

Consideration of Amending the City Sewer Ordinance Chapter 29 – One Time Sewer Credits

Current Sewer Ordinance Language Regarding Sewer Credits:

29.12 Sewer Service Charges And Fees

(h) Sewer Credits.

(1) General. Credit may be given against sewer billing in cases where it is demonstrated to the satisfaction of the Board of Public Works, as provided below, that water usage does not correspond to Wastewater output. This credit is available only to Commercial, Industrial, and Public Users, and only for the uses listed in subsection (2), below.

(2) Credit Meters. Commercial, Industrial, and Public Users may install, at their expense, a credit meter or meters to measure usage of water for only the following uses:

(A) Replenishing evaporative losses from cooling towers, boilers, swimming pools, commercial car washes, and other, similar Commercial and Industrial uses. (B) Water incorporated into products. (C) Irrigation of greenhouse, nursery or garden center stock. (D) Irrigation of athletic fields. (E) Refilling of Commercial and Public swimming pools and aquatic parks, but only if those Facilities are drained into Storm Sewers and not Sanitary Sewers.

Credit meters shall be new or newly-reconditioned at the time of installation. Credit meters shall be compatible with automated meter reading systems, and fitted by the Water Utility with radio-read transmitters, at the User's expense. All credit meters shall be inspected and certified by the Water Utility prior to acceptance of the readings. Credit meters shall be replaced after 20 years of service. Users shall submit readings monthly from any pre-existing credit meters without radio-read transmitters. The use of credit meters, as well as the application of credits resulting from credit meter readings, shall be according to the Sewer Credit Meter Guidelines published and amended from time to time by the Department of Public Works

(3) (repealed Ordinance 2024-10)

(4) One-Time Unmetered Credit. All Users without an active credit meter account, including Residential Users, may request an adjustment of sewer service charges for special circumstances demonstrated to the satisfaction of the Board of Public Works, such as the filling of a swimming pool or the sprinkling of new landscape as defined in WMC §13.11. All adjustment requests and appeals shall be submitted in the form of a letter to the Department of Public Works for review, and shall be approved or denied by the Board of Public Works, in the Board's sole discretion. Users may receive only one unmetered credit per service address.

Useful Sewer Ordinance Definitions:

(72) Person. Any legal entity having capacity to act or enter into contract, including but not limited to an individual, corporation, limited-liability company, limited partnership, general partnership, municipality, government subdivision, firm, company, association, society, institution, or enterprise.

(123) User. Any Person who Discharges or may Discharge Wastewater directly into the System, or discharges into Sanitary Sewers within a location outside the City where such flows Discharge into the City's Wastewater Collection System, or conveys or causes Wastewater to be conveyed by truck or other portable vessel for Discharge at the Plant or into the Collection System.

(124) User Classes. The type of customers using the System, such as Residential, Commercial, Industrial, and Public.

(A) Residential User. A User who is an owner or occupant of an individual residence, such as a house, an apartment, or any group of rooms or a single room either occupied as living quarters or intended for occupancy.

(B) Non-Residential User. Industrial, Commercial and Public Users, as defined below.

(C) Industrial User (IU). Any Non-Residential User that generates Process Wastewater or Discharges Process Wastewater to the System.

(D) Significant Industrial User (SIU). A User that meets any of the following criteria:

1. Is Regulated under a Federal Categorical Pretreatment Standard;
2. Discharges an average of 25,000 gallons per day or more of Process Wastewater to the System;
3. Contributes Process Wastewater which makes up 5 percent or more of the average dry weather hydraulic or organic capacity of the Plant;
4. Has a material in its Discharge included on a list of toxic Pollutants in Wis. Admin. Code Ch. NR 215, promulgated pursuant to §283.21, Wis. Stats.;
5. Has Wastewater with a reasonable potential as determined by the Control Authority for significant impact, either singularly or in combination with other Wastewater, on the System or the quality of the Plant's Effluent, Sludge or Biosolids;
6. Is a centralized Waste treater; or

7. Has a reasonable potential as determined by the Control Authority for adversely affecting the System or operation of the Plant, endangering worker safety, or violating any Pretreatment standard or requirement.

(E) *Non-Significant Industrial User.* Any Industrial User that does not meet any of the criteria of a Significant Industrial User.

(F) *Non-Permitted Industrial User.* A Non-Significant Industrial User that Discharges less than 1,000 gallons per day of Process Wastewater to the System.

(G) *Zero-Discharge Industrial User.* A User generating Process Wastewater who would normally be subject to Categorical Pretreatment Standards under 40 CFR Chapter I, Subpart N but is not Discharging that Process Wastewater to the System. A Zero-Discharge Industrial User is subject to all applicable regulations under local, State, or federal law, and is a Significant Industrial User because it is Regulated under a Federal Categorical Pretreatment Standard.

(H) *Commercial User.* Any User that is not a Residential, Industrial or Public User.

(I) *Public User.* All institutions which are owned or operated by a federal, State, county, or city agency.

(J) *Waste Disposer.* Any Person who hauls or Discharges Hauled Waste to the System.

Other City Ordinance Associated by Reference:

13.11 Water Conservation

PURPOSE. The purpose of this section is to prevent overuse of the City's water resources to avoid substantial depletion of the water table and to ensure sufficient water supply is available at all times including peak usage periods. The Common Council finds that ensuring the provision of water, especially in emergency situations, is essential to the public interest.

Useful Definitions under Chapter 13:

"New Landscape" means vegetation installed for no more than one (1) month which is: (1) installed at the time of construction of a new house, multi-family, industrial or commercial building; (2) installed as part of a governmental entity's capital improvement project; or (3) which alters more than one quarter of the area of an existing yard or which alters an area greater than 3000 square feet of an existing yard.

"Sprinkling" means the act of applying water to outdoor vegetation for purposes of irrigating an area of land.