



CVWD Water News

Published for Coachella Valley Water District domestic water customers

Summer 2023

Domestic Water and Sanitation Service Rate Increases

CVWD's Board of Directors adopted new domestic water and sanitation/sewer service rates on June 13, 2023, for fiscal year 2023-2024. The new domestic water rates went into effect on July 1 and will be reflected on August bills for water use in July. Most residential customers will see sanitation rate increases on their property tax bill. Commercial customers will see increases for both domestic water and sanitation rates reflected in their monthly bills.

For domestic water, the 5.5% rate increase reflects an average \$1.88 monthly increase for residential customers. For sanitation/sewer service, the 8.5% overall average rate increase is at the currently authorized 2022 Proposition 218 maximum rate.

Inflation is a major factor in the rate increase as energy, materials, and construction costs rise. New rates include budget expenditures for the fiscal year, including system upgrades and capital improvement projects to continue to provide safe and reliable services to customers.

Under California Proposition 218, public government water agencies can only charge customers the cost of providing each service. For more information, visit cvwd.org/ratechanges.

Understanding Your New Water Rates

Domestic water rates are calculated to reflect the true cost of providing water service to customers.

Your New Water Budget Rates For Volumetric Use

As of July 1, 2023 (reflected on bills beginning on August 1, 2023)

Tiers	Rate Per CCF	Single Family	Multi-Family (per unit)	Landscape	Commercial
1	\$.99	Up to 8 CCF		n/a	
2	\$ 1.23	Up to 100% of water budget			8 CCF per EDU
3	\$ 3.79	100% up to 175% of water budget			
4	\$ 4.44	175% up to 300% of water budget			
5	\$ 6.79	300% or more of water budget			

What is a Water Budget?

Customers are allocated a reasonable amount of water based on each customer's needs. Residential water budgets include an indoor budget and an outdoor budget.

For commercial customers, the indoor water budget is based on the number of equivalent dwelling units (EDUs) assigned to the property by CVWD when the business was established or reassigned.

An EDU is a term used to compare the wastewater flows generated from a commercial business to those generated by a single family residential unit.

Fixed Rates By Meter Size

As of July 1, 2023 (reflected on bills beginning on August 1, 2023)

Meter Size	Single Family**	Multi-Family	Commercial	Landscape
3/4"	\$13.35	\$13.48	\$13.41	\$17.04
1"	\$15.98	\$16.22	\$16.09	\$22.13
1-1/2"	\$22.58	\$23.03	\$22.79	\$34.89

Sewer Monthly Service Charges

As of July 1, 2023 (reflected on bills beginning on August 1, 2023)

Residential customers are charged for sewer service per Equivalent Sewer Unit (ESU). The typical home is considered 1 ESU. Nonresidential ESUs are assigned based on an estimate of sewage production which is calculated based on the three-year average water use, adjusted by the amount of water returned to the sewer.

Customer Class	Monthly Account Charge	Monthly Service Charge per ESU
Residential	\$1.69	\$27.10
RV/Trailer Parks	\$4.91	\$27.10
Nonresidential	\$4.91	\$27.10



CVWD Returns to \$2 Turf Rebate Rate

In May, CVWD Board of Directors voted to return turf rebate incentives from \$3 to \$2 per square foot. **As of May 23, all new applications for residential and HOA/commercial turf conversion programs are eligible for a \$2 per square foot rebate.**

CVWD rebate programs are designed to assist customers who want to reduce their water usage by replacing grass with low-water use, desert-friendly landscaping. Pre-approval is required.

The increased rebate of \$3 was set in April 2022 as part of the District's Water Shortage Contingency Plan. In later months, the cities of Indian Wells, Palm Desert, and Rancho Mirage approved matching rebate funds. Currently, Indian Wells and Palm Desert have exhausted their funds. Rancho Mirage continues to offer a \$3 per square foot incentive for residential customers and a \$1 per square foot incentive for HOAs and commercial customers, until funds run out.

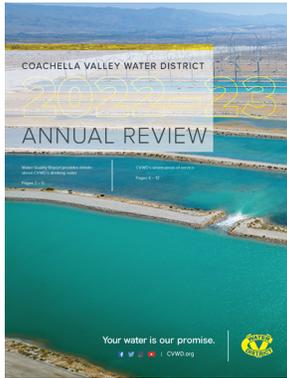
For more information and eligibility details, visit cvwd.org/rebates.

No Swimming Allowed at Whitewater River

CVWD reminds residents to avoid the Whitewater River channel near Windy Point on both sides of Interstate 10, north of Palm Springs. Entering the area is extremely dangerous and illegal. The high and fast water flows in the channel can easily knock a person off of their feet and sweep them down the channel, leading to injury or death. Currently, the flow rate in the channel is about 725 cubic feet per second. That is the equivalent of about 2,900 basketballs moving past a given point every second. Trespassers can be cited, fined, and serve jail time.



Available Now: 2022-23 Annual Review and Water Quality Report



CVWD's Annual Review & Water Quality Report, also known as the Consumer Confidence Report (CCR), is available now online or by mail, upon request.

The Water Quality Report shows that water delivered by CVWD meets all current state and federal standards, along with other water quality testing details. The 2022-23 Water Quality Report can be viewed online at cvwd.org/CCR/2023.

The printed Water Quality Report is a part of the District's Annual Review, which includes articles about CVWD's seven areas of service that are provided to customers. View it online in English at cvwd.org/annualreview2023 or in Spanish at cvwd.org/informeannual2023.

To request a paper copy of the 2022-23 Annual Review & Water Quality Report, call (760) 391-9600 or email CustomerService@cvwd.org.



CVWD Delivers Safe and High-Quality Drinking Water

CVWD's top priority is delivering high-quality drinking water that meets stringent government standards from a natural aquifer that lies underneath the valley floor. In addition to groundwater, the aquifer is filled with sand, gravel, and clay sediments. The natural layering of these sediments within the aquifer helps protect groundwater served to thousands of local homes and businesses in the Coachella Valley.

Highly trained CVWD employees collect and monitor over 16,000 water samples annually and test for more than 100 regulated and unregulated substances. Most water samples are tested in our state-certified laboratory, which operates every day to ensure we are delivering safe, top-tier water to our customers.

Water quality testing data is reported to the state of California and is listed in the annual Water Quality Report at cvwd.org/CCR/2023.

Your water is our promise. Learn more at cvwd.org/ourpromise.

Let Your Lawn Go *Gold*

With the fall season around the corner, homeowners, HOAs, businesses, and golf courses are encouraged to skip overseeding lawns this upcoming season.

Although overseeding is a long-standing practice in the Coachella Valley, it can be wasteful and unnecessary. Overseeding in the fall does not allow Bermuda grass to complete its normal growing cycle before winter dormancy approaches. In addition, most grass grown in the desert will stay alive in a dormant state until spring, with only occasional watering.

Let your lawn go gold to conserve water and save on extra lawn maintenance, time, and money. Additional water needed for the overseeding process can boost your water bill into a higher billing tier.

Or, rather than overseed, take advantage of CVWD's turf conversion programs that provide customers with \$2 per square foot rebates. Visit cvwd.org/rebates for details and to apply.



Board Meetings

Board meetings are open to the public and are generally held at 8 a.m. the second and fourth Tuesday of each month.

Meetings alternate between the Steve Robbins Administration Building in Palm Desert and the Coachella Office.

Visit our website to watch meetings online and to view the agenda.

Main line: (760) 398-2651

Customer Service: (760) 391-9600

Website: www.cvwd.org

