

Orange Water and Sewer Authority - Schedule of Rates, Fees and Charges

Summary of rates effective on and after October 1, 2024

(Except where indicated otherwise.)

Monthly water and sewer services are billed in the smallest increment the meter is capable of reporting: gallons in most cases.

Monthly Charges for Water and Sewer Service							
Individually-Metered Residences							
Water Service Charge		Drinking Water Volume Charge (same rate for all meter sizes)		Sewer Service Charge		Sewer Service Volume Charge (same rate for all meter sizes)	
Meter Size	Monthly Charge	Gallons of Water Used	Rate	Meter Size	Monthly Charge	Gallons of Water Used	Rate
5/8"	\$24.03	0 - 2,000	\$0.00431	5/8"	\$19.62	Up to 15,000	\$0.01060
3/4" Domestic & Fire Combo	\$24.86	2,001 - 5,000	\$0.01044	3/4" Domestic & Fire Combo	\$19.62	More than 15,000	\$0.00000
1"	\$48.29	5,001 - 10,000	\$0.01281	1"	\$33.70		
1" Domestic & Fire Combo	\$49.10	10,001 - 15,000	\$0.01789	1" Domestic & Fire Combo	\$33.70		
1 1/2"	\$104.42	15,001 +	\$0.03237	1 1/2"	\$58.09		
2"	\$157.59			2"	\$87.83		
3"	\$324.12			3"	\$166.10		
4"	\$529.10			4"	\$253.90		
6"	\$1,152.08			6"	\$465.53		
8"	\$1,638.54			8"	\$794.39		
Multi-Family Master-Metered Residences							
Water Service Charge		Drinking Water Volume Charge (same rate for all meter sizes)		Sewer Service Charge		Sewer Service Volume Charge (same rate for all meter sizes)	
Meter Size	Monthly Charge	Gallons of Water Used	Rate	Meter Size	Monthly Charge	Gallons of Water Used	Rate
5/8"	\$24.03	Any	\$0.00927	5/8"	\$19.62	Any	\$0.01060
3/4" Domestic & Fire Combo	\$24.86			3/4" Domestic & Fire Combo	\$19.62		
1"	\$48.29			1"	\$33.70		
1" Domestic & Fire Combo	\$49.10			1" Domestic & Fire Combo	\$33.70		
1 1/2"	\$104.42			1 1/2"	\$58.09		
2"	\$157.59			2"	\$87.83		
3"	\$324.12			3"	\$166.10		
4"	\$529.10			4"	\$253.90		
6"	\$1,152.08			6"	\$465.53		
8"	\$1,638.54	8"	\$794.39				

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Non-Residential Except Irrigation-Only							
Water Service Charge		Drinking Water Volume Charge (same rate for all meter sizes)		Sewer Service Charge		Sewer Service Volume Charge (same rate for all meter sizes)	
Meter Size	Monthly Charge	Gallons of Water Used	Rate	Meter Size	Monthly Charge	Gallons of Water Used	Rate
5/8"	\$24.03	Any	October - April \$0.00681	5/8"	\$19.62	Any	\$0.01060
3/4" Domestic & Fire Combo	\$24.86	Any	May - Sept. \$0.01293	3/4" Domestic & Fire Combo	\$19.62		
1"	\$48.29			1"	\$33.70		
1" Domestic & Fire Combo	\$49.10			1" Domestic & Fire Combo	\$33.70		
1 1/2"	\$104.42			1 1/2"	\$58.09		
2"	\$157.59			2"	\$87.83		
3"	\$324.12			3"	\$166.10		
4"	\$529.10			4"	\$253.90		
6"	\$1,152.08			6"	\$465.53		
8"	\$1,638.54			8"	\$794.39		

Irrigation-Only							
Water Service Charge		Drinking Water Volume Charge (same rate for all meter sizes)		Sewer Service Charge		Sewer Service Volume Charge (same rate for all meter sizes)	
Meter Size	Monthly Charge	Gallons of Water Used	Rate	Meter Size	Monthly Charge	Gallons of Water Used	Rate
5/8"	\$38.49	Any	\$0.01391	Not applicable			
1"	\$76.93						
1 1/2"	\$142.42						
2"	\$219.04						
3"	\$433.57						
4"	\$665.55						
6"	\$1,309.23						
8"	\$2,082.05						

Monthly water and sewer services are billed in the smallest increment the meter is capable of reporting: gallons in most cases.

