Stormwater fees

Developed properties in Eugene pay stormwater fees to support services that provide clean water, flood protection and healthy habitat for fish and wildlife.

The stormwater system includes pipes and other constructed features such as catch basins and curb inlets as well as “green in infrastructure,” a combination of constructed and natural features such as planters, swales, wetlands, streams, rivers, and open channels. Rainwater that does not soak into the ground runs off the land and is conveyed by the stormwater system to local area waterways such as Amazon Creek and the Willamette River.

Beginning in July 2017, stormwater rates will increase by 4% or $0.56 for a typical residential customer. The increase is needed to maintain current service levels, restore and rehabilitate the existing stormwater system, manage the growing inventory of green infrastructure, and meet the other objectives of Eugene’s stormwater program. For the latest information about stormwater user fees, go to: eugene-or.gov/swfees

How Stormwater Fees Are Used

◆ Maintain and repair more than 600 miles of stormwater pipes and waterways
◆ Clean over 15,000 catch basins and curb inlets
◆ Collect and recycle over 18,000 cubic yards of leaves
◆ Maintain over 290 green stormwater infrastructure facilities
◆ Eliminate illegal connections and discharges
◆ Sweep more than 40,000 curb miles of streets
◆ Provide stormwater education to 3,000 students annually
◆ Protect, restore, and maintain streams, rivers, and wetlands
◆ Plant over 600 trees along local streams and rivers
◆ Remove garbage from streams and the banks of the Willamette River
◆ Improve how rainfall runoff is managed in developed areas
◆ Replace public drywells to protect groundwater quality

Use of Stormwater Fees

Operations & Maintenance 56%
Capital Projects 14%
Administration 13%
Planning 6%
Utility Right-of-Way Fee 6%
Utility Billing 3%
Education 2%

City Fees on EWEB Bill

The City of Eugene adopts and administers the stormwater and wastewater service fees. EWEB has no relationship with the City’s wastewater or stormwater system operation or rates and acts only as the City’s billing agent.

For more information

Stormwater and Wastewater Fees:
Public Works Administration
Utility Administration Office, 541-682-4900

Stormwater Programs and Services:
Stormwater Public Education and Outreach, 541-682-2739
Stormwater Maintenance Services, 541-682-4800

Wastewater Programs and Services:
Local Wastewater/Stormwater Systems
Public Works Maintenance, 541-682-4800
Regional Wastewater System and Treatment
Public Works Wastewater, 541-682-8600

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**Wastewater fees**

All properties connected to the public wastewater system pay wastewater fees. Eugene provides local wastewater collection services, and the Metropolitan Wastewater Management Commission (MWMC), a partnership of Lane County and the cities of Eugene and Springfield, operates the regional wastewater collection and treatment facilities. The MWMC approved a 3% increase in regional rates, and the City Manager approved a 4% increase in local rates, effective on bills issued on and after July 1, 2017. For a typical residential customer, this equates to a monthly increase of about $1.19. For more information about wastewater user fees, go to: [eugene-or.gov/wwfees](http://eugene-or.gov/wwfees)

The MWMC regional partnership has successfully protected public health and the environment by providing high-quality wastewater management services to the Eugene-Springfield metropolitan area for over 30 years. MWMC's regional wastewater rate increase is necessary to fund operation and maintenance of the existing wastewater treatment facilities and implement planned capital improvement projects. Construction of the original regional wastewater facilities was completed in the early 1980s to serve the community for 20 years. Since the adoption of the 2004 Facilities Plan, MWMC has made facility improvements to provide capacity for community growth, avoid overflows caused by rainy weather, and meet new regulatory requirements to protect the Willamette River. For more information go to: [mwmcpartners.org](http://mwmcpartners.org)

Eugene maintains and operates the local system, the regional wastewater treatment plant and other regional facilities. A high level of attention is given to maintenance of the collection system prior to resurfacing existing roadways above the pipes in the ground. Capital improvements are funded to reduce the amount of stormwater entering the wastewater collection system.

**Wastewater service fees are billed to all users connected to the Eugene/Springfield wastewater collection and treatment facilities.**

(Eugene Code 6.401-6.471)

Customers pay a combined fee which includes:
- A basic MWMC (regional) charge of $12.96 per month
- A flow-based fee, calculated on the amount of water used and customer category. The flow-based fee is the combination of City of Eugene and MWMC (regional) wastewater service rates per 1,000 gallons (1 kgal) of water used. Customer categories are based upon the strength and characteristics of wastewater discharged to the public sewer system.

**Wastewater Bills Vary Summer to Winter**

Eugene uses a flow-based averaging procedure that acknowledges that some of the water used during summer months (May – November) may not enter the wastewater system. Wastewater charges for these months are based on the previous winter’s average monthly use or on the actual water used, whichever is less. Wastewater charges on bills issued during the winter months (December - April) are based on actual water meter readings.

**How Wastewater Fees are Used**

Local and regional wastewater fees pay for the collection and conveyance of wastewater and for the operation and maintenance of wastewater treatment facilities.
- Maintain more than 800 miles of wastewater lines
- Operate and maintain 30 pump stations (26 local, 4 regional)
- Inspect/dean almost 390 miles of wastewater lines per year
- Invest in capital improvements
- Treat over 12 billion gallons of wastewater per year
- Conduct more than 35,000 water quality tests
- Process 2,000 dry tons of biosolids per year
- Meet water quality regulations to protect the environment

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**Wastewater Flow-Based Fee (per 1,000 gallons) (effective July 1, 2017)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service Category</th>
<th>Residential Low Strength 400*</th>
<th>Residential Medium Strength 600*</th>
<th>Residential High Strength 1,200*</th>
<th>Very High Strength 1,600*</th>
<th>Super High Strength &gt; 1,600*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MWMC (regional)</td>
<td>$2.577</td>
<td>$3.464</td>
<td>$7.161</td>
<td>$9.281</td>
<td>$11.397</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City of Eugene (local)</td>
<td>$2.261</td>
<td>$2.261</td>
<td>$2.261</td>
<td>$2.261</td>
<td>$2.261</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>$4.838</td>
<td>$5.725</td>
<td>$9.422</td>
<td>$11.542</td>
<td>$13.658</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Combined biochemical oxygen demand and suspended solids in milligrams per liter (mg/L)

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**Typical Residential Monthly Bill**

(assumes 5,000 gallons monthly usage)

- Basic Charge (MWMC): $12.96
- Flow-Based Fee (MWMC): $12.89
- Total Regional Fee: $25.85
- Local Flow-Based Fee: $11.30
- Total Monthly Fee: $37.15

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**Use of Wastewater Fees**

- Regional Treatment System Costs 59%
- Local Wastewater Collection Costs 31%
- Other Costs 10%