

# **SPECIAL NOTICE**APRIL 2025

## Your Water, Our Mission

Eastern Municipal Water District (EMWD) has provided safe and trusted water services to our community for 75 years. As we celebrate this milestone, we're focused on our mission – and our responsibility to carry it out in the next 75 years.

#### **MISSION**

To deliver value to our diverse customers and the communities we serve by providing safe, reliable, economical and environmentally sustainable water, wastewater and recycled water services.

Our mission is our promise to customers. To deliver on that promise, EMWD continuously improves its infrastructure. Maintaining more than 2,600 miles of water pipes, 9 treatment plants (water and wastewater), and 86 storage tanks requires ongoing investment.

In 2023, an independent firm completed a Cost-of-Service Study to ensure EMWD water and sewer rates accurately reflect the costs of providing these essential services. EMWD has updated the evaluation of costs and benefits

related to these systems and is proposing water and sewer rate adjustments for 2026 and 2027 which reflect those costs and benefits, while still following the approved 2023 Study rate allocations and design methodology.

EMWD actively pursues grants and has secured millions of dollars in funding. EMWD invests in projects to reduce costs like using sophisticated AI models to review pipeline data and the San Jacinto Valley Groundwater Treatment Plan to maximize less costly local water supplies.

Because we know our services are vital, programs like Help2Others are available to support customers in need. emwd.org/h2o

Affordability is central to both our mission and operations. By keeping healthy reserve funds (like a savings account) and making savvy financial choices, we manage rising costs to keep rates as low as possible for our customers today and tomorrow.

We thank our customers and the community for their trust and support over the past 75 years. We look forward to serving you for decades to come.

#### YOU'RE INVITED TO ATTEND OUR

#### FRUITVALE RESIDENTIAL RATES PUBLIC HEARING

Date/Time: June 4, 2025 at 9:00 a.m. Location: Eastern Municipal Water

District Board Room 2270 Trumble Road, Perris, CA 92570

The Board of Directors of Eastern Municipal Water District (EMWD) will conduct a public hearing to consider changes to the water and sewer rate structures and rates set forth herein. Any customers or property owners may appear at the hearing to make comments regarding the proposed changes. To file an opposition, property owners and tenants of real property who are directly liable to pay water and/or sewer bills may submit a written protest against the proposed water rate increases, the proposed sewer rate increases, or both. Written protests may be mailed to: Eastern Municipal Water District Attention: 2026-2027 Proposed Rates, PO Box 8300, Perris, CA 92572-8300 or delivered in-person to: Eastern Municipal Water District 2270 Trumble Rd, Perris, CA 92570. Protests may also be submitted at the public comment portion of the public hearing. Protests must include: your name, parcel number and/or service address, your signature, and a statement specifying whether you are protesting the water rate increase, the sewer rate increase, or both. All written objections must be submitted before the public comment portion of the public hearing as stated above and a failure to timely object in writing bars any right to challenge that fee or assessment through a legal proceeding. Challenges to Boardadopted rates are subject to a 120-day statute of limitations.

Moreinformationabouttheproposedchanges is available in this document and online at <a href="https://www.emwd.org/ProposedRates">www.emwd.org/ProposedRates</a>.

Aviso de audiencia pública para considerar las tarifas de agua y alcantarilla basado en el costo de servicio.

## **Proposed Water Service Rates**

Water Consumption		Proposed			
Rates per billing unit (BU)*	Current	Effective 1/1/2026	Effective 1/1/2027		
Areas served: Parts of the San Jacinto Valley					
Tier 1	\$1.41	\$1.55	\$1.71		
Tier 2	\$3.87	\$4.26	\$4.68		
Tier 3: Excessive	\$7.11	\$7.68	\$8.29		
Tier 4: Wasteful	\$13.72	\$14.85	\$16.06		

Daily Service Charge		Prop	Proposed	
based on Meter Size	Current	Effective 1/1/2026	Effective 1/1/2027	
5/8 inch	\$0.592	\$0.64	\$0.70	
3/4 inch	\$0.592	\$0.64	\$0.70	
1 inch	\$0.798	\$0.87	\$0.94	
1.5 inch	\$2.167	\$2.35	\$2.53	
2 inch	\$3.354	\$3.63	\$3.92	
3 inch	\$6.504	\$7.03	\$7.59	
4 inch	\$10.053	\$10.86	\$11.73	
6 inch	\$19.901	\$21.50	\$23.22	

