

## ERIE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES - SEWER RULES

ADOPTED JANUARY 13, 1992

AMENDED RESOLUTIONS:

RESOLUTION NO. 92-15

NO. 96-247, 97-51, 97-197, 97-410, 98-285,  
00-166, 00-220, 02-195, 02-272, 03-206,  
04-312, 05-240, 06-307, 08-284, 10-269,  
11-305, 13-335

Annual Inflation Adjustments for RULE 3. SECTION 1.B., 1C., 1.D., 1.E., SECTION 2:

Revised 7/01/2021

## RULE 3 - CONNECTION/PERMIT FEES

**Section 1.** Each person, firm or corporation who obtains a permit for a new service connection or for a modification of an existing service to any public sewer in the Erie County Sewer District shall be liable for the payment of all applicable Sewer Connection Tap Fees. Payment shall be due thirty (30) days from the date of invoice or shall be subject to fee increases, if applicable. The connection fees may include a processing fee, inspection fee, equalization fee, conveyance/plant fee, lateral fee and other fees as described in the remaining sections of Rule 3.

### A. PROCESSING FEE

A processing fee shall be included in the connection fee for the cost to process the application and issue a permit as follows:

#### TYPE OF APPLICATION

~Single or Duplex Residential  
~Multi-Family Residential  
~Commercial/Industrial/  
Institutional

#### PROCESSING FEE

\$20.00  
\$10.00/unit (not-to-exceed \$50.00)  
\$50.00 or actual cost (whichever is  
greater)

### B. INSPECTION FEE

The inspection fee shall be \$238.12 for all residential single family, duplex, triplex and small commercial/industrial/institutional connections and shall be actual cost, plus 10% for all other connections, but in no case less than \$238.12. Payment of the inspection fee by installment payments shall not be permitted.

### C. EQUALIZATION FEE

The equalization fee shall be a minimum of \$4,743.31 for single-family homes and duplexes. For all other type taps, the Equalization Fee shall be the minimum \$4,743.31 plus the average width of the parcel that the sewer serves less ninety feet (90') times \$52.70 per foot.

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### **RULE 3 - CONNECTION/PERMIT FEES** (Continued)

#### **C. EQUALIZATION FEE (Continued)**

Non-single family residential corner lot equalization fees will be calculated by taking the frontage on each street and dividing it by two for the length to be applied to the equalization fee instead of using the lots average width. The equalization fee will not apply or be charged to an applicant where the cost of the existing sanitary sewer line was previously assessed to the parcel receiving the tap, paid for by a developer, paid for under an O.R.C. 307.73 Agreement or under a special tap fee agreement in which case the fee would be collected under the other fee section.

#### **D. CONVEYANCE FEE**

The conveyance fee will apply to all new connections and for any increased flow from existing sewer connections to County sanitary sewers. The conveyance fee shall be \$1,415.56 for single family homes and for all others shall be calculated at the rate of \$5.24/gpd of estimated average day water consumption. This fee is collected to reimburse the County Sewer District for a portion of the costs to construct trunk sewers, pump stations, and wastewater treatment plants, to continue to provide adequate conveyance/treatment capacity to protect the environment. The estimated average day water use for the purposes of calculating the appropriate fees shall be as estimated by the Sanitary Engineer from past historical data from a similar customer or from the Environmental Protection Agencies' published typical water consumption tables for a similar user. The conveyance fee shall be in no case less than the same fee for a single-family home.

#### **E. LATERAL FEE**

The lateral fee will apply to properties which were supplied with a service lateral at the cost of the County Sewer District. This fee shall be \$1,984.84 per service lateral whether the provided service lateral is used or not. This fee reimburses the County Sewer District toward the cost of installing the service lateral.

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### **F. OTHER FEES (Continued)**

Other fees may apply to the connection fees such as special connection fees under an O.R.C. 307.73 Agreement Prorated Fees, O.R.C. 929.03 Deferred Assessments, O.R.C. 6117 Deferred Assessments, special developer connection fees, etc.

### **Section 2. INFLATION ADJUSTMENT**

All connection fees shall be adjusted on July 1st each year based on the change in previous years inflation as published in "Engineering News Record" magazine, "Construction Cost Index", with the exception of the processing fee.

Inflation Multiplier for 7/01/21 =  $\frac{2020 \text{ ENR Construction Cost Index}}{2019 \text{ ENR Construction Cost Index}} = \frac{11,466}{11,281} = 1.016$

### **Section 3. SPECIAL TAP-IN CHARGES**

From time-to-time the County Commissioners may establish special tap-in charges for the privilege of connecting to the County sanitary collection system. Such tap-in charge shall be in addition to the connection charges established in Section 1 above. Such tap-in charges shall not be imposed upon persons obtaining a permit for service connection to property which is then liable for special assessment charges for construction of sanitary sewers to which the connection is to be made. Payment of such special tap-in charges shall be made in cash at the time a connection permit is issued or under terms described in Section 4.

### **Section 4. INSTALLMENT PAYMENTS**

Connection/Permit Fees, which total in excess of \$1,500.00, may be paid in installments over a five (5) year period. At least a 20% down payment is required prior to the permit being issued. The interest rate on the unpaid balance shall be determined monthly, based on the Star Ohio Interest Rate, plus 2% given to the County Treasurer on its investments from the previous month. Once installment payments are established, they will not be adjusted over the term of the Installment Agreement. An Installment Agreement with successors and assigns between the property owner and Erie County Board of Commissioners mutually agreeing to the Installment Payment Schedule is required. A customer may retire the installment before the maturity date by paying the entire unpaid principal balance. The Sanitary Engineer shall indicate to this Board, by Resolution, the identity of each parcel of property served by the sewer connection that is being paid by installments, the total of charges to be paid in installments, the amount of each installment, and the total number of installments to be paid.

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## **RULE 3 - CONNECTION/PERMIT FEES** (Continued)

### **Section 5. PERMIT TERM**

The permit for a service connection shall be valid for a period of twelve (12) months from the date of issuance. Failure on the part of the applicant to install the service prior to the twelve (12) month period shall render the permit subject to additional fees. In the event the permit holder requests a refund on the permit, the processing fee and a 10% administrative fee shall be surrendered.

### **Section 6. ACCOMMODATION CONNECTIONS**

Connections with private services will be considered when a public sanitary sewer line is not available adjacent to the property to be served, but is located within a reasonable distance from said property subject to the Sanitary Engineer's approval. Property owner shall enter into an agreement to provide sanitary sewer and water easement across their frontage adjacent to the public road or private road right-of-way and agree to pay all applicable connection/permit fees including an equalization fee, lateral fee, deferred assessment, ORC 307.73 fee or other applicable special fees.

### **Section 7. O.R.C. 307.73 AGREEMENTS**

Erie County may agree to an ORC 307.73 Agreement to allow a developer install a sanitary sewer line, dedicate it to the County as a public owned and maintained line and the County will collect and return connection fees from non-participating property owners as allowed under the law under the following terms:

- a. Agreement Term: not-to-exceed 10 years.
- b. Pro-rated front footage fees shall not exceed the County's current equalization fee as described in Water Rule 3. Section 1.C at the date of the agreement.
- c. No successor and/or assignment of the agreement will be allowed for the developer.
- d. Developer will pay for all costs involved in acquiring easements including the cost of recording said easements.

### **Section 8. SALE OF PROPERTY WITH PENDING SEWER PERMIT**

When a home or business is sold where the sanitary sewer service connection is to be installed after a tap permit is purchased, the permit will remain with the property address and not the previous property owner. No refund of the tap permit will be disbursed to the previous property owner.