

# Water Pollution Control Authority

## Deduct Water Meter Information

Effective January 1, 2014 the Enfield Water Pollution Control Authority began charging property owners connected to the sanitary sewer system a quarterly sewer-use fee based on water usage.

A deduct meter program was established to provide a credit to WPCA customers for water used that does not enter the sewer system for treatment (e.g. lawn irrigation, swimming pools, etc.).

The deduct meter program is **not** intended for those with private wells seeking to submit actual consumption data.

### What is a Deduct Meter?

A deduct meter is an installed water metering device that measures the amount of water used in outdoor activities that is not discharged into the sanitary sewer system.

Only the outside hose bibs (faucets) and/or outdoor irrigation systems may be connected to the deduct meter. The deduct meter shall not measure usage in a permanent or temporary water piping system that passes water to any interior water outlet.

The measurement reading of the device is deducted from the customer's primary water usage reading which is either supplied to the WPCA by the customer's water utility or calculated by the WPCA if the customer's water supply is provided by a private well.

### Do I need to have a water deduct meter?

No, a deduct meter is not required. The WPCA's sewer-use rate schedule provides an automatic summer-use adjustment to the measured or calculated water consumption during the months of June, July, and August. The current summer-use discount rate per month is: **7.5%**. (Pursuant to §86-203(2), FY 2013-2014)

### Does a deduct meter make "Dollars & Sense" for you?

An irrigated lawn might easily drink up 5,000 gallons or more a month in a dry season. Therefore, a customer using 30,000 gallons for outside watering may realize an annual sewer-fee savings of \$101 or more.

Consider your total water usage and sewer-fee as well as the cost of the meter & installation in order to arrive at your pay-off period and potential cost benefits.

The discount rate represents the average increase in water consumption town-wide for seasonal activities like lawn and garden watering, car washing, pool maintenance, or other outdoor recreational uses.

### How is a deduct meter installed?

A deduct meter should be installed by an appropriately licensed plumbing contractor in a manner consistent with all relevant codes.

The device must measure water in either US Gallons or Cubic Feet of Water. **Please be sure to select a meter that measures water consistent with your water provider.** If your water is provide by Connecticut Water, measurement should be in gallons. If your water is provided by Hazardville Water the measurement should be cubic feet.

Once installed the customer must register the meter with the Town of Enfield's Department of Finance. ([See Registration details below.](#))

### Who pays for the meter and how is it maintained?

Arrangements for the purchase, installation, and maintenance of the deduct meter is the responsibility of the property owner. The Town of Enfield and the Enfield WPCA does not provide these services. Total installation costs are determined by your individual installation.

**Will I get the summer-use reduction if a deduct meter is installed?**

No. A customer with a deduct meter is demonstrating actual usage of non-sewered water and therefore is not eligible for the automatic summer-use adjustment.

**Does the Town of Enfield charge a fee for the use of a water deduct meter?**

There is no additional WPCA fee associated with having a deduct meter. However, the meter must be registered in order for the deduct meter credit to be accepted and applied properly. (See Registration details below.)

**How is a deduct meter registered?**

Once installed, the property owner must register the deduct meter by contacting the Town of Enfield Department of Finance at (860) 253-6330, or by completing and submitting the [Deduct Meter Registration Form](#) online at the Town of Enfield's Water Pollution Control or Finance Department webpages.

If a paper form is utilized, email the completed PDF to [MeterRegistration@enfield.org](mailto:MeterRegistration@enfield.org) or print and mail it via USPS to:

Deduct Meter Registration  
Town of Enfield  
820 Enfield Street  
Enfield, CT 06082

The deduct meter registration expires upon the transfer of ownership of the property, or by an action of the WPCA.

**All Deduct meters that are permanently installed for residential and commercial use require a permit. Permit applications can be obtained through the town's Building Department located at the Enfield Town Hall, 820 Enfield St. All deduct meters must be permitted at the time of registration.**

**When should I submit a meter reading?**

**A meter reading should be submitted as close as possible to the day your water company reads your meter. (CT Water and HWC can give you those dates).**

**How to submit a deduct meter reading?**

Deduct meter readings can be submitted by one of three different ways:

1. Completing and submitting the [online Submit Your Deduct Meter Reading form](#) linked at the Town of Enfield's Water Pollution Control or Finance Department webpages.
2. Contacting the Deduct Meter Reading hotline and submitting your name, address, account number, date of reading, and the meter values. (860-741-READ)
3. Completed forms can either be dropped off at the Town Hall Reception Desk or at the Enfield Express.

Deduct meter readings for any one billing cycle may not exceed the total water consumption for that billing period.

Credit for a deduct meter reading may not reduce a sewer-use fee below the adopted quarterly minimum bill rate. The current minimum bill rate is: **\$13.00** (Pursuant to §86-203(2), FY 2013-2014) Unused credit will not accrue across multiple billing cycles.

**What happens if a deduct reading is submitted late?**

A deduct meter reading received late will result in the deduct meter credit being applied to the customer's next sewer-use fee billing cycle.

**Will the Town Audit the submitted reading?**

By registering for the deduct meter program, the resident is agreeing to allow the Town of Enfield to periodically

inspect the installed deduct meter. This inspection will make sure the reading on the meter is consistent with the readings provided by the resident.

**What happens if the house is vacant and I'm still getting a sewer bill?**

If the residence is vacant due to multiple reasons the owner of the property can request to have the water company remove it. If it is removed, the town will request a letter from the water company stating that it has been removed. Once we receive a letter from the water company that the meter has been removed, we can then have the billing stopped until the meter is placed back on the house.

**I have more questions, who should I call?**

The Town of Enfield's Finance Department administers the sewer billing program. The Finance Department is located on the 1st floor of Town Hall, 820 Enfield Street, or can be reached by phone at (860) 253-6330.