Water Supply		Proposed		
Reliability Capital Projects Daily Charge based on Meter Size	Current	Effective 1/1/2026	Effective 1/1/2027	
5/8 inch	\$0.214	\$0.231	\$0.250	
3/4 inch	\$0.214	\$0.231	\$0.250	
1 inch	\$0.328	\$0.354	\$0.382	

EMWD treats and delivers water via two water filtration plants, three desalination plants and nearly 2,600 miles of pipelines. Your water is continuously tested to make sure it meets or exceeds all standards. Your water service is billed through water consumption rates, daily service charges, and a Water Supply Reliability Capital Projects Charge (WCP).

In March 2017, the EMWD Board of Directors directed staff to implement a transition plan for the area to bring water consumption rates in line with the cost of service, with the following considerations: avoid sudden rate spikes; phase in the rate adjustments over time and avoid any significant increases; keep the annual increase for water consumption below 10 percent for the representative ratepayer. The proposed water consumption rates are part of a phased-in approach that began in 2018. EMWD has conducted an updated evaluation of the costs and benefits associated with these systems and is proposing adjustments to water and sewer rates for 2026 and 2027. These adjustments reflect the evaluated costs and benefits while adhering to the rate allocations and design methodology established in the approved 2023 Study, which also considers the transition plan from March 2017.

EMWD is proposing an increase in total water services, including capital charges, of 9.4 percent effective January 1, 2026 and 9.3 percent effective January 1, 2027.





## State Standards Drive Water Budget Updates

Your water budget is personalized for your home and family. It includes enough water to efficiently meet household needs. The budget reflects California water efficiency standards and is based on:

- the number of people in the home
- irrigated landscape area
- weather data

Currently, that equates to 47 gallons per person per day and a Conservation Factor\* of up to 80 percent of the evapotranspiration rate for your irrigated area. An evapotranspiration rate is the varying amount of irrigation needed to keep plants alive, based on climate. Beginning January 1, 2025, the state standard was reduced to 47 gallons per person per day. Your water budget is broken down into billing units (each equals 748 gallons or 100 cubic feet of water). Water budgets vary month-to-month depending on the length of the billing period and the weather. EMWD charges you for the amount of water you actually use.

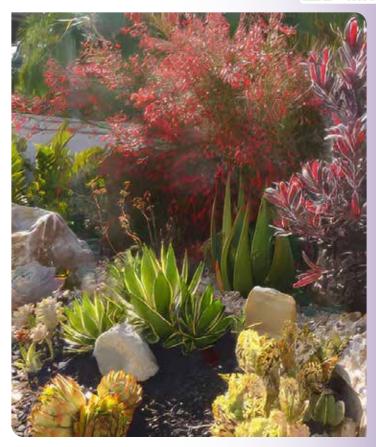
Newer homes have more efficient irrigation systems and are subject to stricter State requirements. See page 4 for how to calculate your specific water budget.

\* The Conservation Factor is based on a landscape's water use efficiency. Newer homes are required to have less grass and more efficient landscaping and irrigation systems.

## Tools to be WaterWise

For 75 years, EMWD has provided reliable service to our communities, recognizing water as a vital and precious resource. EMWD provides tips, tools, and even rebates to help customers save. One of the newest editions to the WaterWise Toolbox is our Landscapes for Living website. The site will help you bring your landscape ideas to life and beautify your yard – all with less water.

Scan this code or visit landscapesforliving.emwd.org to get started.



## Calculating Your Water Budget

EMWD uses the following formulas to determine household-specific, monthly water budgets, which cover efficient water use. Customers who stay within their water budgets pay the lowest cost for water.

You can estimate your bill under the proposed changes online at emwd.org/BillEstimator

#### HOUSEHOLD SIZE CALCULATION

BU = Household X GPCD X Days ÷ 748 gallons

### LANDSCAPE IRRIGATION CALCULATION

BU = ET X CF X DF X LA X 0.62 X 0.001337

BU = Billing Units allocated for your household/landscape irrigation needs (1 BU = 100 cubic feet)

Household size = Number of persons per household

GPCD = Gallons per capita (for each person) per day

Days = Days in the billing cycle

ET = Sum of observed evapotranspiration (ET) values for the billing period in inches

CF = Conservation Factor (varies by account)

DF = Drought Factor (currently 1.0)

LA = Landscape Area in square feet (sq. ft.)

