### **Public Hearing Information**

A public hearing will be held virtually on March 31, 2021 at 6 p.m. to discuss the proposed rate increase and for NapaSan Board of Directors to take action on the proposed rate changes. For additional details, see the Notice of Public Hearing or visit www.NapaSan.com/rates.

### ? Need More Information or Have Questions?

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, in-person meetings with customers are not possible. However, NapaSan is offering several ways for customers to learn more about the rate structure changes and ask questions. NapaSan is hosting two information sessions on the rate changes virtually on Zoom Webinar to safely reach out to customers to share information and answer questions in advance of the public hearing on the rate changes. Both sessions will include an overview presentation on the rate structure changes and Prop. 218 process as well as provide an opportunity for participants to ask questions. (see details and login information below).





# General Session for All Customers:

Date: Thursday, Feb. 25, 2021

Time: 6 - 7:30 p.m.

Please use this link to join:

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83484415633

By Telephone: +1 (669) 900-6833

Webinar ID: 834 8441 5633



# Session Focused on Commercial Customers:

Date: Wednesday, March 10, 2021

Time: 9 - 10:30 a.m.

Please use this link to join: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85857829755

By Telephone: +1 (669) 900-6833

Webinar ID: 858 5782 9755



In addition, NapaSan is offering customers an opportunity for one-on-one appointments with our team to review your charges and answer questions about specific rate impacts. If you are interested, please call us at (707) 258-6000 to set up an appointment. Our team will gather all the data and information regarding your bill and then schedule a convenient time to discuss the impacts to your specific bill.



### NAPA SANITATION DISTRICT

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# Information About Sewer Rate Changes Beginning in 2021

Napa Sanitation District (NapaSan) is moving forward with a five-year rate modification that will keep rates for single-family homes stable but will increase rates for commercial customers and some residential customers in a stepped approach over several years. The change in rates is essential to continue to provide safe, reliable and resilient wastewater service while ensuring costs are equitably distributed among customer classifications.

## Will My Rates Change?

- Single-Family Dwellings
- **↓** Duplexes
- Single-Family Dwelling with Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU)
- **↑** Apartments
- **↑** Mobile Home Spaces
- ↑ Commercial & Industrial Properties (some)

### Why are Rates Being Modified?

As a not-for-profit agency, NapaSan can only charge for the cost to provide wastewater service and is legally required to ensure those costs are equitably divided among different users. Results from the 2020 Cost of Service Study show that wastewater discharge amounts from residential and other customers have changed and as a result, NapaSan's wastewater rate formula must also change, impacting different customers in different ways.

## ? What is Changing?

### **Equivalent Dwelling Unit Calculation:**

The Equivalent Dwelling Unit (EDU) represents the typical volume and strength of the wastewater generated by a single-family residential home. The EDU is used to calculate all bills and is based on average single family residential (SFR) water use, which is down.

**Current** Propose 210 gallons per day (gpd) 117 gpd

#### **Residential Rates:**

Usage varies based on residential dwelling type (apartments, townhouses, condos, duplexes, mobile homes), so the percentage of the "EDU" charge will change (see page 2).

# Commercial/Industrial 3-Year Water Use Average:

NapaSan will base future billing on a three-year water use average (compared to only one year), providing more predictability for ratepayers and NapaSan.

### Wastewater "Strength" Charges:

The formula for calculating and charging for wastewater strength (Biochemical Oxygen Demand [BOD] and Total Suspended Solids [TSS]) is changing. Depending on the type of business and their water usage, this change will have varying impacts on commercial and industrial customers.

FLOW – 50% of cost BOD – 25% of cost TSS – 25% of cost

### Proposed

ost FLOW – 58% of cost t BOD – 15% of cost TSS – 27% of cost

### Revenue Requirements:

NapaSan projects costs to remain stable. The proposed rate modification includes an annual three percent revenue increase due to the increased costs required to provide safe reliable wastewater service.





# What Does It Mean for Me?

## **(iii) RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMERS**

For most residential customers, rates will stay the same or decrease. However, based on updated water usage data, some residential users, including apartments and mobile homes, will see an increase in rates over the next five years (FY 2021/22 – FY 2025/26).

