industrial, No Surcharge:.....	6
Transient Meters:	7
Lawn/Outdoor Meters:.....	7
Other Classes:.....	8
Industrial w/Surcharge:	8
Resale:.....	9
Emergency Backup Service:	9
Un-Metered Fire Line Charge:.....	10
Metered Fire Line Charge Only:	10
Un-Metered Wastewater Only Customer:	11
Contract, Untreated and Reclaimed Water:.....	11
Contract Wastewater:.....	12
Agricultural and Rice Farmers:	12
Groundwater Reduction Plan (GRP) Participants:	12
Fee Schedule	13

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The monthly service charge for both water and wastewater is affected by the water meter size. For all classes that include wastewater, the water consumption is used to determine the appropriate wastewater consumption charge. TCEQ fee is a fixed monthly charge of \$0.21 per connection to the public water system.

Single-Family Residential: Single-Family Residential:

The monthly meter charge for each meter size is listed below. For simplicity, this table adds volume and base charges together for 1,000 to 6,000 gallons. From 7,000 to 12,000 gallons the rate is \$12.54 per 1,000 gallons, regardless of meter size. Starting at 13,000 gallons, the rate is \$15.82 per 1,000 gallons. Over 20,000 gallons, the rate is \$20.20 per 1,000 gallons. TCEQ fee is a fixed monthly charge

Monthly Meter Charge		
Meter Size	Water	Wastewater
5/8 or 3/4"	\$8.23	\$16.88
1"	\$11.70	\$22.73
1.5"	\$16.63	\$30.80
2"	\$19.60	\$35.60
3"	\$44.30	\$75.56
Volume Rates per 1,000 Gallons		
Volume (Gallons)	Water	Wastewater
0	N/A	N/A
1,000 to 3000*	\$9.09	\$7.77
4,000 to 6,000	\$9.09	\$15.20
7,000 to 12,000	\$12.54	\$15.20
13,000 to 20,000	\$15.82	\$15.20
Over 20,000	\$20.20	\$15.20

*For Single Family Residential Accounts that are billed 3,000 gallons or less per month, a Conservation Credit of \$7.12 per 1,000 gallons results in the following Volume Conservation Rate Table:

Volume Conservation Rate Table		
Volume Rates per 1,000 Gallons		
Volume (Gallons)	Water	Wastewater
0	N/A	N/A
1,000 to 3000	\$1.97	N/A
(credit of \$7.12)		
4,000 or greater	N/A	N/A

The following single-family residential table is for a total bill amount by gallons used that includes meter charge, volume charge, and TCEQ charge:

Single Family Residential Water Rates						
	5/8 or 3/4" meters	1 inch meter	1.5 inch meter	2 inch meter	3 inch meter	16 inch meter
Monthly Meter Charge, per meter size	\$8.23	\$11.70	\$16.63	\$19.60	\$44.30	\$464.12
The numbers below the line include both Base and Volume charges and TCEQ Fee						
1,000 gallons	\$10.41	\$13.88	\$18.81	\$21.78	\$46.48	\$466.30
2,000 gallons	\$12.38	\$15.85	\$20.78	\$23.75	\$48.45	\$468.27
3,000 gallons	\$14.35	\$17.82	\$22.75	\$25.72	\$50.42	\$470.24
4,000 gallons	\$44.82	\$48.29	\$53.22	\$56.19	\$80.89	\$500.71
5,000 gallons	\$53.91	\$57.38	\$62.31	\$65.28	\$89.98	\$509.80
6,000 gallons	\$63.00	\$66.47	\$71.40	\$74.37	\$99.07	\$518.89
7,000 – 12,000 gallons	The total charge for 6,000 gallons + \$12.54 per 1,000 gallons					
13,000-20,000 gallons	The total charge for 12,000 gallons + \$15.82 per 1,000 gallons					
Over 20,000 gallons	The total charge for 20,000 gallons + \$20.20 per 1,000 gallons					

