



CENTRAL MARIN SANITATION
AGENCY

**AN ORDINANCE RELATING TO FEE SCHEDULES
FOR CAPACITY CHARGES, WASTE HAULERS,
AND INDUSTRIAL MONITORING**

ORDINANCE No. 2025-1

May 2025

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The Commission of the Central Marin Sanitation Agency does ordain as follows:

SECTION 1 - DEFINITIONS

Agency: Agency means Central Marin Sanitation Agency, a joint exercise of powers agency formed on October 15, 1979.

Member Agency: A Member Agency means San Rafael Sanitation District (SRSD), Ross Valley Sanitary District (RVSD), and Sanitary District #2 of Marin County (SD2).

Plumbing Fixture Unit: A plumbing fixture unit, or fixture unit, evaluates the wastewater load resulting from average use of various kinds of plumbing fixtures. As used herein, a plumbing fixture unit means a plumbing fixture unit as defined by the most recent version of the Uniform Plumbing Code (UPC). There are 16 plumbing fixture units in a service unit.

Service Unit: A service unit, or equivalent dwelling unit (EDU), means a unit of a wastewater discharge with volume and strength estimated to equal that of an average single-family residential unit.

SECTION 2 - NO FREE SERVICE

No facilities or services of the Agency's wastewater system shall be furnished to any user free of charge.

SECTION 3 - CAPACITY CHARGE

A regional capacity charge shall be used by CMSA only for capital improvement purposes. It shall be paid for each new sewer user connecting to a public sewer within or being served by one of CMSA's Member Agencies, or for an expansion by an existing sewer user already connected to the sewer system. Such charge shall be collected by the Member Agency in the same manner in which the Member Agencies now collect their own local sewer connection fee. Member Agencies shall forward the regional capacity charges collected on behalf of CMSA and supporting documentation¹ within 45 days of receipt of such funds. Nothing contained herein is intended to reduce or interfere with a Member Agency's local sewer connection and other fees.

The amount of such regional capacity charge as of July 1, 2025 is as follows:

1	New sewer connections for residential units, whether in single-family or multiple-family configuration. <i>Per service unit:</i>	\$7,747.39
2	Other new sewer user connections, including commercial, public agency, non-profit and all others users, except industrial and high strength users. <i>Per plumbing fixture unit, as defined in the UPC:</i> Residential fee [1] divided by plumbing fixtures per unit (\$7,747.39/16)	\$484.21*
3	Expansion of any existing sewer connection fixture unit count, except industrial and high strength users. <i>Per new or additional plumbing fixture unit, as defined in the UPC:</i> Residential fee (1) divided by plumbing fixtures per unit (\$7,747.39/16)	\$484.21*
4	New High Strength User connection and/or expansion of existing High Strength User connection fixture units, including restaurants and bakeries. Commercial fee times high strength factor (2.34). <i>Per plumbing fixture unit, as defined in the UPC:</i> Commercial fee [2] multiplied by the high strength factor (\$484.21 x 2.34)	\$1,133.05*
5	New industrial structures and/or those new sewer users which, as determined by the Agency's general manager, discharge special volumes or strengths of wastewater shall be charged a regional capacity charge established by Board action in each individual case.	

*But not less than \$7,747.39 per new connection, the minimum fee if a new connection is added.

¹ Supporting documentation from each of the Member Agencies include the *Permit & Capacity Fee Invoice* packet from RVSD, *Permit Receipt* and *Application* from SD2, and *Receipt for Sewer Connection Charge* from SRSD.

SECTION 4 - ANNUAL ADJUSTMENT OF CAPACITY CHARGE

Each year, commencing on July 1 and continuing thereafter on each July 1, the connection fee shall be adjusted by an increment based on the most recent annual change (April to April) in the Engineering News-Record Construction Cost Index (ENR Index) for San Francisco.

However, the CMSA Board of Commissioners may at its option determine, by resolution adopted prior thereto, that such adjustment shall not be effective for the next succeeding year, or may determine other amounts as appropriate.

SECTION 5 - ACCESSORY DWELLING UNITS, SENIOR CITIZEN, AND AFFORDABLE HOUSING

Those residential construction projects which a Member Agency designates and determines are qualified for reduced local sewer connection fees shall also automatically qualify for a reduced regional capacity charge. However, the Agency's regional capacity charge shall be reduced only by the same proportionate amount as the Member Agency's connection fee.

SECTION 6 - WASTE HAULER CHARGES

A waste disposal fee shall be paid by septage haulers, other trucks hauling chemical toilet and/or domestic strength wastewater, and recreational vehicles discharging directly in the Agency's treatment facilities. Each type and volume of hauled waste is assigned a Service Unit (Equivalent Dwelling Unit, EDU)

TYPE OF VEHICLE	SERVICE UNITS (EDU)
Septage and Chemical Toilet Waste Haulers: Truck volume per 1,000 gallons or portion of	0.270
Recreational Vehicle and Other Domestic-Strength Waste Haulers: Minimum charge is \$10.00	0.025
Other Tank Truck Wastes: As determined by the Agency's General Manager, on a case-by-case basis.	

Each year, commencing on July 1 and continuing thereafter on each July 1, the annual service charge "EDU Rate" for each service unit "EDU" will be established in the CMSA Adopted Budget. The Agency's EDU Rate will be based on the total of billed revenues to the Member Agencies divided by the total number of reported EDUs in the Member Agencies' service area for the current fiscal year.