Customer Class	Current		Rate Impacts	2026 Charges
Single-Family Dwelling (1 EDU)	\$738.60	_	No change to rates	\$738.60
Duplex (80% of EDU)	\$738.60	<b>V</b>	\$29.54 per year for next five years	\$590.88
Condo/Townhouse (85% of EDU)	\$ <b>7</b> 38.60	<b>\</b>	\$22.16 per year for the next five years	\$627.81
Single-Family Dwelling with ADU (150% of EDU)	\$1, <i>477</i> .20	<b>V</b>	\$369.30 in first year	\$1,107.90
Apartment (80% of EDU)	\$443.16	<b>↑</b>	\$29.54 per year for the next five years	\$590.88
Mobile Home (85% of EDU)	\$443.16	<b>↑</b>	\$36.93 per year for the next five years	\$627.81

NapaSan understands current economic conditions for all customers and has taken several steps to reduce cost, streamline operations and implement rate changes over several years to minimize impacts.





### **(III) COMMERCIAL CUSTOMERS**

Some commercial and industrial customers place higher demands on the wastewater system and, therefore, will see an increase in their bills to ensure a fair distribution of costs. These increases will occur over six years to gradually transition customers to the new standard for usage. The examples shown here are based on the average wastewater generated from each business category. For specific questions or information about the impacts to your bill, please contact our staff to schedule a virtual meeting or phone call (see page 4).

Customer Class	Current	Rate Impacts	2026 Charges
Bank/Business Office	\$738.60	No change for the average office	\$738.60
Retail Store	\$738.60	↑ \$18.28 per year for the next 5 years	\$830
Restaurant	\$10,520	↑ \$818 per year for the next 5 years	\$14,610
Hotel without Restaurant	\$12,570	↑ \$1,678 per year for the next 5 years	\$20,960
Hotel with Restaurant	\$83,240	↑ \$8,600 per year for the next 5 years	\$126,240

- \* Rate changes will be implemented over six years, but only the first five years are listed here since a new Cost of Service Study will commence in 2026 and could result in different charges.
- \*\* Please note these increases are based on average water usage for these customer categories and assume water usage will remain the same for the next five years.

### SCHEDULE FOR CHANGES:

- Residential: Modifications over the next five years (FY2021/22 FY 2025/26)
- Commercial/Industrial: Modifications over the next six years (FY2021/22 FY2026/27)
- \*A fiscal year (FY) runs from July 1st to June 30th.

#### **How Are Rates Calculated?**

NapaSan uses an equivalent dwelling unit ("EDU") which is a unit of measure intended to represent the volume and strength\* of wastewater generated by a typical single-family residential (SFR) home. This allows NapaSan to compare the wastewater "demand" of different parcels and customers using a standard unit of measure.

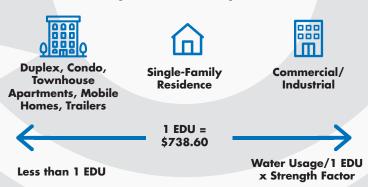
Calculation for 1 EDU – or the estimate for one SFR – includes costs for:

- Flow (currently 210 gallons per day; moving to 117 gallons per day over six years)
- Removal of biochemical oxygen demand (BOD)\*
- Removal of total suspended solids (TSS)\*

\*BOD and TSS are "strength" of wastewater factors that, in higher numbers, require additional treatment before they leave the wastewater treatment plant and return to the environment. These strength factors are known to be higher in some businesses and those businesses are charged accordingly.

### **How Are Customers Charged?**

Residential property owners receive an annual flat charge on their property tax bill based on their dwelling type (SFR, apartment, etc.). NapaSan has studied other utility billing systems and frequencies and as a result determined that flat rate billing for residential customers results in the lowest cost of service. Even for those with low water usage, the administrative costs associated with non-flat-rate billing would result in higher bills.



Commercial property owners receive an annual charge on their property tax bill, calculated using their annual metered water usage from the previous year divided by the gallons associated with an EDU and multiplied by the strength factor. Industrial property owners are billed monthly using their metered water usage and a measured or assumed strength factor. This rates proposal moves to a three-year average for water usage providing non-residential customers with more predictable bills and NapaSan with more stable revenue.