Single Family Residential Wastewater Rates					
	5/8 or 3/4" meters	1 inch meter	1.5 inch meter	2 inch meter	3 inch meter
Monthly Meter Charge, per meter size	\$16.88	\$22.73	\$30.80	\$35.60	\$75.56
The numbers below the line include both Base and Volume charges					
1,000 gallons	\$24.65	\$30.50	\$38.57	\$43.37	\$83.33
2,000 gallons	\$32.42	\$38.27	\$46.34	\$51.14	\$91.10
3,000 gallons	\$40.19	\$46.04	\$54.11	\$58.91	\$98.87
4,000 gallons & up	The total charge for 3,000 gallons + \$15.20 per 1,000 gallons				

EXAMPLES OF SINGLE-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL BILLINGS:

		Water Charges	Wastewater Charges
1,000 gallons, 5/8" meter Total/Month	\$10.41 Water <u>\$24.65 Wastewater</u> \$35.06	\$63.00 for 6,000 gallons plus 1,000 gallons at \$12.54 = \$75.54	\$40.19 for 3,000 gallons plus 4,000 gallons at \$15.20 each = \$60.80
7,000 gallons, 5/8" meter Total/Month	\$75.54 Water <u>\$100.99 Wastewater</u> \$176.53		
14,000 gallons, 5/8" meter Total/Month	\$169.88 Water <u>\$207.39 Wastewater</u> \$377.27		
		\$63.00 for 6,000 gallons plus 6,000 gallons at \$12.54 plus 2,000 gallons at \$15.82 = \$169.88	\$40.19 for 3,000 gallons plus 11,000 gallons at \$15.20 = \$207.39

Multi-Family:

- 14 (duplex – 2 units)
- 15 (tri-plex – 3 units)
- 16 (quad-plex – 4 units)
- 17 (master-metered townhomes – any number of units)
- 18 (apartments — 5+ units)
- 19 (trailer parks)

Consumption is no longer included with the Monthly Meter Charge. The volume charges are applied to all usage. TCEQ fee is a fixed monthly charge of \$0.21 per connection to the public water system.

Rate	Meter size (Inches)	Monthly Meter Charge	
		Water	Wastewater
Monthly Meter Charge (0 consumption)	5/8	\$8.23	\$16.88
	3/4	\$8.23	\$16.88
	1	\$11.70	\$22.73
	1.5	\$16.63	\$30.80
	2	\$19.60	\$35.60
	3	\$44.30	\$75.56
	4	\$85.70	\$142.65
	6	\$200.86	\$328.75
	8	\$250.26	\$408.63
	10	\$332.74	\$542.02
	12	\$464.12	\$754.48
Volume Charge	All	+ \$8.70 per 1,000 gallons	+ \$11.80 per 1,000 gallons

Commercial:

Consumption is no longer included with the monthly meter charge. The volume charges are applied to all usage. TCEQ fee is a fixed monthly charge of \$0.21 per connection to the public water system.

Rate	Meter Size (Inches)	Monthly Meter Charge	
		Water	Wastewater
Monthly Meter Charge (0 consumption)	5/8	\$8.23	\$16.88
	3/4	\$8.23	\$16.88
	1	\$11.70	\$22.73
	1.5	\$16.63	\$30.80
	2	\$19.60	\$35.60
	3	\$44.30	\$75.56
	4	\$85.70	\$142.65
	6	\$200.86	\$328.75
	8	\$250.26	\$408.63
	10	\$332.74	\$542.02
	12	\$464.12	\$754.48
Volume Charge	All	+ \$9.34 per 1,000 gallons	+ \$11.80 per 1,000 gallons

Industrial, No Surcharge:

Industrial rates include a monthly meter charge and volume charges for both water and wastewater. No consumption is included with the Monthly Meter Charge for water or wastewater. Some customers are billed for wastewater only, based on readings from non-City of Houston water meters. Industrial program fee is a fixed \$1,230.98 charge to customers with an industrial wastewater program permit.

