

RABUN COUNTY WATER AND SEWER AUTHORITY
WATER AND SANITARY SEWER SERVICE RATES, FEES AND CHARGES POLICIES

JULY 2026

WATER SERVICE

The Rabun County Water and Sewer Authority (RCWSA) will provide water service up to the meter box, set the meter box and meter. The customer will be responsible for extending the water service from the meter to the residence or business. The RCWSA will need to verify that water service is available. Potential customers that are located where water service is NOT available such as at an elevation too high to provide adequate required pressure shall not be connected to the RCWSA's water system. The property owner must provide his/her own cutoff valve. Using the turn off at the meter is not permissible. Each lot, tract, or parcel of land to be served by the RCWSA's water system shall be served by its own individual water meter. Water meters cannot be moved or transferred from the original lot, tract or parcel of land it was purchased to serve and remains the property of the RCWSA. A water meter may be relocated on the same lot, tract or parcel after making the application and paying the cost estimate prepared by the RCWSA's staff.

The water connection fee is established to cover the costs of actual connection, the cost of the capacity in the water treatment and distribution systems, the cost of inspecting the service line and the administrative costs. The Water Connection Fee for those subscribing to service will be \$1,960.00 per Equivalent Residential Unit (ERU). An ERU has been determined to be a user that utilizes 4,000 gallons of water per month.

WATER CONNECTION FEES

<u>TAP SIZE</u>	<u>Connection Fee</u>
3/4 - inch	\$1,960.00
1 - inch	\$2,490.00
1 1/2 - inch	\$5,370.00
2 - inch	\$9,170.00

All connections over 2-inch are charged at actual cost for time and materials for the physical connection and require a fully executed Agreement to Pay and Payment at the time application for service is made OR the developer/customer will pay for the meter-vault-piping-fittings-connection etc. and installation as the RCWSA deems appropriate. Water Connection Fees for connections larger than 2-inch are calculated from the customer's projected water consumption using the flows provided by the customer. The number of ERU's will be calculated from the customer's projected monthly water consumption and divided by 4,000 gallons of water per month to get the required ERU's. The number of ERU's will then be multiplied by the \$1,960.00 per ERU Water Connection Fee to get the Total Water Connection Fee.

Water Unit Rate - There is a minimum charge of \$40.00 for volumes of 0 to 2000 gallons of water consumed with a uniform rate of \$12.97 per thousand gallons of water consumed above 2000 gallons.

An application for a new service must be completed to have the service turned on. It would be helpful if the customer knows the former tenant and property owner to enable our staff to locate

the property which you wish to occupy. The customer is responsible for making sure all water connections are off at the property. The RCWSA will not be responsible for damage caused by an open connection and any flooding that might occur when the water is turned on at the meter. A fee of \$90.00 will be charged to initiate new service or re-connect service.

WATER DEPOSITS

A deposit, based on meter size, is required from all customers in advance. Deposit refunds will be mailed after the final bill is completely processed for closed accounts.

<u>Meter Size</u>	<u>Deposit</u>
3/4 - inch	\$190.00
1-inch	\$450.00
1 1/2 to 3 - inch	\$650.00
4 - inch or larger	\$920.00

Cutoffs for non-payment within a continuous 24-month period will result in increases to the current deposit established for that customer’s meter size classifications as follows.

- First Cutoff - Increased by 25% of the current rate.
- Subsequent Cutoffs - An additional 25% to the current deposit for each cutoff.

MISCELLANEOUS WATER FEES

- Meter Usage History - \$50.00
- Pressure Testing at Meter - \$50.00

DISCONTINUATION OF SERVICE

Any person wishing to discontinue the use of water supplied by the RCWSA must give notice in writing to the RCWSA by completing a Turn Off Water Service form. The customer is responsible for all costs for the water service provided prior to the RCWSA’s receipt of the form. A Turn Off Water Service Form may be obtained from the RCWSA’s Business Office. A fee of \$90.00 will be charged to each customer discontinuing the water service. This charge will be added to the final bill.

DUE DATE/LATE PAYMENT OF BILLS

The due date for payment of water and sewer bills is 20 days from the billing date. A late fee of 10% of the local monthly bill shall be assessed for payments made after 20 days from the billing date. Water service will be disconnected when one month’s bill is 10 days past due or when partial payments are made on accounts over 30 days past due. A \$90.00 fee is required each time the account becomes delinquent to the extent the system initiates a cutoff of service. This fee is owed if the payment is not received by 5:00 PM on the Monday prior to the scheduled disconnection.

RETURN CHECK FEE

A fee of \$45.00 will be charged on checks or bank drafts returned for any reason, and water service may be discontinued.

PLAN REVIEW FEE

A fee of \$100.00 per page will be charged for review of plans submitted for approval by the RCWSA. Second or further reviews may be charged this fee as determined by the RCWSA.

SANITARY SEWER SERVICE

The Sanitary Sewer Connection Fee for those subscribing to service will be \$2,574.00 per Equivalent Residential Unit (ERU). An ERU has been determined to be a user that discharges 4,000 gallons of wastewater per month. The appropriate ERU's and associated Connection Fee shall be established by the following methods:

- 1) The average monthly water usage as metered for the establishment or business on the RCWSA's water system for the most recent 12-month period.
- 2) The projected flow from the proposed facility as outlined in the Georgia Environmental Protection Division's (EPD) most recent basis of design for sewer systems manual.
- 3) Sanitary Sewer/Wastewater Flows as determined and stamped by a licensed Georgia Professional Engineer for the customer.
- 4) A single-family residential structure will be considered as one ERU.

Wastewater flows will be shown as a monthly average in gallons then divided by the monthly ERU amount of 4,000 gallons giving the number of ERU's. That number of ERU's is then multiplied by \$2,574.00 per ERU to get the Total Sanitary Sewer Connection Fee. The Sanitary Sewer Connection Fee is established to cover the costs of the actual connection, the cost of the capacity in the treatment and collection systems, the cost of inspecting the service line and the administrative costs. The cost of physically connecting the business, establishment or residence to the RCWSA's sewer line shall be the responsibility of the customer and installed by a licensed plumber or utility contractor.

Any business with a food preparation and/or service component will be required to install a grease interceptor system designed in accordance with current local and state health department regulations and guidelines. Ongoing maintenance and cleaning of these types of systems shall also be required.

The service line size and alignment are subject to approval by the RCWSA and shall be installed in accordance with the International Plumbing Code. Particular attention is called to the requirements of service line cleanout and their spacing. Particular attention is also called to the requirement that the customer install a backflow prevention device in their discharge line to prevent wastewater backing up into the customer's residence or place of business. The RCWSA shall not be responsible or liable for any wastewater backups into the customer's residence or place of business. Installation of sewer service lines is subject to inspection and approval by a representative of the RCWSA.

Sanitary Sewer Service Unit Rate - There is a minimum charge for residential and commercial customers of \$40.00 for volumes of 0 to 2000 gallons of wastewater discharged with a uniform rate of \$13.15 per 1000 gallons of wastewater discharged above 2000 gallons unless other contractual terms apply. Sewer volume will be charged at 100% of the water volume for commercial customers and 85% of the water volume for residential customers.