

Water Charge

Two Part Tariff and Allocation – User Choice

Water charges are levied to recover the cost of provision of infrastructure and the cost of operating and maintaining the water supply system. The recurrent short term costs of providing water to all consumers are effectively the same, therefore, the price structure will be uniform to all consumers. It is the view of Council that it is equitable for all users to contribute to the fixed costs of the water supply operation by way of an access charge, while the consumption charge for all water consumed conforms with the user pays principles and also provides an incentive for water conservation.

As part of the platform of the newly elected Council it has been decided to implement pricing that allows users to choose between two methods of water pricing both systems are a two part tariff but one system will have a higher access charge which will provide users with an allocation of water.

Whitsunday Regional Council will levy Water Charges on all properties within the Collinsville, Bowen, Proserpine, Cannonvale and Airlie Beach areas capable of being connected to the water supply reticulation and to which Council is prepared to provide a connection. Water charges are levied on a bi-annual basis each financial year and are set at a level to fund Council's Water Supply Program. The Water Supply areas will be delineated by **Water Supply area maps** which will be available for inspection at the Council office during business hours or on Council's web site.

Residential Users (opt in)

Residential Users will be permitted to opt in each year between the months of March and April. The options offered to Water Users will be as follows:

- (1) Water Charges based on all water used (Two Part Tariff). The basis of the Water Charge will be:
 - an annual charge for all connections to the system; and
 - a charge for each kilolitre of water consumed

or

- (2) Water Charges based on all water used (Allocation Tariff). The basis of the Water Charge will be:
 - an annual charge for all connections to the system including an allocation of water set by Council each year; and
 - a charge for each kilolitre of water consumed above a limit set by Council. Commonly referred to as the Excess charge

An access charge for vacant land is also applied to each parcel of vacant land within the water supply areas that is not currently connected to the Council's reticulated water supply system where Council is able to provide a connection. The charge will be the same as the charge for a connected property with a standard residential connection. Vacant Residential land will only be charged based on the two part tariff charge and these users will not be permitted to Opt in until the meter is installed, the dwelling on the property has received a Certificate of Occupancy and consumption has commenced. These new residential users will be permitted to Opt in at the first available Opt in period and not before.

For multi dwelling properties that are connected by one meter all users connected to that meter must agree to Opt in otherwise the property will remain on the Two Part Tariff.

Whitsunday Regional Council

Meter Reading and Billing Cycles

All water meters in the Whitsunday Region will be read every six (6) months, scheduled for the months of December and June.

Water consumption charges will be levied immediately following each meter reading for water used since the last meter reading as measured by the water meter. Water accounts will attract the same penalties as those applying to the general rate. No discount shall apply to water consumption charges.

The water consumption charge is a rising block tariff. The block charge includes two tiers. It is levied for a meter reading period and calculated as follows:

User Pays

First Block Charge – for each kilolitre consumed, the per kilolitre consumption charge will be **94 cents per kilolitre (for consumption up to one (1) kilolitre per day per billing period)**,

Second Block Charge – for each kilolitre consumed, the per kilolitre consumption charge will be **\$1.64 per kilolitre (for consumption in excess of one (1) kilolitre per day per billing period)**.

Allocation

Where a residential consumer has “Opted In” to the allocation system of charge, an access charge will be charged and the consumer will have an allocation of 700 kilolitres for the 2017/18 year.

Consumption Charge (Excess) - for each kilolitre consumed above the allocation the consumption charge will be **\$2.54 per kilolitre (for consumption in excess of 700 kilolitres for the 2017/18 year)**

The first block charge will apply to the equivalent of one kilolitre consumption per day while the second block charge will be charged for consumption in excess of the equivalent of one kilolitre consumption per day for the meter reading period.

Water Charges

Where multiple meters are connected to the same property, under user pays tariff, the first block charge will apply and be charged for each water meter connected to the property, while under the allocation tariff; one (1) allocation will be charged per assessment.

For multi dwelling properties on a single rate assessment that are not Community Titled and have a common water connection, a charge of one water access charge for the first unit or dwelling and a multi charge for each unit or dwelling thereafter at seventy five per cent (75%) of the water access charge, will be levied. Where a rate assessment is for multiple parcels a multi charge is only available where there is more than one (1) domicile on a single lot.

Where more than one (1) meter is connected to a single vacant lot, a single access will apply. If buildings are constructed then the base charge will apply per separate domicile/building. Where a combination meter is installed on a property to measure high flow and low flow, only one (1) access charge will be applied.

Whitsunday Regional Council

WATER BASE CHARGE - WHITSUNDAY REGION 2017/18

Definition	Rate of Charge	Amount
<i>Residential vacant land included on one assessment – being those rate assessments with multiple parcels with a differential rating category of 1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8 within the serviced area where one of the parcels has a meter connected</i>	Per separate lot	\$280.00
<i>Residential (User pays) - being those rate assessments with a differential general rate category of 1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8; excluding vacant land within the serviced area and non-rateable properties, not including Flats and Multi self-contained residential units</i>	Per separate domicile/lot	\$546.00
<i>Residential (Allocation) – being those rate assessments with a differential general rate category of 1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8 excluding vacant land within the serviced area and non-rateable properties, not including Flats and Multi self-contained residential units</i>	Per separate domicile/lot	\$866.00
<i>Residential (User Pays) - Flats & Multi self-contained residential units in differential general rate categories 7-8</i>	Per separate domicile and one multi charge for each extra flat	\$546.00 \$409.50
<i>Residential (Allocation) - Flats & Multi self-contained residential units in differential general rate categories 7-8</i>	Per separate domicile and one multi charge for each extra flat	\$866.00 \$649.50
<i>Rural Land - being those rate assessments with a differential general rate category of 19,20,21</i>	Per meter	\$856.00
<i>Single shops, professional offices, vacant commercial land (Categories 17,18,37,38) not included in Industrial or Commercial/Industrial 1</i>	Per meter or improvement	\$546.00
<i>Commercial/Industrial 1 - being those rate assessments with a differential general rate category of 17,18(caravan parks only),37,38 not included in Single shops, Professional offices, Vacant Commercial Land</i>	Per meter or improvement	\$1,402.00
<i>Commercial/Industrial 2 - being those rate assessments with a differential general rate category of 13 - Salt Manufacturing</i>	Per meter	\$2,192.00
<i>Commercial/Industrial 3 - being those rate assessment with a differential general rate category of 9,12,14,15,16,22,23,25,26,31,32,35</i>	Per meter	\$3,425.00
<i>Commercial/Industrial 4- being those rate assessments with a differential general rate category of 10,11,18(excluding caravan parks),24,36,37</i>	Per meter	\$8,766.00
<i>Commercial/Industrial 5 - being those rate assessments with a differential general rate category of 27,33</i>	Per meter	\$13,430.00
<i>Commercial/Industrial 6 - being those rate assessments with a differential general rate category of 28,29,30,34</i>	Per meter	\$30,217.00