Each waste hauler shall pay a waste disposal fee based on the following formula:

Septage and Chemical Toilet Trucked Waste Disposal Fee = (Total volume / 1,000) x (0.27 x EDU Rate) + a Facility Use Fee.

Recreational Vehicle Disposal Fee = 0.025 x EDU Rate

The Facility Use Fee is \$0.07 per gallon, and is applied to each waste hauler load to recover Agency administrative, load monitoring, and facility maintenance expenses associated with receiving the trucked waste.

The charges determined above shall be rounded up to the nearest one dollar (\$1.00), e.g., if greater than \$0.50, then round up; if lower, round down.

SECTION 7 - FATS, OILS, AND GREASE (FOG) HAULER CHARGES

A wastewater facilities use charge shall be paid by haulers of fats, oils, and grease (FOG) discharging directly in the Agency's treatment and disposal facilities.

Tipping Fee Tiers (gallons per day)	Charge per Tier (\$/gallon)
0 – 1,500	0.06
1,501 – 3,000	0.05
3,001 - 5,000	0.03
5,001 – 10,000	0.02
10,001 – 15,000	0.01
15,001+	No charge

The Agency may also charge a monitoring fee to FOG haulers to recover the actual cost of any required sample collection and analysis, if a sample is collected at the discretion of CMSA.

The Agency may establish a per gallon FOG disposal fee that is lower than the fee described above to be competitive with the FOG disposal fees charged by other wastewater treatment or similar disposal facilities, or to obtain desirable FOG delivery terms that would be financially advantageous for CMSA's power delivery program. Under these circumstances, the General Manager may recommend a reduction in the FOG fee and request the Board of Commissioners to make the reduction through a Board action at a properly agendized Board meeting, or the fee may be reduced to an appropriate level at the discretion of the General Manager, who shall notify the Board of such fee reduction at its next regular meeting. Any new rate change under this section would become effective immediately either upon the date of the Board action or upon the date that the General Manager makes the decision for a reduction.

SECTION 8 - LIQUID ORGANIC WASTE HAULER CHARGES

Liquid wastes from food and beverage manufacturing and/or production facilities are accepted at the Agency's Organic Waste Receiving Facility. The Agency's fee to receive and process each type of liquid waste will be negotiated with the generator of the waste material, and will consider the expected delivery volume and frequency, and its contamination level and organic content. The General Manager has the authority to establish the initial tipping fee for each type of liquid waste material and adjust the fee to remain competitive in the marketplace.

SECTION 9 - INDUSTRIAL MONITORING AND PERMIT FEES

- A. CMSA shall assess and collect fees for the recovery of costs associated with the discharge of industrial wastes to the sanitary sewers. These fees are permit fees, monitoring fees, and noncompliance fees, as described in CMSA's Sewer Use Ordinance. Permit and monitoring fees are shown below and are adjusted each fiscal year based on the San Francisco Bay Area CPI.

User/Permit Class	User/Permit Description	New Permit Fee ^(a)	Renewal Permit Fee ^(a)	Expedited Permit Fee ^(b)
I	Significant/Categorical Industrial User (SIU/CIU)	\$1,464	\$732	\$2,197
II	Manufacturing, mass transit, etc.	\$732	\$367	\$1,099
III	Business activity, radiator repair shops,, auto service facilities, etc.	\$732	\$367	\$1,099
IV	Groundwater discharger, CIPP lining, construction runoff, etc.	\$488	\$244	\$732

Note: See CMSA Sewer Use Ordinance for detailed description of User/Permit Classes. CPI fee adjustments are rounded to the nearest dollar.

- (a) The New Permit and Renewal Permit review process timeline is approximately 30 calendar days. If additional information is required or the application is amended during the review process the permitting process may be extended.
- (b) The Expedited Permit Fee targets a 7-calendar day timeline.

1. Monitoring Fee

All routine monitoring events, pursuant to verifying compliance with a Wastewater Discharge Permit or as follow-up to an instance of non-compliance detected during a previous monitoring event, shall be assessed one of the monitoring fees listed below.

Grab Sample(s)

The sum of: 1) One hour labor at the current weighted salary of the average CMSA Environmental Services Analyst; 2) 60% overhead assessed on the labor charge; and 3) The cost of any analytical work performed on the sample(s) by CMSA's in-house analytical laboratory and/or the currently contracted analytical laboratory, per their invoice to CMSA.

24-hour Composite Sample(s)

Identical to the Grab Sample fee, except that two hours of labor will be charged.

SECTION 10 - DETERMINATION THAT FEES DO NOT EXCEED COST OF SERVICE

CMSA has determined that the fees for Capacity Charges (Section 3), Waste Hauler Charges (Section 6), and Industrial Monitoring Fees (Section 9) do not exceed the cost of providing the services that CMSA provides.

SECTION 11 - SEVERABILITY

If any provision of this ordinance or the application thereof to any person or circumstances is held invalid, no other provision of this ordinance shall be affected thereby.

SECTION 12 - REPEALS

All prior Ordinances of CMSA relating to fees are hereby repealed.

SECTION 13 - EFFECTIVE DATE

This ordinance shall be effective thirty (30) days after its passage. Before the expiration of fifteen (15) days after its passage, it shall be published once, with the names of the members voting for and against it, in the Marin Independent Journal, a newspaper of general circulation published within the Agency boundaries.

PASSED AND ADOPTED on May 13, 2025 by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

Attest:

Eli Beckman – Commission Chair

Mary Sylla – Commission Secretary