

Ordinance No. 763

Introduced by: Councilman Taylor

AN ORDINANCE BY THE TOWN OF DENTON REVISING THE SEWER RATES AND FEES, REVISING THE ERU TABLE, AND REVISING THE ADMINISTRATIVE CHARGES ANNUALLY FOR USERS OF THE MUNICIPAL SEWER SYSTEM FROM 2026 THROUGH 2028.

WHEREAS, Md. Code Ann. Environmental Article § 9-705 and the Denton Town Charter § C9-1 authorize the Town to construct, operate, modify and maintain a sewer system; and

WHEREAS, Md. Code Ann. Environmental Article § 9-723 through 9-726 authorize the Town to establish rates, fees and charges for municipal sewer services; and

WHEREAS, the Denton Town Council has determined that it is desirable and in the public interest to amend the sewer charges to increase capacity charges and administrative charges from 2026 to 2028 to enable the Town to meet its operation, maintenance, and debt service obligations.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED AND ENACTED BY THE DENTON TOWN COUNCIL that the following rate schedule shall apply to all users of the Denton Municipal Sewer systems:

A. **Sewer Capacity Charge.** The following capacity charge shall be assessed and paid as follows:

1. Single Family Residential property.....~~[\$5000.00]~~ **\$6,000**

~~[2. Multi Family Residential property]~~

~~[a. Efficiency/one bedroom (per unit)\$2500.00]~~

~~[b. Two or more bedrooms (per unit)\$5000.00]~~

3. All ~~[Commercial Properties]~~ **OTHER PROPERTIES**

Capacity Charge shall be determined by using TABLE 1 attached hereto. The Capacity Charge shall be a multiple of the Single-Family Residential Capacity Charge set forth above according to the number of Equivalent Residential Units (ERU) listed in Table 1 for the subject property type. An ERU is ~~[established by the Caroline County Health Department]~~ **EQUAL TO 225 GALLONS PER DAY.**

~~[4. Industrial Properties]~~

~~Capacity Charge shall be determined by using TABLE 2 attached hereto.~~

- B. For all properties within the Denton Municipal boundaries, as defined by Ordinance No. 181, payable quarterly:

EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2026: Administrative Fee BASE FEE is ~~[\$50.00]~~ **\$60.50**. An additional ~~[\$8.00]~~ **\$9.68** will be assessed for each 1,000 gallons.

EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027: ADMINISTRATIVE FEE BASE FEE IS \$62.92. AN ADDITIONAL \$10.07 WILL BE ASSESSED FOR EACH 1,000 GALLONS.

EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2028: ADMINISTRATIVE FEE BASE FEE IS \$65.44. AN ADDITIONAL \$10.47 WILL BE ASSESSED FOR EACH 1,000 GALLONS.

- C. For all properties located outside the Denton Municipal boundaries, as defined by Ordinance No. 181, or on tax waiver, payable quarterly:

EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2026: Administrative Fee BASE FEE is ~~[\$100.00]~~ **\$121.00**. An additional ~~[\$16.00]~~ **\$19.36** will be assessed for each 1,000 gallons.

EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027: ADMINISTRATIVE FEE BASE FEE IS \$125.84. AN ADDITIONAL \$20.13 WILL BE ASSESSED FOR EACH 1,000 GALLONS.

EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2028: ADMINISTRATIVE FEE BASE FEE IS \$130.87. AN ADDITIONAL \$20.94 WILL BE ASSESSED FOR EACH 1,000 GALLONS.

- D. All vacant lots which have access to municipal sewer will be assessed a \$25.00 quarter availability fee.

- E. **CALLS FOR SERVICE: THE FOLLOWING FEE SHALL BE ASSESSED AND PAID AS FOLLOWS:**

1. **DURING REGULAR TOWN OFFICE HOURS50.00**
2. **ALL OTHER HOURS100.00**

The Ordinance shall be effective within (7) Seven days ~~[and begin with Oct. 1, 2023 billing cycle, and thereafter]~~ from and after the date of its final passage and adoption. Any Town resolutions or ordinances establishing rates or charges for the above listed services which are in conflict with the above established rates or charges hereby is repealed upon this ordinance's effective date.

