



TOWN OF AKRON | WATER/SEWER TAP PERMIT APPLICATION

Main Avenue, Akron, CO 80720 | Phone 970.345.2624 | Fax 970.345.2617

www.townofakron.com | Office hours: Monday-Friday 7:30 AM - 5:00 PM

Welcome to our Municipal Sewer and Water Tap Fees page, where we outline the associated costs for accessing essential utility services. A tap fee is a one-time charge imposed by the municipality to cover the expenses related to connecting a property to the local sewer and water systems. This fee encompasses not only the physical tap into the existing infrastructure but also includes system impact and plant expansion costs. It is important to note that these fees go beyond mere connection and cover the expenses associated with providing additional water supply and services to the new properties entering the utility network. This comprehensive approach ensures the sustainability and efficiency of our municipal water and sewer systems, benefiting both existing and newly connected properties.

WATER TAP FEES (Effective 03.01.24)

Water Tap Size	Tap Fee	Water Availability and Plant Expansion Fee	Total
3/4"	\$2000.00	\$7,375.00	\$9,375.00
1"	\$2200.00	\$14,487.50	\$16,687.50
1 ½ "	\$2400.00	\$35,100.00	\$37,500.00
2" – 6"	\$2600.00	Will be priced by assessment	Will be priced by assessment

SEWER TAP FEES (Effective 03.01.24)

For Water Tap Size:	Tap Fee	Total
3/4" - 1"	\$7,500.00	\$7,500.00
1 ½" and larger	Will be priced by assessment	Will be priced by assessment

For residential properties, a typical tap size is 3/4", representing the standard connection to our municipal sewer and water systems. It's important to note that the town does not provide recommendations on tap sizes, as the specific requirements depend on the anticipated water usage of the property. We strongly advise new property/building owners to collaborate with their builder or architect to accurately assess and calculate the anticipated gallons of water usage. This collaborative effort ensures that the chosen tap size aligns with the property's needs and facilitates an efficient and reliable connection to the municipal water and sewer services. By working closely with professionals in the planning and construction process, property owners can tailor their tap size to their specific requirements, contributing to the overall effectiveness of the utility infrastructure.

FEES EXPLAINED

Understanding Tap Sizes

Water Tap Size:

- The water tap size refers to the diameter of the pipe that connects a property to the municipal water main. Common sizes range from $\frac{3}{4}$ inch for residential homes to several inches for large commercial or industrial facilities.
- The size of the water tap determines the volume of water that can flow into the property, with larger taps allowing for higher water usage.

WATER TAP FEES

In the context of municipal water utilities, the Water Availability Fee and the Plant Expansion Fee are charges imposed to cover the costs associated with providing water service to new developments or expanding existing services. Here's a detailed explanation of each:

Water Availability Fee

Purpose: The Water Availability Fee is charged to new developments or properties requesting connection to the municipal water system. Its primary purpose is to ensure that the infrastructure needed to deliver water (like pipelines, reservoirs, and pumping stations) is adequately funded and maintained.

Key Points:

1. **Infrastructure Funding:** This fee helps cover the costs associated with the installation and maintenance of the water distribution network that serves new customers.
2. **Equitable Cost Distribution:** By charging new users, municipalities can ensure that the costs of expanding the water system are shared among those who directly benefit from the new infrastructure, rather than existing customers bearing all the expenses.
3. **System Sustainability:** It aids in maintaining a sustainable and reliable water supply system by ensuring that there are sufficient funds to expand capacity as demand grows.

Plant Expansion Fee

Purpose: The Plant Expansion Fee, sometimes known as the Capacity Fee, is charged to fund the expansion of the water treatment facilities necessary to meet increased demand. This fee ensures that the water treatment plants can handle the additional capacity required by new users.

Key Points:

1. **Treatment Capacity:** This fee supports the expansion of water treatment plants, ensuring that they have the capacity to treat the additional water required by new developments.
2. **Quality Assurance:** By expanding treatment facilities, municipalities can maintain the quality of water service and compliance with regulatory standards as the customer base grows.
3. **Future Planning:** It allows for better long-term planning and investment in infrastructure to meet future demand without compromising service levels for existing customers.

How These Fees Work Together

Both the Water Availability Fee and the Plant Expansion Fee are crucial for the sustainable growth of municipal water services. As cities and towns expand, these fees help ensure that the necessary infrastructure and treatment capabilities are developed concurrently with new housing or commercial developments.

- **Revenue Source:** They provide a significant revenue source for capital projects that expand and enhance the water utility infrastructure.
- **Growth Management:** They are tools for managing growth, ensuring that development is aligned with the availability of critical water resources and infrastructure.

