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Information on SFPUC's Stormwater Charge

1 message

San Francisco Public Utilities Commission <digitaloutreach@sfgwater.org>

Fri, Jul 7, 2023 at 2:04 PM

Reply-To: San Francisco Public Utilities Commission <reply-febb1c75776d0c79-160_HTML-151794654-7290453-1@sfgwateroutreach.org>

To: alex.lemberg@evna.org



Dear Community Leaders:

On July 1, 2023, the [San Francisco Public Utilities Commission \(SFPUC\)](#) updated the way the sewer portion of customer bills are calculated to make them more equitable. The new structure splits the sewer portion of a monthly bill into two parts: a wastewater charge and stormwater charge. Each will now be calculated separately. We could greatly appreciate your help sharing this information with your colleagues, customers, members and affiliates - particularly our new [Stormwater Charge Lookup website](#) which has detailed information regarding same.

This new structure will not change the total amount of revenue collected by the SFPUC, but it will more equitably allocate the existing costs of managing wastewater to our customers. The wastewater portion of the bill will be based on the estimated volume of sewage discharged, while the stormwater portion will be based on the amount of stormwater runoff that flows off each property. This updated methodology is standard practice among many utilities nationwide.

Each customer stormwater charge is based on property size and the area of paved or impervious surfaces that are unable to absorb excess rain. This is a more accurate method of calculating each customer's contributions to the combined sewer system. It also allows each customer to take charge of their bill by implementing sustainable stormwater practices that divert water from the sewer system, such as permeable pavement, living roofs, and harvesting rainwater.

Information on how a property's [stormwater charge](#) is [calculated](#) can be found on our website here. On the website customers can also apply for the SFPUC's [stormwater credit program](#) or apply for a grant to upgrade their property to better manage stormwater, which will also lower their bill. Customers can also file an [appeal](#) if the property has changed ownership or their believe there may be an error in their property's area assessment.

Thank you,
San Francisco Public Utilities Commission



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