

Surcharge At The Tap

In order to pay for a massive \$2 billion sewer upgrade project, the MDC opted to charge the majority of customers in member towns an extra 35 cents per 100 cubic feet of water used during the first year of the project. Increases would continue for about a decade. That method, as opposed to the current fee-based, sewer assessment that is based upon a member town's property values, benefits suburban member towns by having Hartford customers assume more of the cost.

	Bloomfield	East Hartford	Hartford	Newington	Rocky Hill	West Hartford	Wethersfield	Windsor	Total
Number of water meters	5,744	14,124	20,553	9,544	4,837	20,148	9,806	6,448	91,204
Average water consumption 2006-2007 in CCFs*	1,057,504	3,036,042	7,313,116	1,515,354	1,012,591	3,066,807	1,297,823	1,712,511	20,011,746
Sewer service fee per town for 2008	\$341,308	\$1,051,595	\$2,559,591	\$528,050	\$346,807	\$1,059,655	\$452,853	\$528,627	\$6,868,486
Same fee if based on property value	\$497,867	\$899,747	\$1,887,360	\$575,309	\$382,377	\$1,472,623	\$542,118	\$611,084	\$6,868,486
Net benefit per town	\$156,559	-\$151,848	-\$672,231	\$47,259	\$35,570	\$412,968	\$89,265	\$82,457	

CCF — One hundred cubic feet; The current average residential water bill is \$275 per year.