

Service Area 3 FAQs

Annual Fees

Do I pay an annual fee on top of my monthly water bill?

No. Your water billing is monthly if you're on the connected water system. If you're on a private well on a Service Area water right or paying a standby fee, you only pay one annual fee per year. That is usually billed in January for the previous year.

I have a private well with an allocation of water, why am I charged an annual fee?

If you have a private well and you are diverting water from a Service Area water right you are paying a water rights administration fee. The Service Area has costs associated with reporting water usage, managing the water rights and paying legal fees associated with the upper private well users. It is important to note that the fees assessed do not cover all of the costs associated with the upper parcels on wells. You divert 1.0 acre foot of water from the Service Area's water right with the understanding that you own the well and you are paying for the maintenance and upkeep of the private well. The parcel owner does not own the water right but has an allocation of water per the Service Area's water policy.

I have a private well with a private water right, why am I charged a standby fee?

There are a few kinds of standby fees. You can have either a vacant lot standby fee or a standby fee with a private water right adjacent to the water line. If you have a private water right but your parcel is along the water line, you are paying into the system so that you can connect if you ever need or want to. Wells do fail and instead of drilling a new well, if you continue to pay your standby fees, you can connect to the water system. The vacant lot standby fee pays into the water system until the lot is developed. The standby fees also help cover the costs of the fireflow and hydrants throughout the community.

I own a vacant lot, why am I receiving a water bill?

Vacant lots in the Service Area are required to pay an annual standby fee. The standby fee is an annual fee, usually charged in January for the previous year. This fee is payment into the water system which allows the owner/parcel to connect to the water system if they are along the water line. This standby fee must be paid in order to connect to the system, it is a requirement for connection. This fee also funds the fire flow which is the hydrants used to fight fires.

What if I have a private water right and I'm not along the water line?

If you have a private water right on a private well, it is probably because you have a dry lot which means that lot does not have an allocation of water from the Service Area. That lot could've been subdivided or amended and doesn't have an allocation of water

so the owner purchased a private water right. Those parcels do not pay any fees to the Service Area as we don't have jurisdiction over private water rights.

Is there a way to discontinue service while my house is unoccupied?

For homes on connected water, there is an option to turn off water service to your home but there is a \$2,500 reconnection fee. We have many second homes in Service Area 3. If your home is left unattended for an extended period we recommend shutting off the water coming into the home which is done by the homeowner not the Service Area. This can prevent possible damage and save money in the event of a leak. In winter months heat must be maintained above 55 degrees to prevent frozen pipes. During the irrigation season, we highly recommend tracking your water usage. Most irrigating occurs at night and many leaks go unnoticed. Tracking water use through Eye on Water can catch these leaks early, saving you money and damage to your home.

When are the annual fees billed?

We bill in January for the previous year.

How do I pay my annual bill?

You can pay with a check by mail or dropping it off at the office. You can pay online with Xpress Bill Pay with a Mastercard, Visa, Discover or ACH. Xpress Bill pay does not accept American Express. We do not accept cash payments.