0.62 = Conversion Factor to convert inches per sq. ft. into gallons per sq. ft.

0.001337 = Conversion Factor to convert gallons into billing units

## How Rates Work with Water Budgets

EMWD's water rate structure aligns with the cost of providing specific water supply sources including groundwater, groundwater desalination, and imported supplies. EMWD also takes into account the cost to maintain the entire system that provides customers with safe, clean, reliable water.

All residential customers are billed at the "Tier 1" rate for the first 20 percent of their monthly water budget as that is the proportional amount of local, lowest-cost supplies available. The remaining portion of the water budget is billed at the "Tier 2" rate which makes up the full budgeted supply amount. Tier 3 and 4 rates cover any usage in excess of the total water budget and are based on the increased costs necessary to secure additional water supplies, as well as storage, pumping, and water use efficiency programs.

#### **INDIVIDUALIZED WATER BUDGET & TIER ALIGNMENT** Total Water Budget = 47 gallons per \$\$\$ \$\$\$\$ person per day and a Conservation Tier 1 0% Tier 2 Tier 3 Tier 4 Factor up to 0.8 20% 21%-100% 101%-150% 151% and up Excessive Wasteful Total Water Budget

## What Happens If There's Another Drought?

EMWD adopted a plan to control the delivery and use of water during shortages. The higher stages below encourage customers to reduce water use by temporarily cutting customer water budgets in varying stages, depending on the severity of the shortage. EMWD's Board of Directors can start or stop water shortage measures by a decision at a public meeting. California's water supplies are normal this year but Colorado River supplies, which EMWD also relies on, are still at risk. EMWD continuously monitors water supply conditions. We thank our customers for doing their part during shortages and always.

### Stage 1: Supply Watch

Voluntary reduction of water use of up to 10 percent.

### Stage 2: Supply Alert

Voluntary reduction of water use of up to 25 percent.

### Stage 3: Mandatory Waste Reduction

Enforced through changes to the water budget-based tiered rates as follows:

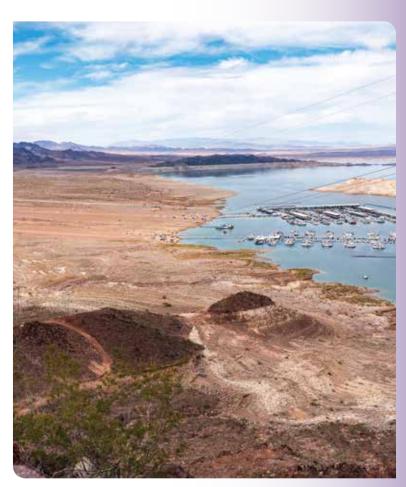
**Stage 3a:** No variances or adjustments allowed for filling swimming pools, establishing landscape, or leaks not repaired within 48 hours;

Stage 3b: Tier 3 (Excessive use) budgets reduced by 50 percent;

Stage 3c: Tier 2 budgets decreased by up to 100%

## Stages 4 and 5: Mandatory Outdoor and Indoor Reductions

Reduces customers' water budgets by varying amounts, depending on the severity of the shortage. As described on page 4, under normal conditions, customers who stay within budget are charged at the lowest rates in tiers 1 and 2. In stages 4 and 5, budgets are reduced, which would cause a customer going over budget to be charged at a Tier 4 rate.



## **Proposed Sewer Service Rates**

EMWD collects and treats an average of 49 million gallons of wastewater (sewer) every day at four regional water reclamation facilities. Sewer service areas were originally defined by the area surrounding each plant, and rates were set by area. Today, all of EMWD's facilities are interconnected, which allows flows to be shifted for more efficiency and reliability. EMWD is continuing to transition to a uniform, blended sewer rate, and plans to have all areas using the same rates by 2030. Sewer rates are calculated using a baseline Daily Service Charge, the number of people living in the house, and a Sewer System Capital Projects Charge.

