

## ARTICLE U. UTILITY SERVICE FEES

### Section 1. LEVY OF UTILITY SERVICE FEES; EFFECTIVE DATE

(A) **Levy of Fees.** Utility service fees for water, sewer, and refuse services are hereby levied within the areas of Chatham County which are served by the City of Savannah. Utility service fees as levied shall be billed bi-monthly according to rate schedules shown in this Article; provided, however, large industrial accounts may be billed monthly. Where service is available water, sewer, and refuse charges shall be "bundled"; that is, for each active customer account the three utility services shall be billed and fees paid singularly, based upon *availability* of each service.

(B) **Effective Date of Rates.** Utility rates as provided herein shall become effective on the first cycle billing after January 1 of the calendar year for which adopted.

### Section 2. WATER SERVICE FEES

(A) **Water Charges - Inside City (Bi-monthly).** The following shall constitute the water service charges for property located inside the City, billed bi-monthly.

#### GENERALLY

\$11.06 base (availability) charge, plus ~~\$4.03~~1.07 per 100 cubic feet for the first 1,500 cubic feet of water used. Water used in excess of 1,500 cubic feet shall be charged at ~~\$4.24~~1.25 per 100 cubic feet.

#### APARTMENTS

Apartment buildings and projects containing two or more units on a single water meter shall be charged \$11.06 per unit base charge, plus ~~\$4.03~~1.07 per 100 cubic feet for the first 1,500 cubic feet per dwelling unit, whether occupied or not. Water used in excess of 1,500 cubic feet per dwelling unit shall be charged at ~~\$4.24~~1.25 per 100 cubic feet. In such case, the property owner shall be responsible for water charges.

#### HOTELS AND MOTELS

Hotels and motels located inside the City and served by a single water meter shall be charged a bi-monthly rate of \$5.53 per unit base charge, plus ~~\$4.03~~1.07 per 100 cubic feet for the first 1,500 cubic feet of water used per unit. Water used in excess of 1,500 cubic feet per unit shall be charged at ~~\$4.24~~1.25 per 100 cubic feet.

## MINIMUM WATER CHARGES ON METERS INSIDE CITY

Meter Size	Minimum Charge	Cubic Feet Allowed
5/8"	\$11.06	None
1"	<del>\$58.76</del> 60.44	4,200
1 1/2"	<del>\$77.96</del> 80.28	5,800
2"	<del>\$101.96</del> 105.08	7,800
3"	<del>\$145.16</del> 149.72	11,400
4"	<del>\$185.96</del> 191.88	14,800
6"	<del>\$272.36</del> 281.16	22,000
8"	<del>\$368.36</del> 380.36	30,000
10"	<del>\$464.36</del> 479.56	38,000

**(B) Water Charges - Outside City (Bi-Monthly).** The following shall constitute the water service charges for property located outside the City, billed bi-monthly:

### GENERALLY

\$16.59 base (availability) charge, plus ~~\$1.54~~1.60 per 100 cubic feet for the first 1,500 cubic feet of water used. Water used in excess of 1,500 cubic feet shall be charged at ~~\$1.84~~1.87 per 100 cubic feet.

### APARTMENTS

Apartment buildings and projects containing two or more units on a single water meter shall be charged \$16.59 per unit base charge, plus ~~\$1.54~~1.60 per 100 cubic feet for the first 1,500 cubic feet per dwelling unit, whether occupied or not. Water used in excess of 1,500 cubic feet per dwelling unit shall be charged at ~~\$1.84~~1.87 per 100 cubic feet. In such case, the property owner shall be responsible for water charges.

### HOTELS AND MOTELS

Hotels and motels located outside the City and served by a single water meter shall be charged a bi-monthly rate of \$8.30 per unit base charge, plus ~~\$1.54~~1.60 per 100 cubic feet for the first 1,500 cubic feet of water used per unit. Water used in excess of 1,500 cubic feet per unit shall be charged at ~~\$1.84~~1.87 per 100 cubic feet.

**MINIMUM WATER CHARGES ON METERS OUTSIDE CITY**

<b>Meter Size</b>	<b>Minimum Charge</b>	<b>Cubic Feet Allowed</b>
5/8"	\$16.59	None
1"	<del>\$88.14</del> 90.66	4,200
1 1/2"	<del>\$116.94</del> 120.42	5,800
2"	<del>\$152.94</del> 157.62	7,800
3"	<del>\$217.74</del> 224.58	11,400
4"	<del>\$278.94</del> 287.82	14,800
6"	<del>\$408.54</del> 421.74	22,000
8"	<del>\$552.54</del> 570.54	30,000
10"	<del>\$696.54</del> 719.34	38,000

**(C) Charges for Filling Swimming Pools with Water from Fire Hydrants.**

Charges for filling swimming pools from fire hydrants shall be as follows:

Hook-up fee - \$50.00 per event

Plus water and sewer consumption charges according to the rates provided herein, based on pool capacity.

Prior to use of a fire hydrant for filling a pool, application shall be made to the Utility Services Division. No pool may be filled from a fire hydrant without the prior approval of the Utility Services Administrator and an authorized representative of the Savannah Fire and Emergency Services Department.

**(D) Wholesale Municipal Water Rate.** The City has entered into the following wholesale water supply agreements with other municipalities:

<b>Municipality</b>	<b>Date</b>
Garden City	June 19, 1992
Pooler	July 25, 1997
Port Wentworth	February 28, 2001
Effingham County	April 1, 2002
Bryan County	August 28, 2002

Pursuant to these agreements, effective April 1, ~~2017~~2018, the wholesale rate for water sales to municipalities shall be ~~\$2.06~~2.14 per one thousand gallons, which is

equivalent to \$1.54-60 per 100 cubic feet. Prior to April 1, 2017-2018, the rate shall be \$2.00-06 per one thousand gallons which is equivalent to \$1.50-54 per 100 cubic feet.

**(E) Reclaimed Water Charges**

The rate of charge for reclaimed water delivered pursuant to agreements between the City and reclaimed water customers shall be \$.42 per 1000 gallons.

Charges for reclaimed water shall be based on actual or estimated metered usage for each reclaimed water customer. Bills for reclaimed water shall be rendered on a monthly basis, and shall be due at the same time and in the same manner as charges for regular water service.

In addition to the consumption charge provided for above, reclaimed water customers shall be billed a base charge in accordance with agreements between the City and the customer.

