



Water Rates and Service Charges for Irrigation Accounts

Charges for landscape irrigation accounts are made up of the following five components. Effective date: **July 1st 2022**.

1. Readiness -to-Serve Charge

This charge stays the same every month and covers the costs of maintaining your water meter, your account, and billing activity. The charge varies by meter size. Typical sizes for irrigation meters are 5/8", 1", 1.5" and 2". The monthly meter charges for these size meters are shown below:

Meter Size	Monthly Meter Ready-to-Serve
5/8"	\$12.38
1"	\$13.27
1.5"	14.15
2"	\$16.55

2. Quantity Charge

Water is charged based on the volume consumed, in units of 100 cubic feet, or "CCF". Please note:
1 billing unit = 100 cubic feet = 748 gallons.

Tier	
Tier 1 (≤100% of budget)	\$11.50
Tier 2 (101%-150% of budget)	\$16.86
Tier 3 (150% & above)	\$22.11

3. Infrastructure Reinvestment Fee

The newest change to your water bill is an Infrastructure Reinvestment Fee that will support reinvestment in critical infrastructure projects. Similar to the quantity charge, the infrastructure reinvestment fee is also charged volumetrically in three tiers.

Tier	Inside City (per ccf)
Tier 1 (≤100% of budget)	\$9.03
Tier 2 (101%-150% of budget)	\$11.73
Tier 3 (150% & above)	\$14.21

4. Elevation Surcharge: This charge covers the additional energy costs of pumping water to customers residing at higher elevations. Pressure zones above approximately 180 feet. Not all customers receive this charge.

Elevation Zone	(per CCF)
<i>Lift Zone 1</i>	\$0.19
<i>Lift Zone 2</i>	\$0.38
<i>Lift Zone 3</i>	\$0.69

5. Rate Stabilization Fee: This charge is held in a separate fund to mitigate risk associated with implementing the more volumetric based rate structure that encourages conservation. This charge is \$1.00 per CCF for both inside and outside city customers.

The quantity charge and infrastructure reinvestment fee for all irrigation accounts will be based on a "water budget" which is the estimated volume of water needed to maintain landscaping in a healthy and thriving condition. Each irrigation account will be assigned its own budget based on the size of the landscape being irrigated, weather, and other factors. Landscape water budgets, like plant water requirements, vary seasonally and are highest in summer and lowest in winter. You can go to our water calculator web page to determine your water budget for a given site. You will need to enter the square footage of irrigated area. <http://www.cityofsantacruz.com/government/city-departments/water/monthly-water-costs-calculator/landscape-water-budgets>