

Best Practice Sewer Pricing

(Frequently Asked Questions)

JUNE 2012

What is Best Practice Sewer Pricing?

Best Practice Sewer Pricing is based on water industry best practice to ensure the fair distribution of the cost of providing services across the community, removing the occurrence of low users subsidizing higher users.

What is Sewer non residential?

Sewer Non residential is all effluent discharged to sewer from a commercial related property. This charge replaces the *Sewer non domestic charge*. (SNDchg)

Why are we getting this Sewer Non residential Bill?

You are getting this charge as you have a business related activity that discharges to sewer at the address mentioned on the invoice.

Who is responsible for paying the sewer non residential charge?

The SNR charge is property related i.e. payment of the charge is the responsibility of the property owner. It is up to the property owner to determine how these charges are recovered, if the property is leased.

We already pay sewer rates, why do we need to pay this (SNR)?

You no longer pay a commercial sewer charge for this property on your Annual Rate notice.. The new sewer charge is a two part tariff and ensures fair distribution of the cost of providing sewer services removing the occurrence of low users subsidizing higher users.

What is the two part tariff?

Part one of the Sewer non-residential charge is an access charge based on the size of your water connection. This charge is set as part of Council's annual fees & charges (These charges are detailed in WWCC's Revenue & Pricing Policy 2012/13 document). This portion of the tariff gives you access to the sewerage system.

Part two of the tariff is a volumetric charge, based on the amount of water that you use. The data used to determine this is provided by Riverina Water County Council. Wagga Wagga City Council applies a Sewer Discharge Factor to determine the percentage of water consumed that enters the sewer system.

What is a Sewer Discharge Factor?

A Sewerage Discharge factor (SDF) is a percentage of the overall metered volume of your properties water consumption deemed to be discharged to sewer.

SDFs are allocated to your business activity based on the New South Wales Office of Water's Liquid Trade Waste Regulation guidelines.

What happens if our business produces Liquid Trade Waste?

Your liquid trade waste charges will be indicated on the invoice with your Sewer Non Residential charge. (These charges are detailed in WWCC's Revenue & Pricing Policy 2012/13 document).

How has Council calculated this bill?

The invoice is calculated on a quarterly basis, by a simple formula that has been adopted from the NSW Office of Water Liquid Trade Waste Regulation Guidelines 2009.

The information used to calculate the charge is from your properties water consumption, this data is provided by Riverina Water, the Sewerage Discharge Factor relating to the business and the per kL rate of what the cost for transportation and treatment of the effluent.

SAMPLE 2012/13 PRICE BREAKDOWN

Access Charge	Based on meter size (Eg: 20mm diameter)	\$63.00
Consumption (advised by Riverina Water)	250 kl	
Sewer Discharge Factor (% of consumption entering sewer)	0.75	
Calculated wastewater entering sewer	187.5kl at \$2.00 per kl	\$375.00
TOTAL		\$438.00

Does this include my Trade Waste charges?

The implementation of this charge has not affected any existing trade waste accounts, however all Trade Waste charges will now be indicated on this invoice.

Can I dispute/query the charge?

Yes, you can query your bill, however you must provide supporting documentation. This would include a completed Wagga Wagga City Council Sewer – Non residential query form and we will need a copy of your Riverina Water account indicating the period of consumption that

you are disputing. The Riverina Water account should also indicate the water usage for the same period the year preceding it.

How can I reduce the charge?

Reducing your water consumption will reduce your discharge into the sewer system.

Breakdown of SDF's for a typical business activity

Business Activity	SDF
Bakery	0.95
Butcher	0.95
Club	0.95
Day Care Centre	0.95
Dental/Medical Centre	0.95
Hairdresser	0.95
Hotel	0.95
Takeaway Food Outlets/Restaurants	0.95
Laundries	0.95
Mechanical Workshop	0.95
Motels	0.95
Nursing Homes	0.95
Offices	0.95
Panel Beating	0.95
Service Stations	0.95
Shopping Centre	0.85
Supermarket	0.95
Vehicle wash	0.95
Veterinary	0.85

The above table of sewerage discharge factors has been derived from the New South Wales Office of Waters Liquid Trade Waste Regulation Guidelines 2009.

