

CHAPTER 92

WATER RATES

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92.01 SERVICE CHARGES. Each customer shall pay for water service provided by the City based upon use of water as determined by meters provided for in Chapter 91. Each location, building, premises or connection shall be considered a separate and distinct customer whether owned or controlled by the same person or not.
(Code of Iowa, Sec. 384.84)

92.02 RATES FOR SERVICE. Water service shall be furnished at the following monthly rates within the City:
(Code of Iowa, Sec. 384.84)

Gallons Used Per Month	Rate
First 1,000	\$23.89 (minimum bill)
Next 99,000	\$5.26 per 1,000 gallons
Next 100,000	\$5.05 per 1,000 gallons
All over 200,000	\$4.78 per 1,000 gallons

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Commencing July 1, 2013 and thereafter, each contributor shall pay an increase as determined by the annual CPI-U for the Midwest Region as published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics or a minimum 3% increase, whichever is greater. The % increase shall apply to the base rate and per 1,000 gallon rate.

In addition to water usage fees as stated above, an assessment in the amount of \$12.50 per month will be added to utility bills for water users. This assessment will remain in effect until June 30, 2022.

92.03 BILLING FOR WATER SERVICE. Water service shall be billed as part of a combined service account, payable in accordance with the following:
(Code of Iowa, Sec. 384.84)

1. Bills Issued. The Clerk shall prepare and issue bills for combined service accounts on or before the first day of each month.
2. Bills Payable. Bills for combined service accounts shall be due and payable at the office of the Clerk by the fifteenth (15th) day of the same month.
3. Late Payment Penalty. Bills not paid when due shall be considered delinquent. A one-time late payment penalty of fifteen percent (15%) of the amount due shall be added to each delinquent bill.

92.04 SERVICE DISCONTINUED. Water service to delinquent customers shall be discontinued in accordance with the following:

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 384.84)

1. Notice. The Clerk shall notify each delinquent customer that service will be discontinued if payment of the combined service account, including late payment charges, is not received by the date specified in the notice of delinquency. Such notice shall be sent by ordinary mail and shall inform the customer of the nature of the delinquency and afford the customer the opportunity for a hearing prior to the discontinuance. The delinquent account shall be billed a ten dollar (\$10.00) administrative fee for the shut-off notice.
2. Notice to Landlords. If the customer is a tenant, and if the owner or landlord of the property has made a written request for notice, the notice of delinquency shall also be given to the owner or landlord.
3. Hearing. If a hearing is requested in writing within ten (10) days after notice of the proposed disconnection, the Mayor and Utilities Committee shall conduct an informal hearing and shall make a determination as to whether the disconnection is justified. The customer has the right to appeal the Mayor and Utilities Committee's decision to the Council, and if the Council finds that disconnection is justified, then such disconnection shall be made, unless payment has been received.
4. Fees. A fee of twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) shall be charged before service is restored to a delinquent customer. A charge of one-hundred dollars (\$100.00) shall be made for reconnection of water service made during any time other than between 8:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m., of a normal Monday through Friday workweek. Reconnection of delinquent water services are not available on weekends or holidays. No fee shall be charged for the usual or customary trips in the regular changes in occupancies of property.

92.05 LIEN FOR NONPAYMENT. The owner of the premises served and any lessee or tenant thereof shall be jointly and severally liable for water service charges to the premises. Water service charges remaining unpaid and delinquent shall constitute a lien upon the premises served and shall be certified by the Clerk to the County Treasurer for collection in the same manner as property taxes.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 384.84)

92.06 LIEN EXEMPTION. The lien for nonpayment shall not apply to a residential rental property where water service is separately metered and the rates or charges for the water service are paid directly to the City by the tenant, if the landlord gives written notice to the City that the property is residential rental property and that the tenant is liable for the rates or charges. The City may require a deposit not exceeding the usual cost of ninety (90) days of water service be paid to the City. The landlord's written notice shall contain the name of the tenant responsible for charges, the address of the rental property and the date of occupancy. A change in tenant shall require a new written notice to be given to the City within thirty (30) business days of the change in tenant. When the tenant moves from the rental property, the City shall refund the deposit if the water service charges are paid in full. A change in the ownership of the residential rental property shall require written notice of such change to be given to the City within ten business days of the completion of the change of ownership. The lien exemption does not apply to delinquent charges for repairs to a water service.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 384.84)

92.07 LIEN NOTICE. A lien for delinquent water service charges shall not be certified to the County Treasurer unless prior written notice of intent to certify a lien is given to the customer. If the customer is a tenant and if the owner or landlord of the property has made a written request for notice, the notice shall also be given to the owner or landlord. The notice shall be sent to the appropriate persons by ordinary mail not less than thirty (30) days prior to certification of the lien to the County Treasurer.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 384.84)

92.08 CUSTOMER DEPOSITS. There shall be required from every owner-occupied residence a seventy-five dollar (\$75.00) deposit. Every rental property tenant shall provide a deposit not exceeding the usual cost of ninety days of water service, in which calculations will be based on previous or similar usage, but in no instance shall the required deposit be less than one hundred dollars (\$100.00) from a tenant. The deposit is intended to guarantee the payment of bills for service. Upon disconnection of the water service, any balance of such deposit shall be returned to the customer without interest.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 384.84)

92.09 REQUESTED DISCONTINUANCE OF SERVICE. Any customer desiring to discontinue the water service to said customer's premises for any reason must give notice of discontinuance in writing at the business office of the waterworks system; otherwise, the customer shall remain liable for all water used and service rendered by the City until said notice is received by the City.