**Section 3. SEWER SERVICE FEES**

**(A) Sewer Service Charges - Inside City (Bi-monthly).** The following shall constitute the sewer service charges for property located within the City, billed bi-monthly:

**GENERALLY**

User Category	Base (Availability) Charge	0-1,500 Cu. Ft. of Water Used	Over 1, 500 Cu. Ft. of Water Used
A	\$8.80	\$3-373.48	\$3-753.86
B	\$8.80	\$3-493.60	\$3-904.01
C	\$8.80	\$3-493.60	\$3-904.01
E	\$8.80	\$3-373.48	\$3-753.86
F	\$8.80	\$3-373.48	\$3-753.86

**APARTMENTS**

Apartment buildings and projects containing two or more units on a single water meter and discharging residential type waste water shall be charged \$8.80 per unit base charge, plus \$3-373.48 per 100 cubic feet of water used for the first 1,500 cubic feet per unit, whether occupied or not. The sewer charge for water used in excess of 1,500 cubic feet per unit shall be \$3-753.86 per 100 cubic feet.

**HOTELS AND MOTELS**

Hotels and motels located inside the City and served by single water meter and discharging residential type waste water shall be charged a bi-monthly sewer rate of \$4.40 per unit base charge, plus ~~\$3.37~~3.48 per 100 cubic feet of water used for the first 1,500 cubic feet per unit. The sewer charge for water used in excess of 1,500 cubic feet shall be ~~\$3.75~~3.86 per 100 cubic feet.

**(B) Sewer Service Charges - Outside City (Bi-Monthly).** The following shall constitute the sewer service charges for property located outside the City, billed bi-monthly:

**GENERALLY**

User Category	Base (Availability) Charge	0-1,500 Cu. Ft. of Water Used	Over 1,500 Cu. Ft. of Water Used
A	\$13.20	\$5-055.22	\$5-625.79
B	\$13.20	\$5-235.40	\$5-846.01
C	\$13.20	\$5-235.40	\$5-846.01
D	\$8.80	\$3-703.87	\$3-703.87
E	\$13.20	\$5-055.22	\$5-625.79
F	\$13.20	\$5-055.22	\$5-625.79

\* Isle of Hope, Chatham County Industrial Park, Runaway Point, Thunderbolt, and Pooler at "D" rates. Effective April 1, ~~2016~~2018, the Class D rate will be changed to \$3-874.04 per 100 CCF (which is equivalent to \$5-185.40 per 1000 gallons) with a base charge of \$8.80.

**APARTMENTS**

Apartment buildings and projects containing two or more units on a single water meter and discharging residential type waste water shall be charged \$13.20 per unit base charge, plus \$5-055.22 per 100 cubic feet of water used for the first 1,500 cubic feet per unit, whether occupied or not. The sewer charge for water used in excess of 1,500 cubic feet per unit shall be \$5-625.79 per 100 cubic feet.

**HOTELS AND MOTELS**

Hotels and motels located outside the City and served by a single water meter and discharging residential type waste water shall be charge a bi-monthly sewer rate of \$6.60 per unit base charge, plus \$5-055.22 per cubic feet of water used for the first 1,500 cubic feet per unit. The sewer charge for water used in excess of 1,500 cubic feet shall be \$5-625.79 per 100 cubic feet.

**(C) Sewer User Categories.** The sewer user categories upon which the sewer charges are based are defined as follows:

- User Category A:** Residential (with sewer cap).
- User Category B:** Small industrial users - less than 25,000 gallons per day, with industrial waste water characteristics.
- User Category C:** Large industrial users - over 25,000 gallons per day, with industrial waste water characteristics.
- User Category D:** Municipal and County governments with sewage collection facilities.

**User Category E:** Non-residential (no sewer cap)

**User Category F:** Irrigation System (with sewer cap)

**(D) Sewer Service Charge Limits.** Sewer service charges as provided herein shall be limited as follows:

**(1) Residential, Single Family and Multi-family Complexes.** Bi-monthly sewer charges for single family residences and multi-family residential housing complexes shall be limited to the base sewer charge per unit plus consumption charges on a maximum of 5,000 cubic feet of water used per unit bi-monthly.

**(2) Non-residential & Housing Complexes of Ten Units or More.** Any non-residential water customer and any residential housing complex of ten units or more may apply for a separate water meter to serve only an irrigation system where there is no connection to the City sewer system and where none of the water passing through such meter enters the City sewer system. Such applicant shall pay all tap-in and meter installation fees and costs. The City shall have the right to inspect any such irrigation system pursuant to Code Section 5-1025.

Upon specific application to the City, sewer charges shall be limited to the base charge, plus consumption charges on a maximum of 5,000 cubic feet of water used bi-monthly through any such meter dedicated solely to provide water to an irrigation system. Such charges shall be considered to be sewer availability charges. Charges for water service shall include the water base charge and water consumption charges for the full amount of water used.

**(3) Water Used in Manufactured Products.** In any case where a manufacturing industry uses all or a portion of its total water consumption in its finished product, sewer charges may be limited by one of the following methods:

(a) A separate meter to measure water used totally in a manufacturing process may be installed where there is no connection to the City sewer system and where none of the water passing through such meter enters the City sewer system. The applicant for such separate meter shall pay all tap-in and meter installation fees and costs. Sewer charges for water passing through such meter shall be limited to the base charge, plus consumption charges on a maximum of 5,000 cubic feet of water used bi-monthly. Such charges shall be considered to be sewer availability charges. Charges for water service shall include the water base charge and water consumption charges on the full amount of water used.

(b) Charges for water and sewer service may be in accordance with a water and sewer agreement between the City and an industrial customer. Each such case will be considered individually, not as part of a group.

**(4) Water Used in Cooling Towers.** In any case where water is utilized in cooling towers, sewer charges may be limited by the following method:

(a) A separate water service line with approved water meter and backflow units shall be installed to provide and measure the total water used in each cooling tower. The applicant for such separate service line(s) and meter(s) shall pay all tap-in and meter costs and installation fees. Sewer charges for water passing through such meter shall be limited to the sewer base charge, plus sewer consumption charges calculated at 50% of the water flow registered through the water meter. Such charges shall be considered to be sewer availability charges. Charges for water service shall include the water base charge and water consumption charges on the full amount of water flow registered through the water meter. The applicant will be responsible for the following:

(1) The design and installation of the cooling tower water service shall be at no cost to the City. Prior to construction of said chiller water service, the engineering design thereof from City of Savannah water main to the tower(s) shall be submitted for review and approval by the City of Savannah Water and Sewer Engineering and Planning Department of the Public Works & Water Resources Bureau;

(2) Upon completion of construction, inspection and acceptance by the City of Savannah, the service lateral from the City of Savannah water main to the water meter shall become the property of the City of Savannah and Savannah shall be responsible for the operation and maintenance thereof. All portions of the cooling tower water service lateral on the customer's side of the water meter including operation, maintenance, repair, replacement and any damages resulting therefrom, shall be the responsibility of the customer/property owner;

(3) The customer shall establish an individual water service account through the City's Revenue Department for each cooling tower water supply line.

