

**Grizzly Flats Community Services District**  
4765 Sciaroni Road / P.O. Box 250  
Grizzly Flats, CA 95636  
Ph: 530/622-9626 Fax: 530/622-4806  
[www.grizzlyflatscsd.com](http://www.grizzlyflatscsd.com)



**WATER SERVICE/BILLING FACT SHEET**  
**August 31, 2022**

**GFCSD is not charging people for water service if they don't have access to the water system. Only those with a service connection are being charged.**

- GFCSD is only charging customers who have access to the water system. At a special meeting of the GFCSD Board of Directors on March 29<sup>th</sup>, the decision was made to resume regular billing for all property owners **with a service connection**, as stated in the [District's Ordinance 88-1](#). Under Ordinance 88-1, the "base rate is charged to all customers who have a service connection." Thus, the District may charge the base rate where a customer has lost his or her home, provided there is potable water to the service connection.
- The Board's decision follows a review of current water rates, cost of service and policies and procedures for all of its customers, as well as other potential options to address the revenue loss, and its current operations and financial needs. Only properties that have potable water available at the service connection are being charged, and the first bills were sent on April 30<sup>th</sup>, for the existing base rate charge of \$68.97 per month. Customers were pro-rated for March 29-April 18. Additionally, customers who are using water from the system are also billed a volumetric usage charge of \$1.20 per 748 gallons.
- Without the financial participation of everyone who has a water service connection, our District, and the community, will both fail. For those reasons, the GFCSD Board determined at its May 12<sup>th</sup> regular meeting that it cannot make any decision that would put the District in further jeopardy, and therefore, decided not to develop a policy that would allow property owners to remove their water service connection.

**GFCSD is not charging customers the monthly base rate if there is no water infrastructure/meter on their property, and/or if water service has not been restored.**

- The monthly base rate charge applies to all properties **that have potable water available at the service connection**. This includes temporary service connections, for properties where the meter/meter box was damaged or destroyed by the Caldor Fire.
- District staff and contractors have identified any properties in its jurisdiction that have a permanently damaged/unusable water service connection (with no temporary access available) at their property and those properties are not being charged an existing base rate OR usage. At this time, there are currently about 80 properties that do not have water service available and are not being billed for any water charges.

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### **As a provider of public utility services, including water service, GFCSD must comply with the legal requirements outlined in Proposition 218.**

- As such, the District conducted a comprehensive water rate study to develop its water rates. The base rate is predicated by fixed costs; these are expenses that the District has every day, regardless of the amount of water provided to customers. We're required to charge all properties with a service connection the same base rate, and this enables us to maintain the water system infrastructure, water rights, and administrative operations.

### **The GFCSD's Board of Directors meetings are open to the public.**

- GFCSD Board meetings are open to the public, but have not been available for in-person attendance only.
- Members of the public are welcome to attend meetings of the GFCSD Board of Directors. For the past year, because of the emergency declaration, attendance has only been available via teleconference or Zoom. This was initiated as a health and safety precaution because of the COVID-19 pandemic, and extended due to the state of emergency (as declared by the Governor) following the Caldor Fire. The emergency declaration allowed the Board to continue to hold meetings outside the boundaries of its jurisdiction, with Board members calling in from multiple different locations. The Board meetings have been held regularly at the El Dorado Water Agency office in Placerville, and have continued to allow members of the public to participate through phone or videoconferencing.
- At its August 11<sup>th</sup> meeting, the Board voted to lift the emergency declaration. As such, starting with the next regular meeting on September 8<sup>th</sup>, the Board will resume meetings at the District office. The public is welcome to attend the meetings in-person. A teleconference line will still be available, as well, for anyone who would like to participate by phone. Because we do not yet have internet restored at the District office, we will not be able to make the meeting available through videoconferencing (e.g., Zoom).

We hope this clears up the misinformation that has been circulating. If you have additional questions, please contact the GFCSD by email at: [gfwater@sbcglobal.net](mailto:gfwater@sbcglobal.net). We will respond to your message as quickly as we are able.