



Energy Edge

A NEWSLETTER FOR MEMPHIS LIGHT, GAS AND WATER DIVISION COMMERCIAL CUSTOMERS

MAY 2006

Storm water run-off fee debuts on bills for developed properties in Memphis

MLGW bills issued beginning 5/25/06 to households, businesses and organizations within the City of Memphis will feature a new line item fee, the Storm Water Fee. Money collected through this fee will finance federally-mandated storm water improvement projects administered by the new Storm Water Enterprise Fund.

The fee is structured proportionally, so properties that generate the most run-off pay higher fees. Each parcel of developed land in Memphis has been analyzed and assigned a value, called the single family unit or SFU, based on the amount of impervious surface area. Impervious area includes rooftops, parking lots, walkways and other hard surfaces that rainwater cannot penetrate. One SFU equals 3,147 square feet, the average amount of impervious surface for a single-family lot.

The SFU is multiplied by \$2.18 to determine the monthly fee for 2006. The storm water rate will increase annually, up to \$4.02 in 2011, as the City undertakes more storm water improvement projects. For a property with 300,000 square feet of impervious area, or 95.33 SFU, the monthly impact would be \$207.82 initially, rising to \$383.23 in 2011.

The Storm Water Enterprise Fund was approved by the Memphis City Council in December 2005, under ordinance 5135. The fund operates under the Director of the Division of Public Works.

Although this fee applies only to developed properties in the City of Memphis, county officials are reportedly considering a similar fee.

MLGW provides billing and collection functions for the Storm Water Enterprise Fund, as it does other municipal services such as sewer and solid waste, as a service to the City and a convenience to customers. MLGW does not set these rates or retain the monies collected.

The Storm Water Enterprise Fund staff can be reached at 901-576-4349. More information is available online (see URLs in Interesting Webs box at right.)

Purchased Gas Adjustment (PGA)

Rate	Consumption	Demand
G-1 residential	\$0.2000	na
G-7	\$0.1637	na
G-8 / G-9	\$0.2332	(\$0.1008)
G-10 / G-12	\$0.2572	na

Adjustment in \$/Ccf to published rates for bills rendered on or after 4/26/2006.

Interesting Webs....



Storm Water Enterprise Fund information:
www.memphistn.gov

Ordinance 5135:
http://www.cityofmemphis.org/pdf_forms/ordinance5135.pdf

Storm Water Fee Adjustment/Credit Manual:
http://memphistn.gov/pdf_forms/creditManualJan2006.pdf



Important Contact Information:

Commercial Resource Center:

Monday-Friday

7:30am to 5:00pm Central

Phone: 901-528-4270

Fax: 901-528-4547

E-mail: crcc@mlgw.org

Emergency: 901-528-4465

Outage: 901-544-6500

Did you know...Businesses require many water service types

In recognition of National Drinking Water Week, MLGW's Water Engineering department offers the following overview of water billing types.

Depending on the nature of your business, you may find several different charges relating to water usage when you look at your MLGW bill.

You'll have a charge for your domestic water use. There may also be charges for a meter used for an irrigation system and charges relating to a sprinkler system and private fire hydrants. The sprinkler system and private fire hydrants are part of the fire protection connection that was designed into your facility. The reason that there are so many different types of charges is because, although all the water comes from the same water main, there are many different uses.



The domestic meter serves all the typical water fixtures in any building like those found in lavatories and kitchens. Whenever those fixtures are used, the meter records the amount of water consumed. Your sewer charge is also calculated based on the amount of water registered on your domestic meter.

The usage registered by an irrigation meter is similar to the domestic meter with one important difference. Since the water used for your landscaping does not enter the sewer system, there is no corresponding sewer charge.

The costs related to your fire protection system are calculated differently than costs for domestic and irrigation uses. In most fire protection systems, the connection to the water main in the street is not metered. The amount you pay is an annual fee based on the size of the connection to the water main, the number of sprinkler heads in your building and the number of private fire hydrants on your property. Your monthly bill for these services is one-twelfth the annual fee.

For example, under **OTHER MLGW** fees on your bill, you might see a line with **Fire Protection – Sprinkler** and the monthly cost. The next line might read **Fire Protection – Hydrant** and the monthly cost. Unlike the charges that are based on your metered usage, what you're paying for is the ability to have a fire protection system always ready at your facility. We hope you'll never need to use the water provided to your fire protection system—with the exception of required testing and maintenance. So it's important to note, that water supplied for fire protection is for fire extinguishing purposes only. Connections to your fire protection system are not allowed for domestic or irrigation uses.

You can see how your fire protection rates are calculated by visiting www.mlgw.com and clicking on **Commercial/Industrial Customers**, then **Rates–General Information**. If you are located in Memphis City limits, rate FP1 applies; rate FP2 applies to customers outside of Memphis.

If you have questions about your billing, feel free to contact MLGW's Commercial Resource Center for assistance.

Energy Edge is published by the Economic Development department of Memphis Light, Gas and Water Division. Comments and distribution list changes may be e-mailed to: crc@mlgw.org