**(E) Sewer Surcharges for Excessive Loading.** Industries discharging wastewater with concentrations of BOD above 250 mg/L, COD above 425 mg/L, suspended solids above 225 mg/L, and/or ammonia-nitrogen above 12 mg/L will be assessed a sewage treatment surcharge. The surcharge will be \$0.16 for each excessive pound of BOD or COD, \$0.16 for each excessive pound of suspended solids, and \$0.45 for each excessive pound of ammonia-nitrogen. These surcharges shall also apply to all industrial waste haulers discharging into the sewer collection system.

**(F) Septic Tank Disposal Fee**

**(1) Septic Tank Haulers.** Fees for septic tank disposal at the President Street Treatment Plant shall be \$75.00 per 1,000 gallons. Fees for brown grease disposal shall be \$250.00 per 1,000 gallons.



**(2) Industrial Wastewater Haulers.** Fees for permitted industrial wastewater hauled to and disposed at the President Street Treatment Plant shall be \$75.00 per 1,000 gallons. Additionally, surcharges for any excessive BOD/COD, suspended solids, and/or ammonia as provided in Article U, Section 3, Paragraph (E) of this ordinance will be assessed.

**(G) Grease Trap Inspection Fees.**

All facilities required to maintain a grease trap or oil and water separator will pay an annual inspection fee of \$50.00.

**(H) Vehicle Inspection Permit Fees**

There shall be an annual inspection of each commercial waste transport tank truck prior to issuance of the required permit for each vehicle. The annual inspection permit fee for commercial waste transporters shall be \$250.00 for the first vehicle and \$100.00 for each additional vehicle.

**(I) Televising Fees**

All sewer lines, 8" (inch) in diameter and larger, shall be televised at a charge of \$1.25 per linear foot with a set-up fee in the amount of \$120.00. These fees shall apply to all sewer lines installed within public right-of-ways and easements, including lines located on private property that are connected to the public lines.

**Section 4. WATER METER SALE, INSTALLATION, AND TAP-IN FEES**

**(A) Sale and Installation of Small Meters.** Fees for installing, and changing meters or providing water meters for plumbers to install shall be as follows:

Meter Size	Tap-in and Installation by			Change at Customer's Request Size	
	Plumber	City	AMR	Same Size	Increase
5/8 – 3/4 Inch Short side	\$300.00	\$350.00	\$450.00	\$75.00	\$200.00
5/8 – 3/4 Inch Long side	\$500.00	\$550.00	\$650.00	\$75.00	\$200.00
1 Inch Short Side	\$350.00	\$400.00	\$500.00	\$75.00	\$200.00
1 Inch Long Side	\$550.00	\$600.00	\$700.00	\$75.00	\$200.00
1 1/2 Inch Short Side	\$500.00	\$550.00	\$650.00	\$75.00	\$275.00
1 1/2 Inch Long Side	\$700.00	\$750.00	\$850.00	\$75.00	\$275.00

**(B) Sale of Large Water Meters.** Fees for providing large meters to licensed master plumbers for installation in the City system shall be as follows:

Meter Size	Non-Compound		Compound
	Meter Type	ULFMAMR Cost	AMR Cost
2 Inch			\$1,335.00
3 Inch			\$1,595.00
4 Inch	ULFM AMR	\$4,490.00	\$2,495.00
6 Inch	ULFM AMR	\$7,000.00	\$3,475.00
8 Inch	ULFM AMR	\$6,200.00	\$5,535.00

**(C) Fee of Water Line Tap by City.** The fees to cover City costs of tapping into the City's water mains or water lines for the installation of water meters two inches and larger, fire lines, or service extensions shall be according to the following schedule:

Tap Size	Fee for
2 Inch	\$250.00
4 Inch	\$350.00
6 Inch	\$350.00
8 Inch	\$450.00
10 Inch	\$550.00
12 Inch	\$650.00

\*The fee for a three inch or larger tap into the City's water main shall be waived when such tap is made to serve a fire sprinkler system within a building which meets the following conditions:

The building must be located within:

- o The Broughton Street Urban Redevelopment Area, which is bounded on the west by Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard, on the east by East Broad Street, on the north by Congress Street, and on the south by State Street; or
- o The Phase I Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard and Montgomery Street Corridor Study Area as defined by the Revitalization Plan adopted by resolution of City Council on October 21, 1999 which is generally bounded by the centerline of River Street on the north, the centerline of Jones Street on the south, Jefferson Street on the east, and portions of Anne Street (River Street to Oglethorpe Avenue), Fahm Street (Oglethorpe Avenue to Turner Blvd) and West Boundary Street (Turner Blvd to Jones Street) on the west; or
- o The Phase II Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard and Montgomery Street Corridor Urban Redevelopment Area as adopted by resolution of City Council on December 12, 2002, which is

generally bounded by Jones Street on the north, 52<sup>nd</sup> Street on the south, properties abutting Montgomery Street on the east, and properties abutting Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard on the west, as more fully described by the Urban Redevelopment Plan adopted by City Council December 12, 2002; The building must be close to an adequate water supply; The property owner must sign an owner/client declaration accepting responsibility for maintaining and repairing the lateral;

The tap must be made in connection with a project which involves substantial renovation of a historic structure. Substantial renovation is defined as a renovation where the construction cost exceeds 50% of the assessed value of the building (excluding the valuation of the land) per existing building codes and City code; or the project must involve new infill construction.

#### **(D) Water Tap-in Fee**

**(1) Fee Schedule.** A Water Tap-in Fee shall be paid to the Revenue Department prior to the connection of any service line to the City's water system according to the following schedule:

- (a) Inside City: \$600.00 per residential unit, or equivalent residential unit, or any fraction thereof
- (b) Outside City: \$900.00 per residential unit, or equivalent residential unit, or any fraction thereof

**(2) Determination of Equivalent Residential Units.** The determination of water consumption for the purpose of determining the number of equivalent residential units shall be based on the guidelines in Section 4 (E) (4) Water Use Standards, of this Article U.

**(3) Applicability of Fee.** The Water Tap-in Fee shall be charged for any water meter service application submitted to the City on or after July 1, 1995. However, for applications for service within developments covered by Water and Sewer Agreements dated on or before July 1, 1995, the Water Tap-in Fee shall be charged for any water meter service application submitted to the City on or after July 1, 1996.

**(4) Exemption.** The Water Tap-in Fee shall not be charged for a meter serving an owner occupied dwelling located inside the City which is served by existing water and sewer lines not requiring a line extension, and which is in an area not covered by an unexpired Water and Sewer Agreement.

#### **(E) Sewer Tap-in Fee**

**(1) Fee Established.** A sewer tap-in fee shall be paid to the Revenue Department prior to issuance of a permit to connect to a sanitary sewer line. The tap-in fee shall be based on residential unit or equivalent residential unit, or any fraction thereof.