Residential customers on water budgets are assigned to one of four sewer blocks, determined by the number of people per household according to the chart on this page. Larger households have a higher block factor because they generally have higher sewer flows (more laundry and dishes, take more showers, etc.) and are charged a larger portion of the sewer rate. The rates shown on the next page address the increased cost of treatment and operations, as well as investments in necessary maintenance projects. The total proposed increases range from 2 to 7 percent effective January 1, 2026, and another 2 to 7 percent effective January 1, 2027.

SEWER BLOCK FACTORS						
Block*	People per Household	Sewer Block Factor				
1	1-2	65%				
2	3-4	100%				
3	5-6	135%				
4	7 or more	170%				

<sup>\*</sup>Each block is designed around a specific household size to be more representative of the amount of wastewater contributed to the sewer system.









Area Served (Full Service)	Current Daily Service Charge (DSC) per Equivalent Dwelling Unit (EDU)*	Proposed DSC per EDU as of 1/1/2026	Proposed DSC per EDU as of 1/1/2027	Block Number	Current Monthly Bill (based on DSC x 365/12)	Proposed Monthly Bill dated 1/1/2026 or after (based on DSC x 365/12)	Proposed Monthly Bill dated 1/1/2027 or after (based on DSC x 365/12)
Includes areas in and		\$1.22	\$1.30	1	\$22.60	\$24.11	\$25.69
	\$1.143			2	\$34.77	\$37.08	\$39.52
around Hemet, San Jacinto, and Winchester	\$1.145	\$1.22	\$1.50	3	\$46.94	\$50.06	\$53.35
				4	\$59.11	\$63.04	\$67.17
				1	\$22.96	\$24.42	\$25.98
Includes areas in and	¢1.161	\$1.24	\$1.32	2	\$35.32	\$37.57	\$39.97
around Moreno Valley	\$1.161			3	\$47.68	\$50.72	\$53.96
				4	\$60.04	\$63.86	\$67.95
		44.05	44.04	1	\$23.41	\$24.86	\$26.38
Includes areas in and around the City of	\$1.184			2	\$36.02	\$38.24	\$40.58
Menifee (Sun City)	\$1.184	\$1.26	\$1.54	3	\$48.62	\$51.62	\$54.78
			\$1.34	\$61.23	\$65.00	\$68.98	
	Includes areas in and around Temecula.			1	\$24.76	\$25.77	\$26.89
Includes areas in and around Temecula,		64.26	2	\$38.09	\$39.64	\$41.37	
Murrieta, and French Valley	\$1.252	\$1.31	\$1.36	3	\$51.42	\$53.51	\$55.85
valley				4	\$64.74	\$67.38	\$70.33
Includes areas in and around Perris, Romoland,	\$1.391	\$1.42	\$1.44	1	\$27.51	\$27.96	\$28.44
				2	\$42.31	\$43.01	\$43.74
Homeland, and northern portions of Menifee				3	\$57.12	\$58.07	\$59.05
portions or Menilee				4	\$71.93	\$73.12	\$74.36
Canyon Lake†	\$2.067	\$2.28	\$2.47	n/a	\$62.88	\$69.35	\$75.13

Sewer System Capital Projects Daily Charge	Current	Proposed Effective 1/1/26	Proposed Effective 1/1/27
per Equivalent Dwelling Unit*	\$0.149	\$0.156	\$0.164
Average Monthly Charge	\$4.53	\$4.75	\$4.99

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>†</sup>EMWD bills customers in this area for sewer service rendered through Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District (EVMWD), at the rate established by EVMWD, and is subject to further adjustments by EVMWD.

An Equivalent Dwelling Unit (EDU) is intended to represent the typical flow from an average single-family home. It is used for billing and capacity planning, with non-residential properties assigned EDUs based on their water consumption

# Typical Residential Water and Sewer Bill Impacts

The chart to the right illustrates a typical monthly residential water and sewer bill with a 3-4 person household using 15 billing units and staying within their water budget.

Estimate your bill under the proposed changes online at emwd.org/BillEstimator



# How EMWD Rates Compare

Part of EMWD's mission is to keep costs affordable for customers. EMWD's rates continue to be among the lowest in the region. The chart to the right represents EMWD's 2026 proposed rates for a typical customer, compared to current rates for other inland water agencies.

