



No. 1 Fort Baker Road  
Sausalito, CA 94966-0039

# Commercial, Institutional & Industrial Rates

The sewer service charge payable by non-residential customers is calculated individually based upon the volume and strength of the customer's sewage, measured in EDUs, and the annual sewer charge rate. EDUs are based on the customer's annualized water usage in 100 cubic feet water units multiplied by the customer's applicable loading factor. Using your water usage data from the summer and winter of 2009 and your assigned loading factor, the estimated sewer charge for your business will be:

NOTE: These charges are projections only and will vary based on the actual water usage from your Marin Municipal Water District water bills and dividing the gallon per day conversion factor of 14.64.

## Notice of Public Hearing

The Public Hearing at which the Board of Directors of the Sausalito-Marin City Sanitary District will consider and decide upon the proposed new sewer service charge is scheduled to occur:

**July 28, 2010, 7:30 PM**

**Sausalito City Council Chambers 420 Litho Street, Sausalito, CA 94965**

Please contact us if you have any questions or comments about the proposed new sewer rates. You may:

- Address the Directors at the Public Hearing on the date and at the time and location listed above.
- Phone: (415) 332-0244
- E-mail: [joyce@smcsd.net](mailto:joyce@smcsd.net)
- Write: SMCSD: P.O. Box 39, Sausalito, CA 94966-0039



# Notice to Non-residential Property Owners of Proposed New Sewer Service Charges

## Why New Rates are Needed

As part of a multi-year capital improvement program to upgrade our sewer system, portions of which are 30 to 60 years old, we must upgrade our treatment facilities to improve their capacity and avoid spills of sewage into the Bay.

Because of past spills, the Sausalito-Marín City Sanitary District (SMCSD) – along with other local sewage agencies – are under a legal Order from United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Regional Water Quality Control Board requiring us to make essential environmental, health and safety upgrades to local sewer and treatment systems.

Making these upgrades protects the environment and the Bay, protects the health and safety of our residents, prevents future fines, and avoids costly lawsuits and settlements that can result in greater costs to local ratepayers. Without these new rates the District would not be able to make the required upgrades and would be subject to legal and administrative enforcement, potentially hundreds of thousands of dollars in fines and judgments, and these would substantially increase the financial cost to ratepayers.

## How Your Rate is Calculated

Rates are based on two factors, the quantity of flow and its strength (cost to transport and treat).

**Flow.** Flow rates are based on a factor called Equivalent Dwelling Units, or EDUs. One EDU is equal to the typical water use by a single-family home or dwelling unit each day.

	Current Annual Charge	2010-2011	2011-2012	2012-2013	2013-2014
City of Sausalito	\$388	\$469	\$563	\$647	\$725
Unincorporated Areas	\$438.66	\$521	\$616	\$701	\$780

**Strength and Loading Factors.** The strength is based on domestic wastewater produced by residential customers. The residential strength factor is the standard against which higher strength commercial and industrial sewage discharges is measured. Thus, the loading factor for residential customers is 1 and each non-residential customer's premises is assigned a loading factor, which represents the strength characteristics of the wastewater discharged by the premises. The loading factors are Low – 1.0 (e.g. offices); Medium – 1.7 (e.g. delicatessens, markets); and High – 2.4 (e.g. restaurants, bakeries).

If the SMCSD determines that these loadings do not accurately represent the strength characteristics of the wastewater discharge from a particular property, a loading factor which represents the actual conditions is established. Unincorporated customers pay an additional charge for collection system maintenance and repair.

## How to Comment About or Protest the New Proposed Rates

Protests, comments, and other written materials may be submitted to the District any time before the end of the Public Hearing. Protests can be mailed or hand delivered to the District Office or presented at the hearing. **Protests against the proposal must be submitted in writing, must identify the owner(s) of the property or properties for which the protest is entered, and must be signed by the property owner(s).** If written protests against the proposed sewer service charge rates are presented by a majority of property owners of the parcels affected, the District will not approve the proposed new sewer service rates.

**For more information visit: [www.smcsd.net](http://www.smcsd.net)**