**(2) Sewer Tap-in Rates.** The sewer tap-in fee per residential unit or equivalent residential unit, whether single or multiple tap-ins, which is made to the sanitary sewer

line shall be as follows:

**(a) Inside City:** \$400.00 per residential unit, or equivalent residential unit, or any fraction thereof

**(b) Outside City:** \$500.00 per residential unit, or equivalent residential unit, or any fraction thereof

**(3) Equivalent Residential Unit.** The determination of a structure's equivalent residential units shall be based on estimated water consumption as shown in guidelines provided in Section (d) below. If guidelines are not provided for a particular application, the estimated water consumption and sewage flow shall be determined by the Water and Sewer Administrator of the City based on projected actual average water demand by the structure.

**(4) Water Use Standards.** The standards in the table below shall be used in the determination of water consumption. If the table does not provide information for a particular application, the estimated water consumption shall be as calculated by the Water and Sewer Administrator.

Type of Structure	Water Usage in Gallons Per Day
Apartment, One Bedroom	100 per apartment
Apartment, Two Bedrooms	150 per apartment
Apartment, Three Bedrooms	300 per apartment
Assembly Hall	3 per seat
Automotive Repair Shops/Tire Shops	60 per bay
Bakery	15 per 10 sq. ft.
Banks	30 per 200 sq. ft.
Barber Shop	30 per chair
Beauty Salon	60 per chair
Boarding/Rooming House**	100 per room
Bowling Alley	30 per lane
Car Wash	
Wand Wash	125 per bay
Hand Wash	400 per location
Automated	7000 per site
Church without Day Care or Kindergarten	2 per seat
Clinic	40 per exam room
Convenience Store	350 per 1000 sq. ft.
Correctional Institution/Prison	100 per bed
Country Club, Recreation Facilities Only	25 per member
Day Care Center with Meals	8 per person
Dental Office	60 per chair
Department Store	per 100 sq. ft.
Dormitories	80 per room
Drug Store	700 per store
Fitness Center	6 per 100 sq. ft.
Food Service Establishments with Restrooms and Kitchen**	
1) Restaurant, less than 24-hours per day operation	20 per seat
2) Cafeteria, less than 24 hours per day operation	35 per seat
3) Restaurant, 24 hours per day operation	25 per seat
4) Drive-in Restaurant	50 per car space
5) Carry-out Only	20 per 100 sq. ft.
Grocery Stores	5 per 100 sq. ft.
Hospital	250 per bed
Hotel/Motel, No Kitchen	100 per room
Kindergarten, No Meals	10 per person
Kitchen for Day Care, Kindergarten	10 per person
Laundry, Self-service	135 per machine
Laundry, Commercial	950 per machine

Library	60 per 1000 sq. ft.
Mobile Home Park	300 per site
Nail Salon	40 per chair
Nursing Home	95 per bed
Office	15 per 200 sq. ft.
Physician's Office	50 per exam room
<b>Schools:</b>	
1) Day, Restrooms and Cafeteria	6 per person
2) Day, Restrooms, Gym and Cafeteria	10 per person
Seafood Market	120 per 100 sq. ft.
Stadium	1 per seat
Tavern, Bar, Cocktail Lounge – No Meals	10 per seat
Theater	2 per seat
Veterinary Hospital – Non Boarding	70 per room
Veterinary Hospital - Boarding	200 per room
Warehouse	3 per 1000 sq. ft.

\*\* Add 500 gallons per machine to amount indicated if laundry or dish washing machines are to be installed.

**(F) Reclaimed Water Project Connection Fee.**

**(1) Fee Schedule.** A connection fee for funding reclaimed water projects shall be paid to the Revenue Department prior to the connection of any new service line to the City's water and/or sewer system. The fee shall be computed at the rate of \$600.00 per residential unit, or equivalent residential unit, or any fraction thereof.

**(2) Determination of Equivalent Residential Units.** The determination of water consumption for the purpose of determining the number of equivalent residential units shall be based on the guidelines in Section 4 (E) (4) Water Use Standards, of this Article U.

**(3) Applicability of Fee.** The Reclaimed Water Project Connection Fee shall be charged for any water meter service application submitted to the City on or after January 1, 2010.

**(4) Exemption.** The Reclaimed Water Project Connection Fee shall not be charged for a meter serving an owner occupied dwelling located inside the City which is served by existing water and sewer lines not requiring a line extension, and which is in an area not covered by an unexpired Water and Sewer Agreement.

**Section 5. WATER AND SEWER ADDITIONAL CONNECTION FEES**

**(A) Additional Connection Fees.** All new customers connecting to the City's water or sewer system within a service area for which an additional connection fee has been established shall pay such fee prior to connecting to the water or sewer system. The additional connection fee shall be based on a residential unit, or equivalent residential unit, or any fraction thereof. The amount of the fee shall be determined by the terms of the water and sewer agreement if the location to be served is covered by a current agreement. If the location is not covered by a current water and sewer agreement, the additional connection fee per residential unit, or equivalent residential unit shall be as follows:

SERVICE AREA	WATER	SEWER
Islands		\$975.00
Chatham Parkway	\$350.00	\$750.00
Crossroads Business Center		\$375.00
Dutch Island	\$740.00	\$1,980.00
Georgetown		\$700.00
Savannah International Airport	\$365.00	\$2,300.00
Hoover Creek (Lift Station)		\$330.00
Hoover Creek (Gravity Sewers)		\$695.00
Lynes Parkway Industrial Center	\$110.00	\$80.00
Mistwood	\$100.00	\$125.00
Day's Inn (Airport)		\$110.00
Southbridge		\$375.00
Dean Forest Corridor		\$50.00
Gateway Sewerage Treatment System		\$570.00
Betz Creek Lift Station		\$500.00
Westgate Boulevard		\$2,200.00
Ross Road from Ogeechee to Lots 17/7		\$2,200.00
Savannah Industrial Park		\$2,165.00
<b>President Street Plant</b>		<b>\$2,250.00</b>
Whitemarsh Island	\$380.00	
Sasser Development on Johnny Mercer Blvd	\$380.00	\$230.00
Sasser Lift Station		\$375.00
Staley Avenue		\$1,500.00
East 60th Lane from Cedar east to Lots 5/8 Summerside		\$1,080.00
Homer Ave from Calhoun to dead end	\$1,080.00	
Calhoun Street from Homer to Stark	\$1,080.00	
Archer Street from Homer to unopened right-of-way	\$1,080.00	
Mohawk Street from Rio Road to Apache	\$1,080.00	\$1,080.00
Rio Road from Shawnee to Mohawk and from Abercorn south to end of street	\$1,080.00	\$1,080.00
Apache Road from midway between Shawnee and Mohawk to Dutchtown Road	\$1,080.00	
Dutchtown Road from Apache to 225 feet east of Apache	\$1,080.00	
Dutchtown Road from Quail Hollow Road to a point 225 feet east		\$1,080.00
White Bluff Avenue - Coffee Bluff to west end	\$1,080.00	\$1,080.00
Coffee Villa Road from Coffee Bluff to west end	\$1,080.00	\$1,080.00
Ben Kell Road from Coffee Bluff to dead end	\$1,080.00	\$1,080.00
Mitchell Street from Canal to ACL Blvd		\$1,080.00
Rose Dhu Avenue - Waubun to Rose Dhu Road	\$1,080.00	
Rose Dhu Rd from Rose Dhu Ave to Rose Dhu Island Rd	\$1,080.00	
Blossom/Elmdale Avenue	\$420.00	
Vernon Crossroads		\$1,625.00
Dovetail Lift Station (Pump Station 107)		\$300.00

