

# How Does the City of Cotati Calculate Your Water and Sewer Bill?

The City of Cotati bills our customers every month. The water and sewer charges for the city are made up of two components, (1) a base charge, and (2) a usage charge.

## Base Charges

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The base charge is determined by the size of the water meter servicing your home or business.

### **Water**

The typical house has a ¾-inch connection and the current base charge for that size meter is **\$28.37** per billing cycle.

### **Sewer**

The sewer base charge is based on the size of the water meter. The current base charge for the typical ¾-inch meter is **\$53.25** per billing cycle.

## Usage Charges

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### **Water**

The usage charge is based on how much water you use. The City uses a tiered rate structure for residential properties, and a flat rate for commercial or irrigation accounts.

#### Residential

0-5,000 gallons:	\$4.83 / 1,000 gallons
5,001 – 10,000 gallons:	\$6.20 / 1,000 gallons
10,000 + gallons:	\$7.73 / 1,000 gallons

#### Commercial / Irrigation

All Usage:	\$5.37 / 1,000 gallons
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### **Sewer**

The usage charge is calculated by using the lowest of the actual water usage or the seasonal average. The seasonal averaging is a calculation utilizing the two lowest monthly water reads in the previous 12-month period. For new customers, an average per person volume is used until there is an actual low consumption period to determine indoor usage. This method provides that the customer is only charged based on estimated indoor usage, and not for usage associated with summer irrigation and is also never calculated using a consumption that is more than the actual water consumption.

#### All Customers

All Usage:	\$12.43 / 1,000 gallons.
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\*\*\*\*\*SAMPLE BILL CALCULATION ON NEXT PAGE\*\*\*\*\*

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## SAMPLE BILL CALCULATION (RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMER)

**NOTE:** This is an extreme example that is being used to provide a detailed example of billing using a combination of multiple tiers for water use and adjusted sewer consumption for usage less than the estimated average. For more information on your water use and to sign up for leak alerts please visit:

<https://tinyurl.com/CotatiWaterTools>

A household uses 13,000 gallons of water during a billing cycle (1 month). The average of the two lowest water meter reads for the prior year is 14,000 gallons (high user to illustrate calculation for usage in all 3 tiers).

### Water Calculation

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Water Base Charge: \$28.37

Water Usage Charge:

Tier 1	\$4.83 x 5,000 gallons / 1,000	= \$24.15
Tier 2	\$6.20 x 5,000 gallons / 1,000	= \$31.00
Tier 3	\$7.73 x 3,000 gallons / 1,000	= \$23.19
(Total Gallons = 5000+5000+3000 = 13,000)		

**WATER CHARGES: (Base) \$28.37+ (Usage) \$24.15 + \$31.00 + \$23.19 = \$106.71**

### Sewer Calculation

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Sewer Base Charge: \$53.25

Sewer Usage Charge:

Lesser of

Average Calculation	= \$12.43 x 14,000 gallons / 1,000 = \$174.02
Consumption Calculation	= \$12.43 x 13,000 gallons / 1,000 = \$161.59

**SEWER CHARGES: (Base) \$53.25 + (Usage) \$161.59 = \$214.84**

**TOTAL WATER AND SEWER UTILITY BILL: \$321.55**

Please call (707) 665-3631 if you have any questions or require any further information.