Monthly Charges for Water and Sewer Service							
Reclaimed Water (RCW)							
Water Service Charge		Reclaimed Water Volume Charge (same rate for all meter sizes)		Sewer Service Charge		Sewer Service Volume Charge (same rate for all meter sizes)	
Meter Size	Monthly Charge	Gallons of Water Used	Rate	Meter Size	Monthly Charge	Gallons of Water Used	Rate
University of North Carolina (UNC)				Not applicable			
Total for all RCW meters	\$24,000.00	Any	\$0.00060				
Non-UNC Accounts							
5/8"	\$8.37	Any	\$0.00218				
1"	\$16.74						
1 1/2"	\$30.96						
2"	\$47.62						
Reclaimed water may be picked up for free in containers of not less than 50 gallons (training required)							

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One-Time, Per Transaction, or Temporary Fees				
Water Shortage (Drought) Surcharges				
		Water Shortage Stage 1	Water Shortage Stage 2	(Emergency)
Individually-Metered Residences				
Gallons of Water Used				
Block 1	0 - 2,000	No Surcharge	No Surcharge	No Surcharge
Block 2	2,001 - 5,000	No Surcharge	1.25 * Block 2 Rate	1.5 * Block 2 Rate
Block 3	5,001 - 10,000	1.25 * Block 3 Rate	1.5 * Block 3 Rate	2 * Block 3 Rate
Block 4	10,001 - 15,000	1.5 * Block 4 Rate	2 * Block 4 Rate	3 * Block 4 Rate
Block 5	15,001+	2 * Block 5 Rate	3 * Block 5 Rate	4 * Block 5 Rate
Multi-Family Master-Metered Residences, Irrigation-Only, and Other Non-Residential Customers				
Any		1.15 * Applicable Rate	1.25 * Applicable Rate	1.5 * Applicable Rate
System Development Fees				
(one-time charges for new water or sewer connections)				
Effective July 1, 2023				
Water System Development Fees			Sewer System Development Fees	
Single-Family Residence with 5/8" or 3/4" Meter			Single-Family Residence with 5/8" or 3/4" Meter	
Heated Square-Footage		Fee Amount	Heated Square-Footage	
			Fee Amount	
< 500		\$346.00	< 500	
501 - 800		\$515.00	501 - 800	
801 - 1,300		\$820.00	801 - 1,300	
1,301 - 1,700		\$1,050.00	1,301 - 1,700	
1,701 - 2,400		\$1,360.00	1,701 - 2,400	
2,401 - 3,100		\$1,855.00	2,401 - 3,100	
3,101 - 3,800		\$2,578.00	3,101 - 3,800	
> 3,800		\$4,690.00	> 3,800	
Single-Family Residence with 1" Meter			Single-Family Residence with 1" Meter	
Any size square-footage		\$8,160.00	Any size square-footage	
Multi-Family Residence - any size square-footage			Multi-Family Residence - any size square-footage	
5/8" or 3/4" meter		\$862.00	5/8" or 3/4" meter	
1" meter		\$8,160.00	1" meter	
Non-Residential or Irrigation-Only			Non-Residential	
Meter Size		Fee Amount	Meter Size	
			Fee Amount	
5/8" or 3/4"		\$3,264.00	5/8" or 3/4"	
1"		\$8,160.00	1"	
1 1/2"		\$16,319.00	1 1/2"	
2"		\$26,109.00	2"	
3"		\$52,228.00	3"	
4"		\$81,606.00	4"	
6"		\$163,213.00	6"	
8"		\$261,139.00	8"	
Reclaimed Water System Development Fees (non-UNC accounts)				
Meter Size		Fee Amount		
5/8" or 3/4"		\$1,229.00		
1"		\$3,073.00		
1 1/2"		\$6,146.00		
2"		\$9,833.00		
Larger than 2" - Based on expected demand				