SERVICE AREA	WATER	SEWER
Crossroads Sewage Plant		\$2,300.00
Godley West	\$70.00	\$345.00
Walton Street from Pendleton Street to Mitchell Street		\$1,080.00
Walton Street from Lloyd Street to Dead End		\$1,080.00
Hutchinson Island – County Fee	\$2,238.00	
Pooler	\$1,415.00	\$1,272.00
Georgetown/Gateway 12" Waterline Connector	\$600.00	
Sweetwater	\$400.00	\$290.00
Bradley Plantation	\$290.00	\$375.00
Bryan County	\$900.00	
Effingham County	\$900.00	
Port Wentworth	\$1,062.00	
Gateway Village, Canebrake, Redding	\$380.00	\$570.00
Vallambrosa	\$585.00	\$1,065.00
New Hampstead/Grainger area	\$500.00	\$700.00
Remington Park	\$700.00	\$1,300.00
Savannah River Landings		\$1,500.00
Hutchinson Island – City	\$1,000.00	\$1,600.00
Southwest Quadrant – Outside City Limits	\$1,850.00	\$750.00
Southwest Quadrant – Inside City Limits	\$700.00	\$500.00
Hutchinson Island – SEDA area	\$1,200.00	\$1,700.00
Godley West – Benton Boulevard	\$320.00	
Mega-Site/Dean Forest	\$480.00	

**(B) Determination of Equivalent Residential Units.** The determination of a structure's equivalent residential units shall be based on estimated water consumption or square footage. For the purposes herein, water consumption of 300 gallons per day or a floor space of 3,000 square feet shall be the equivalent of one residential unit. The method which results in the higher number of equivalent residential units shall be applied.

**(C) Determination of Water Consumption.** The determination of water consumption shall be based on the guidelines in Section 4 (E) (4) Water Use Standards, of this Article U. If guidelines are not provided for a particular application, the estimated water consumption shall be as calculated by the Water and Sewer Administrator.

**(D) Service Area Map.** A map shall be maintained by the Water and Sewer Bureau on which the service areas with additional connection fees are shown.

**(E) Exemption.** The water or sewer additional connection fee shall not be charged for a meter serving an owner occupied dwelling located inside the City which is served by existing water and sewer lines not requiring a line extension, and which is in an area not covered by an unexpired Water and Sewer Agreement.

**Section 6. ALTERNATE NEW EMPLOYER ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT RATES**

The City Manager is authorized to waive water tap-in, sewer tap-in, and water and sewer additional connection fees for economic development purposes for large employers which connect to the water and sewer system after January 1, 1998.

For purposes of this section, *large employers* means employers making new connections to the water and sewer system which reasonably expect, within one year of commencement of operation, to employ 200 or more full-time, year-round employees with medical and retirement benefits.

As a condition of such connection fee waivers, such large employers must enter into a water and sewer service agreement which will specify the conditions of the waiver, including agreement by the employer to be subject to the Alternate Large Employer Economic Development Rates for on-going water and sewer service.

In the case of new industrial employers which meet the usage requirements to qualify for Industrial Water Rates, the City Manager is further authorized, after approval by City Council, to enter into water rate agreements that provide for a fixed Industrial Water Rate during a temporary introductory period not to exceed three years in length. The Alternate Large Employer Economic Development Rates for water and sewer service are as follows:

**(A) Water- Inside City**

Meter size	Min Charge	CCF Allowance	Charge per CCF for first 15 CCFs	Charge per CCF over CCF Allowance
5/8"	\$11.06	none	\$ <del>1,791.83</del>	\$ <del>1,972.01</del>
1"	\$ <del>90.68</del> <u>92.36</u>	4,200	n/a	\$ <del>1,972.01</del>
1 1/2"	\$ <del>122.04</del> <u>124.36</u>	5,800	n/a	\$ <del>1,972.01</del>
2"	\$ <del>161.24</del> <u>164.36</u>	7,800	n/a	\$ <del>1,972.01</del>
3"	\$ <del>231.89</del> <u>236.36</u>	11,400	n/a	\$ <del>1,972.01</del>
4"	\$ <del>298.44</del> <u>304.36</u>	14,800	n/a	\$ <del>1,972.01</del>
6"	\$ <del>439.56</del> <u>448.36</u>	22,000	n/a	\$ <del>1,972.01</del>
8"	\$ <del>596.36</del> <u>608.36</u>	30,000	n/a	\$ <del>1,972.01</del>
10"	\$ <del>753.46</del> <u>768.36</u>	38,000	n/a	\$ <del>1,972.01</del>

**(B) Sewer – Inside City**

User Category	Bi-Monthly Base Charge	Charge per CCF for 1st 15 CCFs	Charge per CCF for usage over 15 CCFs
B	\$8.80	\$ <del>4,905.01</del>	\$ <del>5,285.39</del>
C	\$8.80	\$ <del>4,905.01</del>	\$ <del>5,285.39</del>



**(C) Water – Outside City**

Meter size	Min Charge	CCF Allowance	Charge per CCF for first 15 CCFs	Charge per CCF over CCF Allowance
5/8"	\$16.59	none	\$ <u>2,302.36</u>	\$ <u>2,572.63</u>
1"	\$ <u>420.06</u> <u>122.58</u>	4,200	n/a	\$ <u>2,572.63</u>
1 1/2"	\$ <u>464.02</u> <u>164.50</u>	5,800	n/a	\$ <u>2,572.63</u>
2"	\$ <u>242.22</u> <u>215.70</u>	7,800	n/a	\$ <u>2,572.63</u>
3"	\$ <u>304.38</u> <u>311.22</u>	11,400	n/a	\$ <u>2,572.63</u>
4"	\$ <u>391.42</u> <u>400.30</u>	14,800	n/a	\$ <u>2,572.63</u>
6"	\$ <u>675.74</u> <u>588.94</u>	22,000	n/a	\$ <u>2,572.63</u>
8"	\$ <u>780.54</u> <u>798.54</u>	30,000	n/a	\$ <u>2,572.63</u>
10"	\$ <u>985.34</u> <u>1008.14</u>	38,000	n/a	\$ <u>2,572.63</u>

