



Winter 2025

WATER WHYS

The Latest from ECCV

Sustaining our community by providing safe, reliable water

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Investing in Water Saving Tools



Most ECCV customers now have the ability to view their home's water usage on-demand. This is made possible by advancements in water meters.

Meters typically last about ten years. With more than 20,000 residences served, ECCV swaps out ~2,000 of the oldest meters in the District each year. Over the course of a decade, every meter in the District gets replaced. These efforts, and the purchase of replacement meters, are supported by the Administration Fee on your monthly water bill.

The latest generation of water meters provides customers with a water-saving tool. The meters are compatible with a free app called *Eye On Water*. Customers can connect the app to their ECCV account and access their home's water usage information any time they want. We've heard from customers who have used the app to detect unnoticed leaks, sprinklers running longer than intended, and various other water waste that when addressed, has led to savings on monthly water bills.

You can find brief, step-by-step videos on how to get started using *Eye On Water* at www.eccv.org/homeowner-information-eow.



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Exercising Our Valves

The ECCV team makes an exercise resolution that it keeps every year: exercising valves throughout the community's water system. Each year, crews will manually check up to 1,500 valves throughout the drinking water distribution system.

The exercise plan involves opening and closing valves to make sure they aren't sticking or leaking. This is important preventative work that allows the District to know which valves need maintenance or replacement, and which are in good working order. It takes about five years for crews to check more than 7,800 valves across the system, at which point the process restarts to ensure each valve has been recently inspected.

Valves allow ECCV to isolate—shut off water—to portions of water lines when repairs are needed. By knowing that valves are in good working order, ECCV can minimize the amount of line that needs to be isolated, and reduce the scope and duration of service interruptions to customers while repairs are made.



What The SWA Fee Supports

The Sustainable Water Assurance (SWA) Fee represents the on-going investment to provide ECCV customers with almost two billion gallons of high quality drinking water each year. For decades, ECCV pumped all of its drinking water from deep aquifers. This is non-renewable water—once it’s removed from the aquifer, it’s gone for good.

By the early 2000s it became clear that a renewable water supply—one that’s replenished by snow and rain—was necessary. Without a renewable supply, more and more wells would have to be added to the system as aquifer levels dropped, and each would produce less and less water over time. More expense, less water.

Accessing a renewable water supply requires a system that stretches across dozens of miles. Water from the South Platte River is diverted into a shallow aquifer near Brighton called the Beebe Draw. From there it is pumped out, treated into high quality drinking water at the ECCV Northern Water Treatment Plant, and pumped south (and uphill) to our community. The SWA Fee pays for the investment ECCV continues to make in this infrastructure which now provides a majority of our community’s water.



The ECCV Northern Water Treatment Plant is a key part of the system that produces a majority of your home’s drinking water.

2025 Rates and Fees

The ECCV Board of Directors sets rates and fees each year to reflect the costs associated with capturing, treating, and delivering high quality water to our customers, as well as removing used water from homes via a sanitary sewer system. Rates and fees are reviewed as part of the District’s annual budgeting process which is scrutinized by staff and the Board of Directors over the course of several months. As costs increase over time, service rates and fees are examined and adjusted as necessary.

Water rates in 2025 will increase by about five percent across the various usage tiers. During months where no outdoor watering is occurring, most customers will see an increase of \$0.75 or less per month in water charges. During months where outdoor watering is necessary, a home using 10,000 gallons of water per month would see an increase of \$2.00 in water fees compared to 2024.

| WATER SERVICE RATES | | |
|--|-----------------------------------|--|
| TIER | MONTHLY USAGE <i>(Gallons)</i> | 2025 RATE <i>(per thousand gallons)</i> |
| 1 | 0—5,000 | \$4.90 |
| 2 | 6,000—18,000 | \$7.55 |
| 3 | 19,000—28,000 | \$10.90 |
| 4 | 29,000+ | \$14.20 |
| Comparison to 2024 | | |
| INDOOR USE MONTH <i>(5,000 gallons used)</i> +\$0.75 | | OUTDOOR USE MONTH <i>(10,000 gallons used)</i> +\$2.00 |

| MONTHLY FLAT FEES | | |
|-------------------|---------|--|
| 2024 | 2025 | PURPOSE |
| \$25.00 | \$25.00 | Sustainable Water Assurance Fee A fixed fee reflecting costs associated with developing, maintaining, and delivering a renewable water supply for ECCV customers. |
| \$43.00 | \$44.50 | Sewer Fee Pays for delivery and treatment of wastewater. Increase determined by costs assessed to ECCV by partners that receive, transport, and treat wastewater from ECCV’s system. |
| \$7.00 | \$8.00 | Administration Fee Covers the costs of meter maintenance and replacement, printing and mailing of monthly statements. |