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Other Fees and Charges			
Service Installations	Fee Amount	Miscellaneous Fees and Charges	Fee Amount
Complete 5/8" water service	\$4,650.00	Delivery charge for 3" and larger meters	\$140.00
Complete 3/4" water service with fire protection	\$4,940.00	Water tap reinspection fee	\$160.00
Complete 1" water service	\$5,290.00	Water tap minimum fee	\$490.00
5/8" meter-only	\$480.00	Sewer tap reinspection fee	\$160.00
3/4" meter-only with fire protection	\$750.00	Sewer tap minimum fee	\$800.00
1" meter-only with fire protection	\$710.00	Reinspect backflow preventer or grease trap	\$160.00
1" meter-only	\$920.00	Hydraulic fire flow test	\$440.00
1 1/2" meter-only	\$1,530.00	Set or remove temporary hydrant meter	\$290.00
1 1/2" meter-only with fire protection	\$1,200.00	Field test of 5/8" or 3/4" meter	\$90.00
2" meter-only	\$1,370.00	Field test of 1" or larger meter (minimum)	\$440.00
2" meter-only with fire protection	\$1,340.00	Shop test of 5/8" or 3/4" meter	\$200.00
Remote readable 5/8" meter and box	\$700.00	Bulk water sale admin. charge per trip	\$25.00
		Bulk water rate per 1,000 gallons	\$9.85
Other Miscellaneous Fees and Charges			
Service stop/start during business hours if visit to customer site necessary	\$45.00	Security deposit - residential (if required)	\$50 or \$100
Service stop/start outside of business hours if visit to customer site necessary	\$80.00	Security deposit - non-residential (if required)	Twice average bill for property
Returned check or dishonored draft	\$25.00	Late payment fee for balances of \$10 or more	\$2.40 plus 5% interest (APR)
Recovery of debt collection costs	actual cost		
Temporary hydrant meter security deposit	\$1,000.00	Temporary disconnection from water service	\$45.00
Plan Review and Construction Observation Fees			
Construction observation per foot (\$100 min.)	\$4.08	Construction plan review per foot (\$100 min.)	\$4.02
Gravity Sewer Air Testing and Flashing Retest	\$75.00 per section tested	Purity Sample Resampling (after 2nd failure)	\$600.00 plus \$150.00 per sample location
Reschedule Fee for Failure to Cancel an Appointment	\$75.00	Manhole Vacuum Retest	\$75 per additional test
Partial Certifications (per additional submittal)	\$325.00	Water Pressure Retest	\$325.00
Bulk Wastewater Charges			
Normal Domestic Septage		Other High Strength Waste	
Service	Fee Amount	Service	Fee Amount
Administrative charge (per trip)	\$30.00	Administrative charge (per trip)	\$30.00
		Sewer charge per 1,000 gallons	\$10.60
Volume and high-strength surcharge (per 1,000 gallons)	\$228.92	Plus high-strength surcharge calculated as the sum of the following (fee amounts are per pound):	
		Pounds of NH3-N per 1,000 gals. in waste	\$4.98
		Pounds of CBOD per 1,000 gals. in waste	\$0.70
		Pounds of TSS per 1,000 gals. in waste	\$0.85
		Pounds of P per 1,000 gals. in waste	\$20.05

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Lake Recreation		
(Effective at the beginning of the 2024 recreation season.)		
Activity or Service	OWASA Customer or Orange County Resident	Other Patrons
Canoe or flat-bottom boat 1/2-day rental (plus lake-use fee)	\$4.50	\$8.00
Lake-use fee - under 12 years of age	\$2.00	\$2.50
Lake-use fee - ages 12 to 64	\$4.50	\$5.50
Lake-use fee - senior (65 and older)	\$0.00	\$2.50
Private boat launch fee	\$3.50	\$7.00
Kayak 1/2-day rental (plus lake-use fee)	\$15.00	\$20.00
Individual annual pass for canoe or flat-bottom boat rental	\$82.00	Passes not offered
Individual annual lake-use pass (18 and older)	\$46.00	
Individual annual pass for kayak rental	\$176.00	
Group annual pass for flat-bottom boat rental (up to 3 people)	\$163.00	
Group annual pass for flat-bottom boat with trolling motor rental (up to 3 people)	\$245.00	