Rate	Meter Size (Inches)	Monthly Meter Charge - Water	
		Water	Wastewater
Monthly Meter Charge (0 consumption)	5/8	\$8.23	\$16.88
	3/4	\$8.23	\$16.88
	1	\$11.70	\$22.73
	1.5	\$16.63	\$30.80
	2	\$19.60	\$35.60
	3	\$44.30	\$75.56
	4	\$85.70	\$142.65
	6	\$200.86	\$328.75
	8	\$250.26	\$408.63
	10	\$332.74	\$542.02
	12	\$464.12	\$754.48
Volume Charge	All	+ \$9.34 per 1,000 gallons	+ \$11.80 per 1,000 gallons

Transient Meters:

These accounts have meter rental fees and consumption charges.

Rate	Meter Water Charge		
	1"	2"	3"
Monthly Meter Charge/Rental Fee (0 consumption)	\$167.50	\$322.13	\$805.35
Volume Charges	+\$13.81 per 1,000 gallons		

For any questions or concerns, please call 832-395-6285, or fax to 713-371-1122.

Lawn/Outdoor Meters:

No consumption is included with the monthly meter charge. Volume charges are applied to all usage.

Rate	Meter Size (Inches)	Monthly Meter Charge	Volume Charge
Meter Rate, per meter size, (plus, volume charges)	5/8	\$8.23	\$13.81 per 1000 gallons
	3/4	\$8.23	
	1	\$11.70	
	1.5	\$16.63	
	2	\$19.60	
	3	\$44.30	
	4	\$85.70	
	6	\$200.86	
	8	\$250.26	
	10	\$332.74	

Other Classes:

Industrial w/Surcharge:

Industrial rates include a monthly meter charge and volume charges for both water and wastewater. Some customers are billed for wastewater only, based on readings from non-City of Houston water meters. These customers take their water from non-City of Houston sources and may choose to install a water meter of the type and standard approved by the department for the purpose of measuring the amount of water taken into such facilities. The water consumption indicated by such meter shall be the basis of determining the Wastewater charge. Rates are the same as if the water is from City of Houston source.

No consumption is included with the Monthly Meter Charge for water or wastewater. While the Monthly Meter Charge for water and wastewater is determined by meter size, the volume charge for wastewater may vary based on the results of effluent testing. Industrial program fee is a fixed \$1,230.98 charge to customers with industrial wastewater program permit.

Rate	Meter Size (Inches)	Monthly Meter Charge	
		Water	Wastewater
Monthly Meter Charge (0 consumption)	5/8	\$8.23	\$16.88
	3/4	\$8.23	\$16.88
	1	\$11.70	\$22.73
	1.5	\$16.63	\$30.80
	2	\$19.60	\$35.60
	3	\$44.30	\$75.56
	4	\$85.70	\$142.65
	6	\$200.86	\$328.75
	8	\$250.26	\$408.63
	10	\$332.74	\$542.02
	12	\$464.12	\$754.48
Volume Charge	All	+ \$9.34 per 1,000 gallons	See below

Additional surcharges for industrial wastewater accounts are determined by application of a special formula to the results of effluent tests:

$$R = X + (\text{BOD} * 8.337 * Y/1000) + (\text{SS} * 8.337 * Z/1000) + (\text{NH}_3 * 8.337 * W/1000)$$

$$\text{Or } R = \text{Rate} / \text{TG as 47-122(b)(2)(b), whichever is greater}$$

Where:

$$X = \$11.33 \text{ per } 1000 \text{ gallons, } R = 8.377, Y = \$0.7647 / \text{lb.}, Z = \$0.5219 / \text{lb.}, W (\text{Ammonia}) = 0.8136 / \text{lb.}$$

BOD = Five-day, 20 degrees Centigrade biochemical oxygen demand content of the waste delivered, in mg/l.

