

# 2026 Utility Fees

Due  
Mar. 31,  
2026

## Separating utility fees and property taxes



Last year, we separated utility fee billing from property taxes to provide

greater transparency and to help residents more clearly distinguish between District charges and those levied by Metro Vancouver.

Your utility fees, which cover water, sewer, garbage (solid waste) collection and environmental fees, are **due March 31, 2026**. Unlike property taxes, utility fees cannot be deferred and must be paid by the deadline each year to avoid penalties.

*You will receive your property tax notice in late May, as usual.*

## Understanding your utility fees

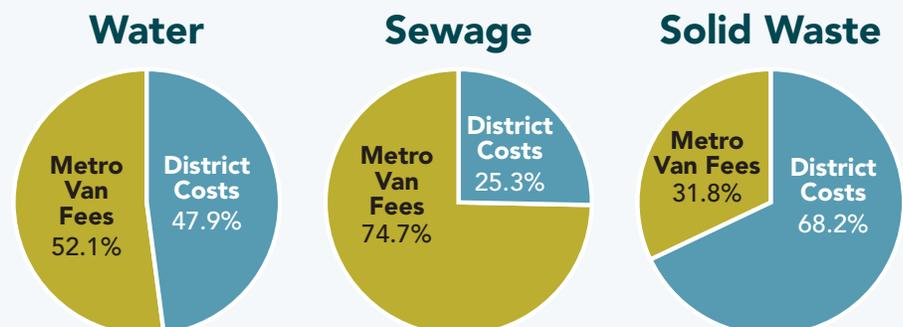


Essential services such as delivering clean water, removing household sewage and wastewater, and collecting solid waste are funded by your utility fees. Learn more: [dnhv.org/utility-fees](http://dnhv.org/utility-fees)

The annual rate you pay for these important services is a combination of Metro Vancouver and District fees. Metro Vancouver is responsible for supplying fresh water and managing sewage and garbage across the region. The District is responsible for providing and maintaining the related local infrastructure and services: delivering fresh water to your homes, removing sewage and wastewater, and collecting your solid waste.

You'll notice that a large portion of the costs on your utility bill come from Metro Vancouver. That's because we collect fees on its behalf.

**Here's a breakdown of how your utility fees are divided between Metro Vancouver and the District.**



# Metro Vancouver's escalating costs



Metro Vancouver's fees have increased significantly and will continue rising

due to projected cost overruns related to the North Shore Wastewater Treatment Plant.

Metro Vancouver also started charging us based on the amount of water that ends up in the regional sewer system during rainy weather: it's called "wet weather pricing".

When it rains, rainwater and groundwater enter the sanitary sewers through broken and leaky pipes and improper connections. This extra water fills the space needed for actual wastewater, overwhelming the sanitary sewer system. The result: sewage backups and unnecessary treatment of stormwater that shouldn't be in the system at all. Rainwater entering the sewer system is a problem in the District and our share of the regional sewer system costs will increase as a result.

# How we're reducing your costs

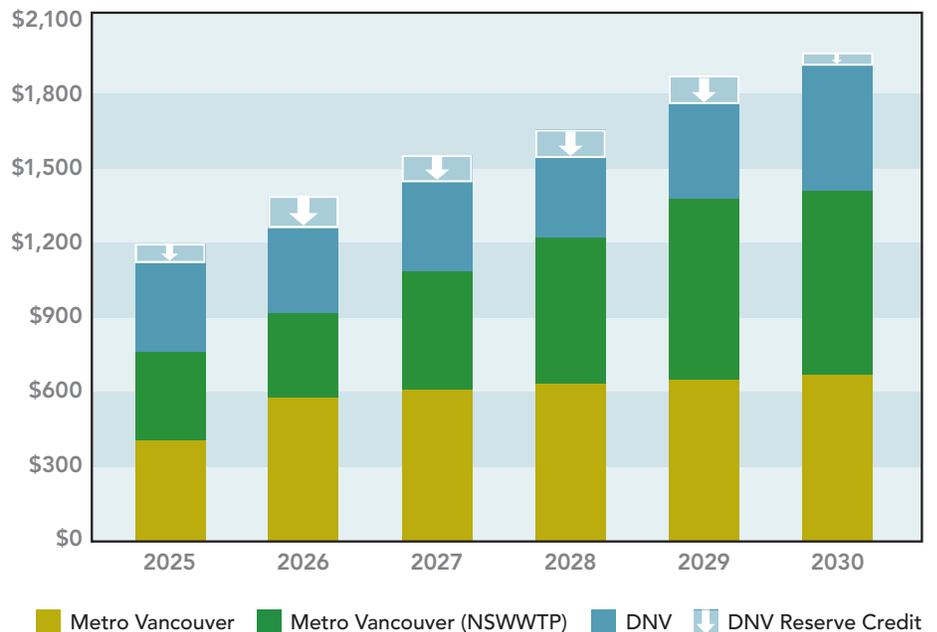


We are drawing from our reserve funds to help ease the burden of Metro Vancouver's rising costs on our residents. These reserves have been set aside to help stabilize rates.

Approximately \$16.8M will be withdrawn from District reserves between 2026-2029 and applied to the District portion of utility charges to keep your rate increases as low as possible. Using our reserves will save single-family households approximately \$123 in 2026.

*The graph below shows the estimated annual increase in sewer charges for single-family homes from 2025–2030, broken down by Metro Vancouver's portion and the District's portion.*

Annual Sewer Charges 2025-2030



# North Shore Wastewater Treatment Plant

We continue to request more information from Metro Vancouver about rising costs of the North Shore Wastewater Treatment Plant and will keep the community informed as new information becomes available.

## Questions about Metro Vancouver's fees?



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