

Water Lines for Community Gardens

Water Service/Installations at Community Gardens:

A new water line installation is available to you at cost; this would apply to those parcels where the old line is deemed unusable or for an entirely new site installation: there are no funds, grants or line items from a particular department's budget available to help mitigate fees. You can expect to pay \$4,000 to 5,000 per line, and there are several factors that can influence the bottom line. You will not be refunded for the outlay once you leave the site or are no longer a permit holder.

For new site installations, please note that depending on the location of your lot and the existing water mains, it may not be feasible to extend a water line to your community garden.

You may call Fred Hodge at Maps & Records at the Water Bureau, 585-428-7562 to start the process of installation or if you have further questions about getting a line put in. A garden permit will be prerequisite for getting a line installation and for the bill to be issued in your name.

For new lines and for lots that may have an existing serviceable water line, the City Water Bureau will apply a \$175 meter fee that MUST be paid before the water meter will be installed. A \$50 service fee is levied each spring to turn on the water service to the spigot for every garden. Your yearly water bills will be forwarded to the garden contact provided on the garden permit. Failure to pay the water bill will result in the discontinuation of water service and a revoking of the garden permit for that site.

Once you start using water, your water bill will be issued quarterly (every 90 days) and is composed of two charges: the base charge (dependent on the size of your meter) and the consumption charge (the amount of water you use). For most garden permit properties, the quarterly bill would look something like this if, say, 3,000 gallons of water were used:

Meter base charge	\$23.91
Water Consumption; $\$3.62 \times 3$	10.86
Total bill for the quarter	\$34.77

Using water from April to December will probably generate three billings.

All repairs and maintenance of the water spigot are the responsibility of the community garden. Although infrequent, there have been instances where vandals have damaged water spigots and/or utilized community garden water for purposes not related to gardening. To deter unwanted use of community garden water resources, it is highly recommended that the water spigot be locked with a padlock and/or hidden when not in use.