DENTON TOWN COUNCIL


Abigail McNinch, Mayor


Dallas Lister


Walter Keith Johnson



Frank Taylor


Lester Branson

ATTEST:


Karen L. Monteith

Approved for Form and Legal Sufficiency, this 8th day of December, 2025


Lyndsey Ryan, Town Attorney

Date Introduced: 11/6/2025

Date Passed: 12/8/2025

Effective Date: 12/15/2025

[] Denotes Deletion

CAPITAL AND **BOLD** DENOTES CHANGES

TABLE 1Multipliers of Single-Family Residential Hook-up Charges. [~~for Commercial Users.~~]

CATEGORY	MULTIPLYING FACTOR	ERU
APARTMENT/COTTAGE – ONE BEDROOM		0.5
APARTMENT/COTTAGE – TWO BEDROOMS		0.75
APARTMENT – THREE BEDROOMS		1.0
AUTO DEALERSHIP		2.0
AUTO REPAIR		1.0
BAR OR COCKTAIL LOUNGE (NO FOOD)		2.0
BARBER SHOP		1.0
BEAUTY SHOP		1.5
BREWERY (MICRO)		7.0
CAR WASH (NON-AUTOMATIC)	PER BAY	2.0
CAR WASH AUTOMATIC	PER BAY	4.0
CHURCH/CHURCH HALL	PER 150 OCCUPANTS	1.0
CLINIC/DOCTORS OFFICE/DENTIST	PER 2 MEDICAL PROVIDERS	1.5
CLUB (PRIVATE WITH ALCOHOL/FOOD)	PER 40 OCCUPANTS	1.0
DAYCARE	PER 30 OCCUPANTS	1.0
DORMITORY	PER 4 STUDENTS	1.0
DRY CLEANERS/LAUNDROMAT	PER 100 LBS CAPACITY	1.0
FLORIST		1.0
GAS & CONVENIENCE STORE		2.0
HOSPITAL/NURSING HOME	PER 5 BEDS	1.0
HOTEL/MOTEL	PER ROOM	0.5
INDUSTRIAL/FACTORY/WAREHOUSE	FIRST 20,000 SF THEN FRACTION OVER	1.0
IRRIGATION METER	OUTSIDE USE ONLY	0.5
LIBRARY		1.0
MARINA	PER 10 SLIPS	1.0
MINI STORAGE (STORAGE ONLY)		0.0
MOBILE HOME		1.0
OFFICE	PER 20 OCCUPANTS	1.0
RESTAURANT	PER 20 OCCUPANTS	1.0
RETAIL STORES	PER 10,000 SF	1.0
SCHOOL/COLLEGE	PER 40 STUDENTS	1.0
THEATER		2.5
THEATER (DRIVE-IN)	PER 30 CAR SPACES	1.0
VETERINARY HOSPITAL	PER 20 ANIMALS	1.0

<u>[Type of Establishment]</u>	<u>ERU</u>
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Apartment Buildings	
One bedroom or efficiency apartment	.5
Plus additional per two or more bedroom apartment	1.0
 Auto Dealership	
First 8 plumbing fixtures	1.0
Plus additional per 2 fixtures or fraction beyond 8	.25
Plus additional per manual wash bay	1.0
Plus additional per automatic wash bay	3.0
 Auto Repair Shops	
First 8 plumbing fixtures	1.0
Plus additional per 2 fixtures or fraction beyond 8	.25
Plus additional per manual wash bay	1.0
Plus additional per automatic wash bay	3.0
 Banquet Room, associated with a restaurant	
Plus additional per 25 seats or fraction	.25
 Banquet room, exclusively a banquet facility	
Plus additional per 5 seats or fraction	.25
 Bar & Cocktail Lounge	
Plus additional per 5 seats or fraction	.25
 Barber Shops (per 4 chairs or fraction)	
	1.0
 Beauty Shops	
First 2 plumbing fixtures	1.0
Plus additional per fixture beyond 2	.25
 Bed & Breakfast	
Plus additional per sleeping room	.25
 Boarding House	
Plus additional per sleeping room	.25
 Car Washes	
Plus additional per wand type wash bay	1.5
Plus additional per automatic wash bay	3.0

TABLE 1 (cont.)