Implementation

1. **Assessment:** The fees are generally assessed during the permitting process for new developments. The amount can vary based on factors such as the size of the development, expected water usage, and local policies.
2. **Use of Funds:** The collected fees are strictly allocated to our water and wastewater enterprise funds, these funds are used for water and wastewater operations and capital maintenance and improvements, such as purchasing additional water shares, constructing new water mains, expanding treatment facilities, or upgrading existing infrastructure.
3. **Transparency and Regulation:** The Town of Akron adheres to the State of Colorado regulations and transparent policies governing how these fees are calculated and used, ensuring accountability and fairness.

Conclusion

Water Availability Fees and Plant Expansion Fees are essential mechanisms for funding the growth and maintenance of municipal water system. By imposing these fees on new developments, municipalities can ensure that their water infrastructure keeps pace with demand, thereby providing reliable and high-quality water services to all customers.

SEWER TAP FEES

A sewer tap fee is often based on the size of the water tap because the water tap size provides an indication of the potential water usage and, consequently, the amount of wastewater that will be generated and discharged into the sewer system. Here's a detailed explanation of this relationship:

Definition:

- A sewer tap fee is a charge imposed by the municipality to connect a property to the public sewer system. This fee helps cover the costs associated with the installation and maintenance of the sewer infrastructure.

Basis of Calculation:

1. **Correlation with Water Usage:**
 - The water tap size is a proxy for water usage. Larger water taps typically indicate higher water consumption, which in turn suggests higher volumes of wastewater that will need to be treated by the sewer system.

- By using the water tap size as a basis for the sewer tap fee, municipalities can proportionally allocate the costs of sewer infrastructure based on the expected demand each connection will place on the system.

2. Infrastructure Impact:

- Properties with larger water taps generally require more robust sewer infrastructure to handle the increased wastewater flow. This can include larger pipes, more extensive sewer networks, and greater capacity at wastewater treatment plants.
- The fee reflects the impact that a new or upgraded connection will have on the sewer system, ensuring that those who contribute more to the system's load also contribute more to its maintenance and expansion.

Calculation Examples

1. Residential Property:

- A typical residential property might have a ¾ inch tap. The sewer tap fee for such a property would be lower because the expected wastewater generation is relatively small.

2. Commercial Property:

- A commercial property, such as a restaurant or office building, might have a 1 ½" inch or larger water tap. The sewer tap fee for this property would be higher to account for the significantly greater volume of wastewater expected.

Benefits of this Approach

Equity and Fairness:

- By basing sewer tap fees on water tap sizes, municipalities ensure a fair distribution of costs. Properties that are likely to generate more wastewater contribute proportionately to the infrastructure costs.

Encourages Efficient Usage:

- This fee structure can incentivize property owners to consider their water usage and potential wastewater generation, potentially encouraging more efficient and sustainable water use practices.

Conclusion

Linking sewer tap fees to water tap sizes is a practical and equitable approach to managing the costs of sewer infrastructure. It aligns the fees with the anticipated demand on the sewer system, ensuring that those who use more resources pay a fair share for their impact. This method helps municipalities maintain and expand their sewer systems in a sustainable manner while promoting responsible water usage among property owners.



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Date of application: _____

Property Owner's Full Name: _____

Property Owner's Address: _____

Owner's Phone: _____ Owner's Email: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Applicant's Full Name: _____

Applicant's Address: _____

Applicant's Phone: _____ Applicant's Email: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Property Address: _____

Building Permit #: Residential Commercial Industrial

Estimated Water Demand (gallons/day): _____ Tap Size: _____

Start Date for Construction: _____

Please initial to show that you fully understand the following permitting stipulations:

_____ The meter pit, tap, and meter must be installed by the Town of Akron or their designee.

_____ The owner/contractor is responsible for all service line installations from the tap(s).

_____ The Town of Akron must be given two weeks' notice to schedule the installation of the tap(s).

_____ This application must be submitted and paid for with or before the building permit.

_____ Purchased tap(s) must be installed within 12 months of purchase; if tap is not installed within 12 months, you will be required to pay the cost difference for installation at the current rate at the time of installation.

Applicant's Signature indicating, under penalty of perjury that, to the best of the applicant's knowledge, the foregoing is true, correct, and complete.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Signed by (Please check box that applies):

Property Owner Contractor

If you have any questions regarding your tap(s), please contact the Town of Akron at 970-345-2624.

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

Permit #:

Date Received:

Fee Paid:

Staff Initials:

Approved by:

Date:

Notes: