

TOWN OF LITCHFIELD, CONNECTICUT

WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY

FY 2026 RESOLUTION OF SEWER USAGE AND CONNECTION CHARGES

Be it resolved that:

1. The schedule of sewer usage and connection charges set forth below is hereby adopted by the Water Pollution Control Authority of the Town of Litchfield, Connecticut effective upon publication as required by Connecticut General Statutes Sec. 7-255.
2. The Chairman of the Water Pollution Control Authority or his designee is authorized and directed to bill for such sewer usage charges for the current fiscal year billing cycle (July 1 to June 30) and annually thereafter due October 1st of each year until revised by the Water Pollution Control Authority.
3. For those sewer users for whom the sewer usage charge is determined by the number of gallons or cubic feet of usage, the billing may be estimated based upon water consumption reported during the previous fiscal year preceding the October 1st of each year. However, if the sewer user claims that only a portion of the water usage is discharged to the sewerage treatment system, the sewer user may install and maintain a separate water meter at his/her own expense to measure separately the portion of the water usage that is discharged to the sewage treatment system. The separate water meter shall be read by authorized personnel of the Water Pollution Control Authority.
4. For a use requiring metered usage where the sewer user is not a customer of the Aquarion Water Company, the sewer user shall install and maintain a water meter at his/her own expense to measure the portion of water usage that is discharged to the sewer. The water meter shall be installed in accordance with the standards of the Aquarion Water Company. The water meter shall be read by authorized personnel of the Water Pollution Control Authority on or about July 1st each year.
5. For a use requiring metered usage where water usage experience cannot be determined, meters have been bypassed or are inoperative, or for new or changed sewer uses, the sewer usage charge may be based upon engineering estimates of water usage. Such estimates shall be subject to audit and adjustments.
6. For a use requiring metered usage, either the user or the Water Pollution Control Authority may request an audit. If the amount charged as determined by the audit differs significantly from the amount as billed, then the difference shall be added to or subtracted from the charge for the next billing period.
7. All sewer usage charges are the responsibility of the owner(s) of record of the property. Unpaid sewer usage charges will become a lien against the property and will be subject to interest charges. Pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes Section 7-258, the WPCA shall charge interest on late payments at a rate of 1.5% per month (18% per year);
8. Newly connected sewer users shall be charged a pro rata amount of the applicable annual user charge for each month or portion thereof of sewer use.

SCHEDULE OF ANNUAL SEWER USAGE CHARGES

Basic sanitary sewage units will be charged \$424.00 per annum for the fiscal year beginning July 1st of 2025 and ending June 30th of 2026. The same rate shall apply annually thereafter, until rates are revised by the WPCA.

- Single family dwellings
- Individual apartment or condominium units
- Home industries employing less than four (4) outside employees

Commercial and public building users will be charged \$12.11 per 1,000 gallons of metered annual usage of metered annual usage (depending on type of meter), subject to a minimum charge of \$424.00. A meter for measuring water usage that discharges into the sanitary sewer is required.

- Office units
- Industrial facilities
- Day care, child care centers
- Retail units with or without public restrooms
- Schools (public or private)
- Churches
- Firehouses
- Hotels and motels
- Health spas, gymnasiums or sports facilities with showers
- Restaurants, night clubs, taverns and clubs
- Commercial laundries and Laundromats
- Nursing homes
- Commercial food preparation or caterers
- Car washes, gas stations and commercial garages
- Processing waste
- Other uses not defined elsewhere

Notwithstanding the schedule of use above, these rates will only apply if the discharge to the sewer is similar in content and quantity to the sewerage of a basic sanitary sewage unit. The Water Pollution Control Authority may impose a surcharge for wastewater that is concentrated or difficult to treat. Pre-treatment may be required as may be determined by the WPCA.

SCHEDULE OF SEWER CONNECTION CHARGES

In accordance with the provisions of Connecticut General Statutes Sec. 7-255, the following schedule of sewer connection charges apply, effective July 1, 2025.

