



# Calculating Your GRU Residential Wastewater Bill

① **Water and Wastewater Service Details Example**

Meter Number	METER READING DATES Previous Present	Meter Read Type	Days of Service	METER READINGS Previous Present	Meter Multiplier	Water Consumption	Wastewater Consumption	Next Meter Read on or About
W331122	4/12/2016 5/13/2016	ACTUAL	31	1101 1113	1.00000	② 12 kGals	8 kGals	6/30/2016

  

Description	Usage	Rate	Amount
WATER CUSTOMER CHARGE			\$ 9.20
WATER USE, TIER 1 (1 – 4 kGals)	4	\$ 2.35	\$ 9.40
WATER USE, TIER 2 (5 – 14 kGals)	8	\$ 3.75	\$ 30.00
WATER USE, TIER 3 (OVER 14 kGals)	0	\$ 6.00	\$ 0.00
GAINESVILLE WATER UTIL TAX			\$ 4.86
① WASTEWATER CUSTOMER CHARGE			\$ 9.00
② WASTEWATER BILLING	8	\$ 6.20	\$ 49.60
③ Winter max is 8 kGals			
<b>Total for Water Service Details</b>			<b>\$ 112.06</b>

  

**WASTEWATER RATES**  
(Effective October 1, 2015)

Customer Charge ..... \$9.00/month  
All Use ..... \$6.20/kGals

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**Flat Rate Wastewater Charges**  
*For residential customers not on the GRU water system but discharging to the wastewater system*

Single-Family Usage Charge ..... \$40.00/month  
Multi-Family Customer Charge ..... \$9.00/month  
Multi-Family Usage Charge ....\$31.00/unit/month

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**RECLAIMED WATER USE CHARGES**

Customer Charge ..... \$ 9.00/month  
Per kGals ..... \$ 0.85/kGals

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**Rates for customers outside Gainesville are subject to a 25% Wastewater Surcharge**

## Determining Your Wastewater Consumption

Wastewater charges are based on either the amount of water you use each month, or your Winter Maximum, and are listed in the **Water and Wastewater Services** ① section on the back of your bill. GRU uses either your monthly water usage ② or your established “winter maximum” ③, whichever is lower. The reading is in whole thousands of gallons (kGals).

## Calculating the Charges

The following example shows how charges are calculated for wastewater usage. Steps 1 & 2 apply to all customers

### ① — WASTEWATER CUSTOMER CHARGE

This is a fixed charge to recover those costs that GRU must incur to provide service whether or not any water is used.

Monthly **\$ 9.00**

### ② — WASTEWATER BILLING

The charge for all use is \$ 6.20/kGals

8 kGals x \$ 6.20 = **\$ 49.60**

As the Winter Max in this example is 8kGals, it is also the amount billed. See back of this document for an explanation of the Winter Max.

### Step 3 only applies to customers living outside the City

### ③ — WASTEWATER SURCHARGE

The sum of steps 1 and 2 are subject to a 25% Wastewater Surcharge (not shown in this example).

\$ 9.00 + \$ 49.60 = \$ 58.60  
\$ 58.60 x 0.25 = **\$ 14.65**

### What is My “Winter Max”?

Your winter maximum, or Winter Max, is your highest daily water usage calculated during your Winter Max Period.

### What is My Winter Max Period?

Your Winter Max Period is based on your January and February bill dates.

Customer billing cycles vary, so some customers could have a January bill period that starts as early as late November. Others may have a February bill period that extends to as late as the last day of February.

Also, each month's actual meter read date can vary due to weekends, holidays and bad weather. This can cause your billing periods to range from 28 to 35 days in length.

### Example Winter Max Period

The bill date on your January bill reads 1/19/16 and your meter read date as 1/13/16. So you are billed for the water usage from the December reading on 12/11/15 through that January reading on 1/13/16 – or your January billing period.

Your next bill date shows 2/18/16 and a meter read date of 2/12/16, so you are billed for usage from the January reading on 1/13/16 through 2/12/16 – or your February billing period.

Therefore, your Winter Max Period will be calculated based on your usage during the period of 12/11/15 through 2/12/16.

### Why Use the Winter Months?

GRU uses the winter months of November through February because studies show that water use during these months fairly represents the amount of water that returns to GRU through the wastewater system.

Outdoor water use for most customers is usually low during these billing periods. Watering lawns and gardens, power washing, filling swimming pools and other high outdoor water use activities are at a minimum during this time of year.

### What Will I Be Billed?

During your “Winter Max” period, your January and February bills will show wastewater charges on **all** of the water that you use in each of these months.

For the rest of the year, March through December bills, your wastewater charges will be either your actual monthly water usage or your winter max – whichever is smaller. An example of this calculation is shown to the right.

**There is no cap on your “Winter Max” and the smallest the maximum can be is 1,000 gallons.**

Customers who move into a home or apartment between March and December are assigned a winter maximum equal to the average residential water use.

### Example Winter Max Calculation

In January, this example customer was billed for 9,000 gallons (9 KGA) of water use for 33 days. In February, the customer was billed for 6,000 gallons (6 KGA) of water use for 30 days.

The average daily water use for January:

$$\frac{9,000 \text{ gallons}}{33 \text{ days}} = 273 \text{ gallons/day}$$

The average daily water use for February:

$$\frac{6,000 \text{ gallons}}{30 \text{ days}} = 200 \text{ gallons/day}$$

The highest daily use is multiplied by 30.4 (the average number of days in a month)

$$273 \text{ gallons/day} \times 30.4 \text{ days} = 8,291 \text{ gallons}$$

This result is rounded to the nearest “thousand” gallons to get the *winter maximum*: 8,000 gallons or 8 kGals.

**NOTE:** This fact sheet is meant as an aid to understanding GRU's residential water rates. It does not replace GRU's rates in the Gainesville Code of Ordinances. If there are differences between this material and the ordinance, the ordinance shall prevail. Different rates and methods of calculation apply for non-residential water customers. For more information on calculating rates, call GRU's Customer Service, 352-334-3434.