

## **SECTION G.**

### **RATES AND SERVICE FEES**

Unless specifically defined in this Tariff, all fees, rates, and charges as stated shall be non-refundable.

1. ***Service Investigation Fee.*** The Corporation shall conduct a service investigation for each service application submitted at the Corporation office. An initial determination shall be made by the Corporation, without charge, as to whether the service request is Standard or Non-Standard. An investigation shall then be conducted and the results reported under the following terms:
  - a. All Standard Service requests shall be investigated without charge and all applicable costs for providing service shall be quoted in writing to the Applicant within ten (10) working days of application.
  - b. All Non-Standard Service requests shall be subject to a fee, appropriate to each project, of sufficient amount to cover all administrative, legal, and engineering fees associated with investigation of the Corporation's ability to deliver service to the Applicant to;
    - (1) provide cost estimates of the project,
    - (2) to present detailed plans and specifications as per final plat,
    - (3) to advertise and accept bids for the project,
    - (4) to present a Non-Standard Service Contract to the Applicant, and
    - (5) To provide other services as required by the Corporation for such investigation. A Non-Standard Service Contract shall be presented to the Applicant within a suitable amount of time as determined by the complexity of the project. (See Section F.)
2. ***Membership Fee.*** At the time the application for service is approved, a refundable Membership Fee must be paid for each service requested before service shall be provided or reserved for the Applicant by the Corporation.
  - a. The Membership Fee for water service is **\$150.00** for each service unit.
  - b. The Membership fee for oversized or Master Metered Accounts shall be based on multiples of meter size equivalence or actual connections served.
3. ***Easement Fee.*** When the Corporation determines that private right-of-way easements and/or facilities sites are necessary to provide service to the Applicant, the Applicant shall be required to make good faith efforts to secure easements in behalf of the Corporation and/or pay all costs incurred by the Corporation in validating, clearing, and retaining such right-of-way in addition to tap fees otherwise required pursuant to the provisions of this Tariff. The costs may include all legal fees and expenses necessary to attempt to secure such right-of-way and/or facilities sites in behalf of the Applicant. (See Section E. 3.e., Section F. 8. a.)
4. ***Installation Fee.*** The Corporation shall charge an installation fee for service as follows:
  - a. **Standard Service** shall include all current labor, materials, engineering, legal, customer service inspection, and administrative costs necessary to provide individual metered water and shall be charged on a per tap basis as computed immediately prior to such time as metered service is requested and installed.
  - b. **Non-Standard Service** shall include any and all construction labor and materials, inspection, administration, legal, and engineering fees, as determined by the Corporation under the rules of Section F of this Tariff.
  - c. Standard and Non-Standard Service Installations shall include all costs of any pipeline relocations as per Section E. 3(e) of this Tariff.

5. **Equity Buy-In Fee.** In addition to the Membership Fee, each Applicant shall be required to achieve parity with existing Members by contributing capital in an amount projected to defray the cost of upgrading system facilities to meet growth demands created by adding customers. This fee shall be \$450.00 and shall be assigned and restricted to the tap/lot for which the service was originally requested. This amount will change as the system matures and should be reviewed annually at the conclusion of each twelve-month accounting cycle.

The Equity Buy in Fee is less than the average amount previously calculated for the new facility construction in the year 2000. The Board of Directors determined in July 2009 that the \$450.00 Equity Buy in Fee is an amount that is economically beneficial to the community serviced by the Walston Springs Water Supply Corporation.

6. **Monthly Charges.**

a. **Service Availability Charge**

- (1) Water Service - the monthly charge for metered water service, which may or may not include allowable gallon age, is based on demand by meter size. Each charge is assessed based on the number of 5/8" X 3/4" meters (as per American Water Works Association maximum continuous flow specifications (see Miscellaneous) equivalent to the size indicated and is used as a base multiplier for the Service Availability Charge and allowable gallon age. Rates and equivalents are as follows:

METER SIZE	5/8" X 3/4" METER EQUIVALENTS	MONTHLY RATE	ALLOWABLE GALLONS
5/8" X 3/4"	1.0	\$ 25.00	1,000
3/4"	1.5	\$ 33.50	2,000
1"	2.5	\$ 50.50	3,000
1 1/2"	5.0	\$ 93.00	5,000
2"	8.0	\$ 144.00	8,000
3" DISP.	9.0	\$ 161.00	9,000
3" CMPD.	16.0	\$ 280.00	16,000
3" TURB.	17.5	\$ 305.50	18,000
4" CMPD.	25.0	\$ 433.00	25,000
4" TURB.	30.0	\$ 518.00	30,000
6" CMPD.	50.0	\$ 858.00	50,000
6" TURB.	62.5	\$ 1,070.50	63,000
8" CMPD.	80.0	\$ 1,368.00	80,000

b. **Gallon**

- c. **age Charge** - In addition to the Service Availability Charge, a gallonage charge shall be added at the following rates for usage during any one (1) billing period.