1. Payment of sewer connection charges. Sewer connection charges shall be due and payable in full prior to the time of connection. A certificate of occupancy for use of the property will not be issued by the Building Official until such charge is received by the Tax Collector
2. Engineering and Inspection Fees. The Water Pollution Control Authority may charge reasonable fees for the cost of engineering review of proposed building connections and for the cost of inspection of construction of such connections.
3. Connection Charge. Properties that will connect to the sewage treatment system after April 2, 2024, and have not reserved sewage capacity, the sewer connection charge shall be \$4,500.00 per each equivalent dwelling unit (EDU).
4. Annual Review of Connection Charges. The Water Pollution Control Authority shall annually review the schedule of sewer connection charges and set a schedule of charges for sewer connections no later than June 30th.

Connection Charge Categories

All residential dwelling units will be charged a connection charge equal to the standard charge for an EDU.

(# EDUs per Category)⁴

Business/Commercial/Industrial

Office (per individual unit) 0 – 5000 square feet	1.0
Up to and including each additional 2500 square feet over 5000 square feet pay an additional	0.5
Retail / Commercial (per individual Unit) < 5000 square feet	1.0
Up to and including each additional 2500 square feet over 5000 square feet pay an additional	0.5
Industrial (per EDU) ^{1,3}	1.0
Restaurant / Food Preparation Establishment < 1000 square feet	1.0
Up to and including each additional 500 square feet over 1000 square feet pay an additional	0.5
Child Care Facilities used by less than 12 children	1.0
Up to and including each additional 6 children, pay an additional	0.5
Laundries per washing machine ²	1.0
Hotels / Motels / Rooming Houses / Convalescent Homes and Hospitals (per room)	0.5
Schools, Churches and Municipal Facilities	
Police Stations, Firehouses, Churches	1.0
Elementary, Intermediate, High Schools < 100 Occupants (pupils / staff)	1.0
Up to and including each additional 25 occupants pay an additional	0.25

Footnotes:

¹ The number of EDU's for industrial flows will be based on flow estimates for a particular industry on an individual basis.

² Without recycling systems, with recycling systems fee is to be based on make-up water requirements.

³ An equivalent dwelling unit (EDU) equals 35,000 gallons per year.

⁴ The EDU value for each category shall be used to determine the corresponding connection charge presented in the "Schedule of Sewer Connection Charges" within this document.

RESIDENTIAL, NON-RESIDENTIAL, AND MIXED-USE CHARGE POLICY

The following charge policy further explains the metric used in determining sewer use charges for residential, nonresidential, and mixed-use properties discharging to the sewer system.

1. Residential Charges for Sewer Use. For properties which discharge to the sewer system and there is only residential use of the property, the annual charge shall reflect the total number of dwelling units. Each property owner will receive an individual bill reflecting the number of dwelling units connected to the sewer system times the rate in effect. Accessory Dwelling Units share the same benefits of use of the sewer system as any other dwelling unit. These types of dwelling units are considered basic sanitary sewage units for the purpose of calculating sewer use charges and will be charged as a dwelling unit. Occupancy and volume are not considered for the purpose of billing due to the lack of water service metering for many of those receiving sewer service and the high potential for error and inequities resulting from an attempt to track building occupancy.

2. Non-Residential Charges for Sewer Use. For properties which discharge to the sewer system and there is no residential use of the property, the annual charge shall be estimated based on actual water consumption data from the previous year, whenever it is available; page 1 of this document explains the procedure followed when water consumption data is not available. A sewer use bill will be generated for each water meter serving the property if that water, or a significant portion thereof, will be directed to a sanitary drain. Whenever a non-residential building on a property is in connection with the sanitary sewer system by way of a building sewer, the property will be subject to a minimum sewer use charge for that building and each additional building connected to the sewer in similar manner, as noted on Page 2 of this document.

3. Mixed-Use Charges for Sewer Use. For properties which discharge to the sewer system and there is a mix of residential and non-residential use of the property, the annual charges will be split into any number of bills as necessary. Residential sewer use will be billed to each owner of property for the number of dwelling units times the rate in effect. Non-residential sewer uses will be estimated in relation to actual water consumption data measured over the previous year, when it is available, and as explained under "Non-Residential Charges for Sewer Use" on this page. That data will be used to generate an annual sewer use bill. If water consumption data cannot be measured separate from the water consumption of the residential portion of the property's mixed-use, estimation shall be used as further described on page 1 of this document.