



2026 Sewer Discharge Permit Rates

City Council has approved a combined 7.32% increase to the water and wastewater/storm rates. The following fees represent the costs associated with Sewer Discharge Permits and are effective January 1, 2026. Only those parameters found in your current permit apply to your company.

Dept. By-Law #	Ref #	Service Offered	2026 Approved Fee
	5	Overstrength Discharge Fees	
		Note: Cost per kilogram of each specified parameter that is in excess of Sewer Use By-law limits, and subject to a Sewer Discharge Permit	
14-090	5a)	Biochemical Oxygen Demand (charge per kg)	\$0.89
14-090	5b)	Total suspended solids (charge per kg)	\$0.71
14-090	5c)	Oil & grease (animal/vegetable) (charge per kg)	\$0.50
14-090	5d)	Total Kjeldahl Nitrogen (charge per kg)	\$1.13
14-090	5e)	Total Phosphorus (charge per kg)	\$2.39
14-090	6	Surcharge Discharge Fee (charge per m3)	\$2.61
	7	Application Fees for Sewer Discharge Permits	
		NOTE: Fee to be paid upon application for Sewer Discharge Permit	
14-090	7a)	Application Fee	\$988.47*
14-090	7d)	Wastewater Characterization deposit (optional)	\$500.00
14-090	7c)	Amendment Fee (all permit types)	\$409.04*
	8	Administrative Fees for Sewer Discharge Permits	
		Note: Multiple permit holders pay the higher administration fee (for example, if the permit holder has both an Overstrength Discharge Permit and a Compliance Program Permit, they will pay \$1,203.87 per quarter	
14-090	8a)	Overstrength Discharge Permit (charged quarterly)	\$486.24
14-090	8b)	Sanitary Discharge Permit (charged quarterly)	\$486.24
14-090	8c)	Chloride Discharge Permit (charged quarterly)	\$486.24
14-090	8d)	Compliance Discharge Permit (charged quarterly)	\$1,203.87
14-090	8e)	Conditional Discharge Permit (charged quarterly)	\$1,203.87
14-090	8e)	Construction Dewatering Discharge Permit (charged quarterly)	\$486.24
	10	Wastewater Sampling (optional)	
		Note: Per unit costs to conduct wastewater sampling to determine permit conditions and limits	
14-090	10a)	Wastewater Sampling Vehicle Fee (per kilometer)	\$1.56*
14-090	10b)	Wastewater Sampling Equipment Fee (per day)	\$51.12*
14-090	10c)	Wastewater Sampling Technician Fee (per hour) Mon - Fri	\$64.98*
14-090	10d)	Wastewater Sampling Technician Fee (per hour) Sat	\$97.47*
14-090	10e)	Wastewater Sampling Technician Fee (per hour) Sun	\$139.28*

*Includes HST



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Breakdown of fees:

- **Application Fee** - Multiple permit holders pay one application fee per property, per permit (example: if a permit holder requests an Overstrength and Compliance permit, they will pay **\$988.47**).
- **Overstrength Discharge Fees** – Recover the costs to treat wastewater that exceeds the Sewer Use By-law for treatable parameters.
- **Administration Fees** – Recover the costs for the City to monitor a Company's discharge by collecting and analyzing wastewater samples. Multiple permit holders pay the higher administrative fee (for example, if a permit holder has both an Overstrength Discharge Permit and a Compliance Program Permit, they will pay **\$1,203.87** per quarter)
- **Surcharge fees** - Apply to companies that discharge water to the sewer that did not originate and was not purchased from the City of Hamilton's potable water supply.

Example: If a company has purchased 10m³ of water and discharges 12m³ into the sewer, there will be surcharge for the extra 2m³ added to the discharge.

Requirement of Company to be in good standings:

Please note that any unpaid Sewer Discharge Permit fees to Alectra Utilities (as the City's water/wastewater billing agent), will be transferred to the tax roll for the property if they are past due for 60 days.

The City may suspend or revoke a permit at its option without notice if the Permit Holder fails to pay unpaid accounts and account triggers transfer of unpaid fees to the property's tax roll. The General Manager shall notify the Permit Holder, in writing, 30 days in advance of the proposed action.

Sewer Use By-law Assessment Report

Have you submitted a Sewer Use By-law Assessment Report for your company? You may be contacted by an Officer in order to ensure our files are accurate and up to date. Once requested by an Officer, you will have **60 days** to submit the Report to our office. A follow-up inspection will be booked to verify the information provided in the Report. For more information, please contact us at the number provided below.

For more information contact Environmental Monitoring & Enforcement
General Inquiries Line: 905-546-2424 ext. 5190 (Mon – Fri 8:30am to 4:30pm)
Or email: sewerusebylaw@hamilton.ca