SS = Suspended solids content of the waste delivered, in mg/l.

Any questions on how the surcharges are calculated, or regarding prohibited discharges, should be referred to the Industrial Wastewater Service by calling 832-395-5800 or by emailing neranga.gamage@houstontx.gov.

Resale:

These customers purchase water from the City of Houston for resale.

Rate	Meter Size (Inches)	Monthly Meter Charge
Monthly Meter Charge, per meter size (0 consumption)	5/8	\$28.54
	3/4	\$28.54
	1	\$46.25
	1.5	\$71.58
	2	\$86.78
	3	\$213.41
	4	\$426.14
	6	\$1,016.22
	8 and above	\$1,269.47
Volume Charge (All meter sizes, all consumption)	\$13.81 per 1,000 gallons	

Emergency Backup Service:

The Contact Center at 713-371-1400 can answer routine questions about these accounts. To notify Utility Billing of EBS use, fax the report to 832-395-5255.

Rate	Meter Size (Inches)	Monthly Meter Charge
Monthly Meter Charge, per meter size (0 consumption)	5/8,3/4	\$8.23
	1	\$8.23
	1.5	\$11.70
	2	\$16.63
	3	\$19.60
	4	\$44.30
	6	\$85.70
	8	\$200.86
	10+	\$250.26
Volume Charge (All meter sizes, all consumption)	\$13.81 per 1,000 gallons	

Un-Metered Fire Line Charge:

Un-metered fire lines are charged a flat fee every month, under the provisions of City of Houston Ordinance §47-64. These lines must be equipped with backflow prevention assemblies.

Corresponding size of the diameter of service line	Monthly Meter Charge
<i>5/8 inch</i>	\$8.22
<i>3/4 inch</i>	\$8.22
<i>1.0 inch</i>	\$11.71
<i>1.5 inch</i>	\$16.72
<i>2.0 inch</i>	\$19.72
<i>3.0 inch</i>	\$44.75
<i>4.0 inch</i>	\$86.80
<i>6.0 inch</i>	\$203.42
<i>8.0 inch</i>	\$253.47
<i>10.0 inch</i>	\$337.06
<i>12.0 inch</i>	\$470.20

Metered Fire Line Charge Only:

These customers have their fire service isolated from the remainder of the water supply and served through an independent meter. Normally they will have zero consumption, but a consumption charge applies if consumption occurs.

Rate	Meter Size (Inches)	Monthly Meter Charge
Monthly Meter Charge, per meter size (0 consumption)	5/8	\$6.00
	3/4	\$6.00
	1	\$7.97
	1.5	\$10.77
	2	\$12.45
	3	\$26.45
	4	\$49.97
	6	\$115.22
	8	\$143.22
	10 & above	\$189.99
Volume Charge (All meter sizes, all consumption)	\$13.81 per 1,000 gallons	

Un-Metered Wastewater Only Customer:

Special rates apply to wastewater customers without City of Houston water or effluent meters. These are monthly rates, however, will continue to be billed on a bi-monthly basis.

Class	Monthly Fee
Single Family Residential	\$67.56
Duplex	\$135.12
Multi-family (3+ units)	\$67.56 per single family unit
Commercial	\$135.12 per unit (defined in §47-1002)
Industrial	\$135.12 per unit (defined in §47-1002)

Contract, Untreated and Reclaimed Water:

- Treated Water (TU 91) – contracted

R1=	\$4.73 / TG	R2=	\$5.29 / TG	N1=	\$1.26 / TG	N2=	\$1.26 / TG
With airgap water: $p * R1 + (p-m) * N1$ without airgap = $p * R2 + (p - m) * N2$ (p: total water delivery in the month, M: minimum monthly water quantity in contract)							

- Untreated Water (TU 91) – no contract

Consumption (/TG)	Per /TG
0 - 10,000	\$2.214693
11,000-20,000	\$1.990021
21,000-50,000	\$1.876866
51,000-150,000	\$1.763478
151,000 & up	\$1.706901