Multipliers of Single Family residential Hook-up Charges for Commercial Users.

<u>Type of Establishment</u>	<u>ERU</u>
Churches — First 8 plumbing fixtures	1.0
— Plus additional per fixture beyond 8	.25
Clinics — First 8 plumbing fixtures	2.0
— Plus additional per fixture beyond 8	.25
Commercial Laundries & Dry Cleaners — First 100# Capacity	1.0 unit
— Plus additional per 25# or fraction beyond 100#	.25
Day Care Centers — First 8 plumbing fixtures	1.0
— Plus additional per 2 or fraction fixtures beyond 8	.25
Fast Food Restaurant (no seats)	1.0
— Plus additional per 8 seats or fraction	.50
Florist	1.0
Gas & Go, Convenience, Bakery, Carry Out, Deli,	1.0
— With or without public restrooms	
— With seats	Use "Restaurants"
Governmental Building (County, State, & Federal)	0.00
— First 8 plumbing fixtures	2.0
— Plus additional per 2 fixtures or fraction beyond 8	.50
Laundromat / Laundry Facility — First 100# capacity	1.0
— Plus additional per 25# or fraction beyond 100#	.25
Motel	1.0
— Plus additional per room	.25
Nursing Home	2.0
— Plus additional per 3 beds or fraction	1.0
Office Building — First 8 plumbing fixtures	1.0
— Plus additional per 2 fixtures or fraction beyond 8	.25

TABLE 1 (cont.)

Multipliers of Single Family residential Hook-up Charges for Commercial Users.

<u>Type of Establishment</u>	<u>ERU</u>
Office—Doctors and Dentists—First 8 plumbing fixtures	2.0
Plus additional per fixture beyond 8	.25
Restaurants	1.0
Plus additional per 8 seats or fraction	.50
Retail or Service Stores—First 8 plumbing fixtures	1.0
Plus additional per 2 fixtures or fraction beyond 8	.25
Service Station—First 8 plumbing fixtures	1.0
Plus additional per 2 fixtures or fraction beyond 8	.25
Plus additional per manual wash bay	1.0
Plus additional per automatic wash bay	3.0
Theatre	2.5
Veterinary Hospital	2.0
Warehouse—First 8 plumbing fixtures	1.0
Plus additional per 2 fixtures or fraction beyond 8	.25]

NOTES:

1) In no event shall the hook-up fee for any connection be less than that established for a single-family residence.

2) Any user not explicitly listed above shall be determined on a case-by-case basis in accordance with guidelines then in use by the Maryland Department of Health.

3) Multiple uses connecting to one hook-up shall be assessed the appropriate hook-up fee for each use.

4) **ERU CALCULATIONS WILL BE ROUNDED TO THE NEAREST 0.5.**

TABLE 2

Industrial Hookups & Sprinkler System Connections

Domestic Water & Sewer Connection:

First 40,000 square feet or fraction	\$4,000.00
Plus additional per 20,000 sq ft or fraction beyond 40,000	\$1,000.00

Fire Sprinkler System Connection, Nonresidential

First 20,000 square feet or fraction	\$1,000.00
Plus additional per 20,000 sq ft or fraction beyond 20,000	\$1,000.00

NOTES:

1) The hook up fees listed for industrial users apply only to the domestic waste portion of the wastewater flow (i.e. toilets, sinks, showers, & bathtubs). Allowance of permits for any industrial use of water or sewer shall be determined on a case by case basis. Hook up fees, if connection is permitted, will be determined based on the quantity of flow and characteristics of the waste determined either by analysis, or projects where analyst sis is not available on the basis of at least 3 similar industrial plants which employ the same process as the one in question.

2) The sprinkler fee listed above is payable at the time of connection. There will be an additional "availability" charge assessed quarterly along with the billing for system usage.]