

## 2026 Water Rates and Billing Information

Rate Comparison		Previous 2025 Rates		New 2026 Rates starting with March 1, 2026 bill	
		Water	Vacant Lots	Water	Vacant Lots
Water Rate per 100 gallons		\$1.50	\$0.00	\$1.60	\$0.00
Base Rate for 2 months ** (does not include water usage)		\$98.00	\$98.00	\$100.00 **	\$100.00

Bill Calculation Examples					
	Base Rate**	+	Water Use Calculation	=	Total for 2 months
Example 1	\$100	+	3,900 gallons x \$0.016 = \$62.40	=	\$162.40
Example 2	\$100	+	7,000 gallons x \$0.016 = \$112.00	=	\$212.00
Example 3	\$100	+	15,000 gallons x \$0.016 = \$240.00	=	\$340.00
Example 4	\$100	+	47,000 gallons x \$0.016 = \$752.00	=	\$852.00

### Billing Cycle and Meters

Bills are sent out every two months; meters are read for the previous two months.

Billing Period	Bills Are Sent Out	Payment Is Due By
January/February	1st week of March	March 31
March/April	1st week of May	May 31
May/June	1st week of July	July 31
July /August	1st week of September	September 30
September/October	1st week of November	November 30
November/December	1st week of January	January 31

**A Late Fee of \$30.00 (per two months) is assessed when the payment is not received by the due date.**

### How Do I Pay My Bill?

**Check** – mail or drop off at the CWA office; write account # on check; drop box is in front of the office.

**Cash** – a receipt must be given to the person making the payment.

**Bill Pay** – through your bank; allow 1 week for the check to arrive by the due date to avoid a late fee.

**ACH** – form is available on our website or at the office. Payments are drafted on the 20th of the billing month. If you change banks, please let CWA know as soon as possible and complete a new form and include a voided check from the new account. There is no fee associated with this.

**Credit, Debit and e-Check** – You can pay online using your account portal or come into the office and we can take payment. There is a fee to use debit, credit, or e-check.

### \*\*Why Do We Have a Base Fee?

That is an excellent question! The Base Fee covers the cost to run the business should CWA never sell a drop of water. This covers the cost of treating the water, wages of employees, and other operating costs. The excess of the base fee (and the water sales) is what we use towards all our Capital Improvement Projects (CIP). In CWA history, we have always had a base fee of sorts but it was split between a “base fee” and “CIP”. Many water associations on Camano have some sort of CIP fund. Most will collect an annual assessment which can be upwards of \$1,000. Some may assess properties based on the total cost of a project and split it between how many members are in their system. This could end up being thousands of dollars per home. CWA realizes that money is tight for many of our members and coming up with thousands of dollars is not realistic. We instead have broken down to a more manageable payment of \$100/2 months (household would pay \$600 for the year). This, along with smart investment banking to have interest work in our favor, has allowed CWA to afford improvement projects to our system without having to get a loan or assess membership high amounts.