- Reclaimed/ Untreated Water (TU 91) – contracted

Surcharge (S)	Quantity Charge (/TG)
R= \$0.99/TG	\$0.99

If $(P - M) > 10\% M$, $S = P * R * 5\%$ (M; Max. Qty in contract)

If you have additional questions regarding these accounts, contact Enterprise accounts at 832-394-contract.water@houstontx.gov

Contract Wastewater:

These rates vary, based on whether the contracting district has participated in capital outlays. If you have additional questions regarding these accounts, contract.water@houstontx.gov

Agricultural and Rice Farmers:

Agricultural - General

Quantity Charge (/MG)	\$180.66
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Agricultural - Rice

First Watering (/MG or /Acre)	\$180.66
Additional Watering (/MG or /Acre)	\$32.86

If you have additional questions regarding these accounts, contact contract.water@houstontx.gov

Groundwater Reduction Plan (GRP) Participants:

GRP: $R \cdot P \cdot Q$ where,

- R is the base rate for contract treated water customer receiving water through airgap = \$4.57
- P is the percentage reduction for groundwater production required for the GRP participant under the subsidence district regulatory plan, or the percentage required under the GRP agreement, whichever percentage is the greater
 - Area 1 & 2 = \$3.79 (80.12%)
 - Area 3 = \$2.78 (58.77%)
- Q is the quantity of groundwater produced by the GRP participant during the month.

If you have additional questions regarding these accounts, contact at watercontracts@houstontx.gov or call (832) 395-5429.

Fee Schedule

Name	Description	Statutory Authority	Amount	As Of
Water Rates	Untreated Water Sales No Contract Standard Rate for volume from 1,000 to 10,000 gallons, per 1,000 gallons	47-84(d)(1)	\$2.214693	4/1/2026
Water Rates	Untreated Water Sales No Contract Standard Rate for volume from over 11,000 to 20,000 gallons, per 1,000 gallons (in addition to Volume Charge for the first increment of 10,000 gallons)	47-84(d)(2)	\$1.990021	4/1/2026
Water Rates	Untreated Water Sales No Contract Standard Rate for volume from over 21,000 to 50,000 gallons, per 1,000 gallons (in addition to Volume Charges for the first increment of 10,000 gallons and for the second increment of 10,000gallons)	47-84(d)(3)	\$1.876866	4/1/2026
Water Rates	Untreated Water Sales No Contract Standard Rate for volume from over 51,000 to 150,000 gallons, per 1,000 gallons (in addition to Volume Charges for the first increment of 10,000 gallons, the second increment of 10,000 gallons and the third increment of 30,000 gallons)	47-84(d)(4)	\$1.763478	4/1/2026
Water Rates	Untreated Water Sales No Contract Standard Rate for volume over 151,000 gallons, per 1,000 gallons (in addition to Volume Charges for the first 10,000 gallons, the second increment of 10,000 gallons, the third increment of 30,000 gallons and the fourth increment of 100,000 gallons)	47-84(d)(5)	\$1.706901	4/1/2026
Water Rates	Contract Untreated Water sold in excess of contract amount, per 1,000 gallons	47-85	\$0.993608	4/1/2026
Water Rates	Contract Untreated Water for agricultural use, general agriculture, per 1,000 gallons	4 7-89(b)(1)	\$180.66	4/1/2026
Water Rates	Contract Untreated Water for agricultural use, rice irrigation, rate for first watering, per acre of contracted land (if diverted through a meter on canal / conveyance system - per 1,000 gallons actually used)	47-89(b)(2)a	\$180.66	4/1/2026
Water Rates	Contract Untreated Water for agricultural use, rice irrigation, Rate for each additional watering, per acre of contracted land (if diverted through a meter on canal / conveyance system - per 1,000 gallons actually used)	47-89(b)(2)b	\$32.86	4/1/2026