CITY OF DES MOINES
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

Notice of Sanitary Sewer Service and Stormwater Utility Rate Increases



Des Moines Sanitary Sewer Customers:

The City of Des Moines will implement a Sanitary Sewer Service rate increase beginning with bills generated on or after July 1, 2026. The increase is necessary to fund essential improvements and repairs to the sanitary sewer system. Many of these improvements are in response to permit requirements issued by the State of Iowa for the operation of the Wastewater Treatment Systems and reflect federal regulations in the Clean Water Act. Repairs are needed to improve the operation of an aging sanitary sewer system.

Sanitary Sewer funding helps support our sanitary sewer utility. Our sanitary sewer system helps reduce pollution and increase community health transporting wastewater from homes, and treating sanitary sewer flows before it is discharged back to the environment. Regular maintenance is a top priority to prevent backups into our homes. **Our City has:**

1,000 miles of pipes

22,000 structures

24 pump stations

Sanitary sewer funding also helps fund the **Private Property Protection Program**. Visit ***DSM.CITY/PPPP*** or scan the QR code for details on how to protect your home from water damage and sewer backups!

The sanitary sewer user fee, found on your Des Moines Water Works bill, is made up of two parts:

1. The **"Sewer" Charge** is based on the *amount of water used* and covers the costs of conveying and treating the wastewater created each month.
2. The "**Sewer Customer Service Charge**" is a fixed charge based on the monthly cost of operating the sanitary sewer system.

Only the **"Sewer" Charge** portion of the user fee will change, **increasing by six percent from $9.84 to $10.43** for each 1,000 gallons of water used per month. The**"Sewer Customer Service Charge"** will remain at $4.40 per month.

For example: if your current bill is $39.40, then it will increase to $41.50 **on or after July 1, 2026**:

Current **Sewer Charge**	**$35.00**
Sewer Customer Service Charge	**$4.40**
Current **TOTAL:**	**$39.40**

New **Sewer Charge (+6% increase)**	**$37.10**
Sewer Customer Service Charge	**$4.40**
New **TOTAL (on or after July 1, 2026):**	**$41.50**

Questions? Contact Us:

Website: ***DSM.city/SewerRates***
Email: *stormwater@dmgov.org*

(515) 283-4950
Available 24/7!

1700 Maury Street
Des Moines, IA 50317

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Notice of Stormwater Utility Rate Increase

The City of Des Moines Stormwater Utility will implement a rate increase beginning with bills generated on and after July 1, 2026. The purpose of the increase is to hasten repairs and improvements to the stormwater collection and flood protection systems.

Our stormwater system helps reduce flooding by conveying stormwater out of neighborhoods to protect our homes and businesses. Practices like detention and retention basins not only store water but help clean out pollutants and help keep them out of our streams and rivers. This also supports increased animal habitat and recreational opportunities in Des Moines. **We operate and maintain:**



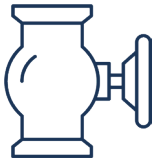
575
miles of pipes



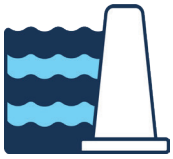
30,000
structures



35
detention basins



31
pump stations



21
miles of levees

All customers will pay an <u>additional $1.16 per month</u> for each Equivalent Residential Unit (ERU) bringing the total to $20.45 per ERU. An ERU is a measurement used to calculate billing for all properties within the City of Des Moines, based on the property's impervious square footage of all structures/surfaces that restrict the absorption of water into soil, including roofs, paved areas, and decks or patios.

<u>Single-Family Homes</u> — For a typical household, billing is based on one ERU, or $20.45 per month.

<u>Multi-Family Residential, Non-Residential and Unclassified Residential Properties</u> — For detailed information on billing rates for properties in these categories, visit ***<u>DSM.city/SewerRates</u>***.

Equivalent Residential Unit (ERU)	Impervious Area Square Footage	Monthly Rate
$^1/_2$ ERU	≤ 1,400 sq. ft.	$10.23/month
1 ERU	1,401-4,900 sq. ft.	$20.45/month
1 $^1/_2$ ERU	> 4,900 sq. ft.	$30.68/month

Des Moines Water Works serves as the billing agent for the City. Stormwater Utility charges can be found under the heading "**Storm Water**" on your Des Moines Water Works bill.

<u>APPEALS:</u> You may request an appeal if you feel your Stormwater Utility charges have been calculated improperly. The appeal period begins upon receipt of the July water bill and lasts for 90 days in accordance with Municipal Code Section 118-281. If you have previously submitted an appeal, it is not necessary to do so again unless the impervious area on the property has changed.

If you have a question about your bill or on how to submit an appeal, please contact the City of Des Moines Department of Public Works 24-Hour Customer Service Center at <u>(515) 283-4950</u> or email us at <u>stormwater@dmgov.org</u>. More information on sewer charges is available at <u>DSM.city/SewerRates</u>.

Be Flood Smart

We provide Des Moines residents free assistance to find the information needed to determine a property's flood risk.

For floodplain mapping and flood insurance inquiries, contact the City's Floodplain Manager at **APPrilipp@dmgov.org** or **(515) 283-4096**.

For general stormwater / drainage issues or to set up a meeting on site with a staff member to review flooding, drainage, or pollution issues on private property, contact the City's Stormwater Utility Division at **stormwater@dmgov.org** or **(515) 283-4950**.

We provide:

- Determination if a property or structure is within the mapped floodplain.
- Technical mapping details such as the floodway location or the depth of the base flood.
- Historical flooding information for watersheds within Des Moines.
- Advice and technical assistance for stormwater issues on private property.
- Advice and technical assistance for flood insurance questions.
- Map(s) of wetlands, critical habitats, and identified open spaces.