**(D) Sewer – Outside City**

User Category	Bi-Monthly Base Charge	Charge per CCF for 1st 15 CCFs	Charge per CCF for usage over 15 CCFs
B	\$13.20	\$ <u>6,586.75</u>	\$ <u>7,457.32</u>
C	\$13.20	\$ <u>6,586.75</u>	\$ <u>7,457.32</u>

**Section 7. INDUSTRIAL WATER RATES**

Any industrial water customer served by the City’s surface water treatment plant (the “Savannah River Water System”) requiring water at an average rate in excess of 1,000,000 gallons per day for 300 or more days in a year shall pay for the quantity of water used at a rate equal to the water production cost as hereinafter defined. Each such user shall be billed at the end of each calendar month for immediate payment at a rate equal to the estimated water production cost for the month, plus the cumulative total of any unpaid water production cost for the year to the date of billing if revised estimates at the end of any such calendar month should indicate that the customer has not been billed the full water production cost in any prior month. After each calendar year and prior to March 30, each such user shall receive a final bill for the year completed on the previous December 31 based on the actual water production cost for that year as determined by an audit.

The term “water production cost” for any given period shall be deemed to mean the sum of the following items on an accrual basis divided by the actual number of gallons delivered by the Savannah River Water System during such period:

- (1) All payments to any Sinking Fund or reserve fund or other fund as may be required under any Bond Resolution adopted and approved to issue revenue bonds as a source of funds for capital expenditures for the Savannah River Water System.

(2) Interest and amortization to a maximum of \$20,000.00 per year, on money expended from CITY funds, other than the proceeds of revenue bonds, for necessary major repairs or replacements of water system facilities required to keep the system functioning reliably and efficiently at its 50 million gallon per day average rated capacity and which in accordance with good accounting practice would be capitalized. Interest and amortization on such monies shall be at the interest rate applicable to the most recent prior series of revenue bonds which served as a source of funds for necessary major capital expenditures for said water system, but the term of years applicable to amortization of the monies so expended shall be ten years.

(3) Interest and amortization on money expended from CITY funds in excess of the amounts which would result in \$20,000.00 annual charges for interest and amortization, and other than the proceeds of revenue bonds, for necessary major repairs or replacements of water system facilities required to keep the system functioning reliably and efficiently at its 50 million gallon per day average rated capacity and which in accordance with good accounting practice would be capitalized.

(4) Premiums on necessary insurance on said water plant, and

(5) The cost of operating and maintaining the water plant in a good state of repair, but excluding any item which in accordance with good accounting practice would be capitalized and excluding any item by way of depreciation or obsolescence.

The foregoing rates and charges have been determined by the Mayor and Aldermen of the City of Savannah to be reasonable in relation to the cost of producing water and providing water and sewer service and, with regard to the rates and charges specified in Sections 7, to bear a direct relation to the cost of producing and supplying water from the Savannah River Water System.

### **Section 8. REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL FEES**

**(A) Regulatory Authority.** The Savannah Code, Part 4, Chapter 2, Sections 4-2001 through 4-2034, sets forth the authority for regulating the storage, collection, and disposal of all solid waste in the City, and for levying and collecting refuse collection and disposal fees as provided herein.

**(B) Refuse Fees.** Fees and charges for collecting and disposing of solid waste within the City of Savannah are established as follows:

#### **(1) Residential**

**(a) Solid Waste Fee.** The residential solid waste collection and disposal fee for all residential property (other than commercial apartments) shall be ~~\$33.50~~ \$34.51 per month per dwelling unit, ~~\$67.00~~ \$69.02 per dwelling unit billed bi-monthly. Residential refuse collection and disposal is a mandatory government service for which payment of the fee provided herein is required.

**(b) Collection Carts; Fees.** The City will issue one refuse collection and one recycling cart to each residential unit free of charge for use in the curb-side collection program. There shall be a one-time non-refundable charge of \$50.00 for each container exceeding one requested by a resident. All carts issued by the City, including any such additional cart, shall remain the property of the City. There shall be a \$50.00 charge for each container which must be replaced because of damage caused by the resident or for which the resident is responsible. There shall be no charge for replacing a damaged cart when the resident did not cause or is not responsible for the damage.

**(c) Cart Return Fee.** A fee of \$25.00 per occurrence may be imposed for failure to remove roll-out refuse or recycling carts from the curb by 7:00 pm on the day of collection in accordance with the City of Savannah Code Section 4-2007(f).

**(d) Recycling Cart Contamination Fee.** The recycling cart contamination fee for all residents within the City limits shall be \$25.00 per occurrence following an initial courtesy notice. For the purpose of this section, contamination is defined as the placement of materials other than hard plastics (Numbers 1-7), aluminum, tin, or steel cans, paper, newsprint, magazines, junk mail, container glass, and dry cardboard in the recycling container for collection.

**(e) Recycling Credit.** Effective January 1, 2009, the Recycling Credit is repealed.

**(2) Commercial**

**(a) Commercial Waste Collection Fee.** A Commercial Waste Collection Fee shall be charged to non-residential property and commercial apartment's property owners or occupants at the rates prescribed below when such properties are served by City commercial containers. The applicable rate tier shall be determined by the aggregation of the container volumes served which are under common control of a single business entity. The City Manager is authorized to negotiate rates for governmental agencies on a cost basis.

The rates for Commercial Waste Collection services shall be as shown below:

<b>Aggregate Volume of Commercial Containers For a Single Business Entity</b>	<b>Fee per Cubic Yard</b>
2 cubic yards to 15 cubic yards	<del>\$3.90</del> <u>4.02</u>
16 cubic yards to 47 cubic yards	<del>\$3.45</del> <u>3.55</u>
48 cubic yards to 95 cubic yards	<del>\$3.05</del> <u>3.14</u>
96 cubic yards and above	<del>\$2.40</del> <u>2.47</u>
School Board	\$1.97

These collection rates apply only to those accounts paying a disposal fee. The monthly or bi-monthly service bill amount shall be the product of the applicable rate tier, container size, and service frequency.

Occupants or owners of non-residential property which is not served by commercial containers because of low solid waste quantities generated, or the inability to locate a commercial container due to physical configuration of the property, will be served by the City using roll-out carts. The collection and disposal fee for such service shall be at the same rate as the residential solid waste fee provided in Paragraph B(1) above, charged in multiples on a per-cart basis.

**(b) Collection Fee for Compactor Service**

**(i) Downtown Collection Zone.** Pursuant to Savannah Code Section 4-

2017, the solid waste collection fee for roll-off enclosed compactors located in the Downtown Collection Zone shall be \$~~5.755.92~~ per cubic yard of un-compacted container capacity, as determined by the Sanitation Bureau. The Downtown Collection Zone is bounded on the east by East Broad Street, on the west by Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard, on the north by Bay Street, and on the south by State Street.