Minimum Rate includes water usage up to first 1,000 gallons -----\$ 25.00  
 Next 9,000 gallons ----- 4.00  
 Maximum----- 5.00  
**New Service Tap Fee** -----Cost of Installation and Materials plus 25%-----

**Re-Service Tap Fee -----Cost of Installation and Materials plus 25%-----**

- d. TNRCC Regulatory Assessment - The Corporation shall, as required by Section 5.235, Water Code of the State of Texas, collect from each of its retail customers a regulatory assessment equal to one-half of one percent of the charge for retail water service. This charge shall be collected in addition to other charges for utility service. This fee is collected on all charges pertaining to Section G.6. Monthly Charges of this tariff. (30 TAC 291.76 d.
  - e. The Corporation, as a part of its billing process, collects a \$1.00 voluntary contribution from each WSC member on behalf of the Southside and 84E Voluntary Fire Department and Emergency Medical Service.
7. **Assessments** – If at the end of the fiscal year, or in the event of emergency repairs, the Board of Directors determines the total amount derived from the collection of water charges to be insufficient for the payment of all costs incident to the operation of the Corporation’s system during the year in which such charges are collected, the Board shall make and levy an assessment against each Member of the Corporation as the Board may determine, so that the sum of such assessments and the amount collected from water and other charges is sufficient to fully pay all costs of the operation, maintenance, replacement and repayment on indebtedness for the year’s operations. (Article XVI (a) of Bylaws)
8. **Duplicate Bill Fee:** Any member attempting to pay their bill without the billing statement will be charged a \$2.50 fee in addition to the monthly bill for the month. This fee is to replenish card stock that is used to duplicate a bill that the office has already used to fabricate a bill once.
9. **Late Payment Fee.** Once per billing period, a penalty of \$15.00 shall be applied to delinquent bills. This late payment penalty shall not be applied to any balance to which the penalty was applied in a previous billing, but shall be applied to any unpaid balance during the current billing period.
- NOTE:** For Political Subdivisions and state agencies the above late payment fee does not apply. Instead a late penalty of 1% shall be assessed for any amount unpaid on the 46<sup>th</sup> day after the bill is received by the state agency or political subdivision and an additional 1% shall be assessed for each month thereafter that the bill remains unpaid. (Government code Chapter 2251)
10. **Returned Check Fee.** In the event a check, draft, or any other similar instrument is given by a person, firm, corporation, or partnership to the Corporation for payment of services provided for in this Tariff, and the instrument is returned by the bank or other similar institution as insufficient or non-negotiable for any reason, the account for which the instrument was issued shall be assessed a return check charge of \$ 30.00. All payments must be made with a money order. (See Miscellaneous Transaction Forms)
11. **iWEB/Draft Returned Payment Processing Fee.** An additional processing fee of \$30.00 will be charged on all I WEB (internet) payments that are returned for insufficient funds due to the Processing Firm passing on to the WSWS.
12. **Reconnect Fee.** The Corporation shall charge a fee of \$ 50.00 for reconnecting service after the Corporation has previously disconnected the service for any reason provided for in this Tariff except for activation of service under Section E.4.b. Re-Service. (Lock/Unlock) The full account balance and fees must be paid up to date and in full before the meter can be unlocked. All paperwork must be up to date.