**(ii) River Street Collection Zone.** Pursuant to Savannah Code Section 4-

2017, the solid waste collection fee for roll-off enclosed compactors located in the River Street Collection Zone shall be \$~~6.456.33~~ per cubic yard of un-compacted container capacity, as determined by the Sanitation Bureau. The River Street Collection Zone is bounded on the east by East Broad Street, on the west by Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard, on the north by the Savannah River, and on the south by Bay Street.

**(c) Commercial Waste Disposal Fee.** A Commercial Waste Disposal Fee shall be charged to all non-residential property and commercial apartment's property owners or occupants serviced by the City of Savannah at the rate of \$~~4.454.58~~ per un-compacted cubic yard.

**(d) Private Refuse Containers on Public Property.** A rental fee is established for placing privately-owned refuse containers (dumpsters, or other commercial refuse containers) in City lanes, rights-of-way, or on other public property within the City. The fee shall be \$10.00 per month or portion for each container; provided, however, that the fee for a newly-placed container during the first month and the fee for a removed container during the final month shall be \$5.00 if the container is in place for less than 15 days.

- No container shall be placed on public property without the prior approval and permitting by the City Traffic Engineering Department.
- The Sanitation Bureau shall be responsible for determining the location and owner of such containers and for initiating monthly billing of fees.
- The Finance Department shall issue bills for container rental fees and the Revenue Department shall collect the fees. Failure to pay rental fees will result in denial or revocation of permits to locate any containers on public property within the City.

**(e) Fees for Construction and Demolition Debris, Land Clearing Debris, and Bulk Container Service.** Pursuant to Savannah Code Section 4-2020, the fee to contractors or responsible persons for construction and demolition debris (C&D), land clearing debris, and bulk container service provided by the City shall be \$30.00 delivery fee per container, \$125.00 per disposal pull, and \$33.00 per ton disposal fee. A \$3.00

per day rental fee will be applied when a container exceeds ten working days without a disposal pull. The rental rate shall be \$75.00 per month for the initial 30 day period, prorated at \$2.50 per day on the 31st day and thereafter. Customers may also choose to be billed by a flat rate fee. With the flat rate fee, all deposits and applicable rental fees still apply.

Upon delivery of a C&D or bulk container, the delivery fee and first pull fee must be paid (\$155.00 total). The customer will not be billed again until a request to have the container emptied is made. After the waste has been weighed the customer shall be billed a disposal fee. All fees shall be due and payable 30 days after receipt of bill.

To ensure that the C&D waste program is successful and that all customers pay for services rendered, the Commercial Refuse Collection Administrator will attempt to enforce payment of all delinquent amounts due. The Commercial Refuse Collection Administrator is hereby granted authority to place any and all delinquent C&D waste charges which are past due for 30 days or more on the customer's utility bill.

**(3) Billing of Solid Waste Collection and Disposal Fees.** Owners or occupants of premises for which residential refuse service is available, whether a City refuse cart has been issued or not, and non-residential properties subject to fees in accordance with the provisions of this ordinance, shall be billed solid waste service charges bi-monthly in the same manner as water charges are billed.

**(4) Payment Enforcement.** Fees for *solid waste collection and disposal service* and for *solid waste disposal service* shall be due and payable in the same manner as charges for water service. The Revenue Department is authorized and empowered to discontinue the water supply of any dwelling unit or other establishment billed for said service when the charges remain unpaid after becoming due and payable, and to take other appropriate collection action, including placing a lien on the benefiting property and entering suit to collect. Any person who does not pay such service fees when due and payable and/or any benefiting property shall be subject to withholding/denial of any discretionary City service, benefit, permit, or contract.

**(C) Refuse Dumping Fees.** The disposal/tipping fee for the City Resource Recovery Plant and for any City-operated sanitary landfill shall be \$60.00 per ton. Additionally, a differential landfill dumping fee for tires, appliances, mixed loads, etc., that cannot be delivered to the Resource Recovery Plant shall be charged at the following conversion factors:

Truck tires	3.3 x Standard Fee	Appliances	1.7 x Standard Fee
Auto tires	3.4 x Standard Fee	Mixed Loads	1.44 x Standard Fee

City residents may use the Bacon Park waste transfer facility to dispose of normal household and yard trash free of charge. This facility is reserved for City residents to dispose of excess dry trash from their *own premises*. As used here, the term *own*

*premises* means the house and grounds of the City resident's place of dwelling. The term does not cover any other property owned by the resident.

**(D) Special Trash Collection Fees**

**(1) Fee.** This special collection fee shall apply to residential special trash collection services, unscheduled bulk item collection, yard waste in plastic bags, refuse cart overflows, unacceptable materials in recycling carts, yard waste in quantities exceeding the fifteen bag limit, or other services not provided as described under Savannah Code Section 4-2011 or taking more than five minutes to collect regardless of schedule.

**(a) Residential.** In accordance with Savannah Code Section 4-2011, fees for residential special trash collection service shall be based on crew hours required to make the collection as determined by the Sanitation Bureau. There shall be a minimum fee of \$25.00 for the first quarter hour of crew time and an additional fee at the rate of \$7.00 per quarter hour thereafter. There shall be a minimum fee of \$25.00 for unscheduled bulk item or special trash collection. A minimum fee of \$25.00 per occurrence shall be charged for garbage placed outside the City issued green roll-out cart and for recyclable materials placed outside the City issued black and yellow recycling cart for collection.

**(b) Non-residential.** The fee for "special order" collections from non-residential, account holders shall be a minimum fee of \$25.00 for the first quarter hour of crew time and an additional fee at the rate of \$25.00 per quarter hour thereafter.

**(2) Billing/Payment.** Fees due for special trash collection service may be billed along with the fee for water service, and shall be due and payable under the same conditions as fees for water service.

(On February 26, 1998, City Council amended this Section 8 of the Revenue Ordinance of 1998 to make consistent with the Refuse Collection and Disposal Ordinance, Part 4, Chapter 2, Sections 4-2001 through 4-2034, and to establish amended rates, effective March 1, 1998.)

**Section 9. UTILITY DEPOSITS**

In accordance with Savannah Code Section 5-1006, utility (water, sewer, refuse) deposits shall be required as follows for locations both inside and outside the City:

<b>Meter Size</b>	<b>Deposit</b>
(1) For each 5/8 inch meter . . . . .	\$100.00
(2) For each 1 inch meter . . . . .	\$115.00
(3) For each 1 ½ inch meter . . . . .	\$130.00
(4) For each 2 inch meter . . . . .	\$145.00
(5) For each 3 inch meter . . . . .	\$160.00
(6) For each 4 inch meter . . . . .	\$175.00
(7) For each 6 inch meter . . . . .	\$190.00
(8) For each 8 inch meter . . . . .	\$205.00
(9) For each 10 inch meter . . . . .	\$220.00
(10) Sewer-only (per unit) . . . . .	\$100.00
(11) Problem location and/or customer Regular Deposit history of delinquency/theft of services . . . . .	+ \$250.00
(12) Fire hydrant meter . . . . .	\$1,000.00*

\* \$100.00 of this deposit is a non-refundable administration fee. Provided, however, that the deposit may be waived under any one of the following circumstances:

- Where the residential premises is occupied by the owner thereof;
- Where a customer lives in a rented premises and owns real property elsewhere within the City's utility service area, and an active City utility account for such owned property is in the customer's name;
- Where a customer lives in a rented premises if such customer has received a homeowner waiver of deposit for the preceding five years or more, provided that the customer has not had a cut-off for non-payment during that five-year period.