13. **Re Installation.** The Corporation shall charge a fee of \$ 500.00 for reserving after the Corporation has previously disconnected the service for any reason provided for in this Tariff.
14. **Service Trip Fee.** The Corporation shall charge a trip fee of \$ 75.00 (8:00 am - 5:00 pm) and \$ 75.00 (5:01 pm – 7:59 am) for any service call or trip to the Member's tap as a result of a request by the Member or resident for response to damage of the Corporation's or another Member's facilities, for customer service inspections due to suspicion of meter tampering, bypass or diversion of service, or for the purpose of disconnecting or collecting payment for services.
15. **Meter Re Read.** 1<sup>st</sup> reread for the month is \$15.00 the 2<sup>nd</sup> reread for the month is \$25.00. Ever reread after is \$25.00.
16. **Deposit.** Lake Mary and Circle R Lake \$ 60.00 deposit for each meter.
17. **Fax/Copy Fees.** The WSWS office will fax and copy for our members at a small fee. The cost for faxing is \$2.99 for the 1<sup>st</sup> page and \$.25 for each additional pages. The cost for copies for a member is \$1.00 for the 1<sup>st</sup> page and \$.10 for each additional page.
18. **Member History/Audit Report Fee.** Each yearly audit/report will be \$15.00.
19. **Meter Clean Out.** Keep water meter accessible to the Corporation. The meter must be free of debris, sewage, grass and fire ants. The water tariff allows an \$8.00 clean out fee if necessary.
20. **Cut of Valve.** Each member shall install at his own expense, any necessary equipment to the point of use, including any cut-off valves, back flow prevention devices, pressure regulators, clean out, etc. WSWC will charge members \$25-\$35 (subject to be increased) for these items if requested.
21. **Easement Filing Fee:** A fee of \$35.00 will be charged to each Applicant for filing the Easement in the Anderson County Clerk's office.
22. **Equipment Damage Fee.** If the Corporation's facilities or equipment have been damaged by tampering, by-passing, installing unauthorized taps, reconnecting service without authority, or other service diversion, a fee shall be charged equal to the actual costs for all labor, material, and equipment necessary for repair, replacement, and other Corporation actions. This fee shall be charged and paid before service is re-established. If the Corporation's equipment has not been damaged, a fee equal to the actual costs for all labor, material, equipment, and other actions necessary to correct service diversions, unauthorized taps, or reconnection of service without authority shall be charged. All components of this fee will be itemized, and a statement shall be provided to the Member. If the Corporation's facilities or equipment have been damaged due to negligence or unauthorized use of the Corporation's equipment, right-of-way, or meter shut-off valve, or due to other acts for which the Corporation incurs losses or damages, the Member shall be liable for all labor and material charges incurred as a result of said acts or negligence.
23. **Meter Tampering and Diversion Penalty.** In addition to the Equipment Damage Fee, the Corporation may charge a penalty for "Tampering" as defined in Section E23. The penalty may only be assessed against the person who committed the Tampering. An owner cannot be assessed for the Tampering committed by their tenant. The penalty shall not exceed six (6) times the Base Rate.
24. **Meter Test Fee.** The Corporation shall test a Member's meter upon written request of the Member. Under the terms of Section E of this Tariff, the cost of the test invoiced by the manufacturer shall be imposed on the affected account. Meter Test Fees start at \$85.00 and are subject to be increased.

25. **Transfer Fee.** An Applicant for service who is a Transferee shall complete all required application forms, etc., and pay a Transfer Fee of \$ 30.00.
26. **Information Disclosure Fee.** All public information except that which has been individually requested as confidential shall be available to the public for a fee to be determined by the Corporation based on the level of service and costs to provide such information, but not to be inconsistent with the terms of the Texas Open Records Act; Chapter 552, Texas Government Code.
27. **Customer Service Inspection Fee.** A fee of \$ 50.00 will be assessed each Applicant before permanent continuous service is provided to new construction.
28. **Regulatory Assessment.** A fee of 0.5% of the amount billed for water service will be assessed each customer; this assessment is required under Texas law and TCEQ regulations. **NOTE:** The regulatory assessment is not to be collected from state agencies, wholesale customers, or buyers of non-potable (not drinkable) water. (Ref. TCEQ RG-199 revised Oct. 2002. TCEQ Section 291.76 (c))
29. **Additional Assessments.** In the event any federal, state or local government imposes on the Corporation a “per meter” fee or an assessment based on a percent of water charges, this fee or assessment will be billed and collected as a “pass through” charge to the customer.
30. **Groundwater District Production Fee.** This fee may be collected to pay a portion of the fee (2.5 cents per thousand )charged the Corporation by Neches and Trinity Valley Groundwater Conservation District based on the amount of water pumped from the Corporation’s wells located within the boundaries of the District.
31. **Certified Mail Fee.** A fee of \$10-\$15.00 will be charged to any Member who is sent a Disconnection with Notice by Certified Mail or any type of Certified Mail. (See Section E. 15)
32. **Other Fees.** All services outside the normal scope of utility operations that the Corporation may be compelled to provide at the request of a customer or Member shall be charged to the recipient based on the cost of providing such service.