Provided, further, that the Utility Services Administrator shall be authorized to enter into agreement(s) with the United States military services to waive initial utility deposits for military personnel. Deposit waivers shall be limited to active duty military personnel who are to be stationed or who are to remain stationed within Chatham County for a period exceeding 120 days and who are not known to be credit risks. Such agreement(s) shall provide for the military installation to assist the City in collecting money owed for City utility services by military personnel.

An existing utility customer who paid a deposit to the City in the amount required at the time to initiate City utility services shall not be required to increase the deposit. Upon moving from one residence to another, an existing utility customer who paid a deposit to the City in the amount required at the time shall not be required to increase the



deposit, provided the time between termination of service at the old residence and initiation of service at the new residence is less than thirty days.

**Section 10. UTILITY DELINQUENCY AND ENFORCEMENT FEES**

**(A) Delinquency fee.** In the event that any utility service charge is not paid and *in the hands of the City Treasurer's Office* within ten calendar days after the due date specified on the bill, such charge shall be subject to the addition of a basic delinquency fee in the amount of \$5.00 or 10% of the current amount due, whichever is greater. Failure to receive a bill does not exempt a customer from having late fees or enforcement fees assessed.

**(B) Administrative Processing Fees.** Any account not paid in full within 17 days of the due date will be charged a \$50.00 administrative processing fee and will be subject to disconnection at any time until the account has been paid in full.

**(C) Enforcement fees.** The following enforcement fees shall be paid by the user cumulatively for each action taken to prevent unauthorized use of water and restore service. Further, in the event that water service has been cut-off for nonpayment of a City Utility bill in accordance with Savannah Code Section 5-1022, or utility service is terminated for unauthorized use, water service shall not be restored until unpaid utility charges, delinquency fees, administrative processing fees, and any other enforcement fees are satisfied.

Locking meter	\$60.00
Broken padlock	\$25.00
Broken curb-cock lock	\$25.00
Broken curb-cock	\$60.00
Plugging meter	\$75.00
Removal of meter	\$100.00
Removal of straight line	\$125.00
Use of water prior to meter installation	\$125.00
Removal of unauthorized relocated meter	\$150.00
Cutting off water at main	\$300.00

The costs of any damage to a fire hydrant caused by unauthorized use shall be paid by the user. When a meter dial has been removed and water usage is not registered, a fee of \$25.00 shall be paid by the benefiting customer. When unregistered water is used, whether from dial removal, straight line, or other reason, water and sewer charges shall be levied to cover estimated water usage.

**(C) Unpaid service charges and fees constitute lien on property.** In any case where utility service charges and fees have been billed and remain unpaid after the due date has passed and prescribed payment enforcement actions have been taken by the City, such unpaid service charges and fees shall become the responsibility of the property owner. The Utility Services Administrator is authorized to secure such unpaid fees and charges by recording a lien on the property to which service has been provided

and/or is available. Provided, however, that where the occupant of rental property has posted a utility deposit with the City, liability for payment of utility charges and fees shall be the sole responsibility of such rental occupant and shall not constitute a lien on the property.

#### **Section 11. UTILITY CREDITS**

**(A) Elderly/Low Income.** An elderly/low income credit (billing reduction) of \$16.00 bi-monthly per dwelling unit shall be available to qualifying heads of household in whose name a residential inside- City utility account (water, sewer, refuse) is listed. Qualifying heads of household must have an attained age of 65 years and must have a total household income not exceeding poverty levels for the number of occupants in the household as derived from guidelines of the State of Georgia Division of Aging Services. Eligibility for the old age/low income credit shall be determined under City contract with a non-profit community organization capable of screening applicants according to the established criteria and reporting eligibility to the Revenue Department. Eligibility shall be reestablished annually.

**(B) Disabled/Low Income.** A disabled/low income credit (billing reduction of \$16.00 bi-monthly per dwelling unit shall be available to qualifying individuals with a residential inside-City utility account (water, sewer, refuse). Qualifying individuals will be between the ages of 18 and 64 years of age; must have a total household income not exceeding poverty levels derived from the State of Georgia's poverty guidelines as established year to year; the utility bill must be in the name of the disabled individual or the disabled individual must be head of household; and the disabled individual must be receiving Supplemental Security Income (SSI). Eligibility for the disabled/low income credit shall be determined under City contract with a non-profit community organization capable of screening applicants according to established criteria and reporting eligibility to the Revenue Department. Eligibility shall be reestablished annually.

#### **Section 12. BILLING OF UNDERPAYMENT; REFUND OF OVERPAYMENT**

If evidence provided by a customer or appearing in City records shows that a utility account has been billed and paid incorrectly as a result of error by either the customer or the City, the following corrective actions are authorized:

***Under-billed and under-paid.*** Additional billing of amounts due shall be limited to the actual undercharges for a period of three years prior to the date of discovery and correction of the error.

***Over-billed and over-paid.*** Refund shall be limited to the actual amount of overpayment for a period of three years prior to the date of discovery and correction of the error.

Any additional billing and any refund under such circumstances shall be without interest.

**Section 13. EXEMPTIONS FROM WATER AND SEWER CONNECTION FEES**

**(A) Enterprise Zones.** Water Tap-in Fees under Section 4(D), Sewer Tap-in Fees under Section 4(E), and Water and Sewer Additional Connection Fees under Section 5 of this Article may be waived for new connections to the City's Water and Sewer System within Enterprise Zones that have been designated under and are consistent with the requirements of the Savannah, Georgia Code of Ordinances, Division II – Code of General Ordinances; Part 8 – Planning and Regulation of Development; Chapter 10. Enterprise Zones. This waiver shall not apply to water meter fees provided under Section 4(A) of this Article.

**(B) Federal Grant Funded Projects.** Water Tap-in Fees under Section 4 (D), Sewer Tap-in Fees under Section 4 (E), and Water and Sewer Additional Connection Fees under Section 5 of this Article, shall be waived for projects in which the City is providing funding from a grant provided by the federal government, and for which such waiver will be counted toward meeting any local match requirement under the terms of such grant. This waiver shall not apply to water meter fees provided under Section 4 (A) of this Article.