

2003 Connecticut Water Rate Survey



9 Harmony Street, Danbury, CT 06810 T 203-748-1442 F 203-798-9984
213 Court Street, Suite 900, Middletown, CT 06457 T 860-704-4760 F 860-704-4775
1000 Bridgeport Avenue, Suite 320, Shelton, CT 06484 T 203-712-1100 F 203-925-8942

Other offices: Bellows Falls, VT; Pocasset, MA; Westfield, MA; Worcester, MA

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WATER RATE SURVEY CONNECTICUT WATER SUPPLIERS

2003

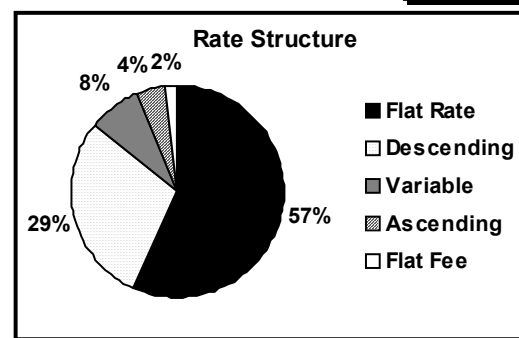
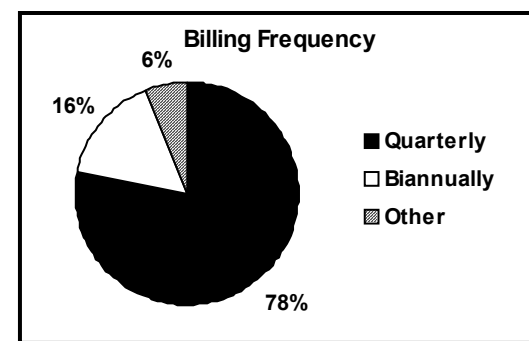
Tighe & Bond is pleased to publish our “2003 Water Rate Survey” for water suppliers in Connecticut. Our survey is limited to systems serving a population of 500 or greater. The survey incorporates available information from the following sources:

- written survey responses
- CT Department of Public Utility Control (DPUC) Website
- US Environmental Protection Agency Website – Envirofacts Safe Drinking Water Information
- websites of water suppliers
- our 2001 Water Rate Survey

About 58% of the drinking water suppliers responding to our survey use surface water as their primary water source, with the remaining 42% relying on groundwater sources.

A variety of water rate structures are used in Connecticut. Based on the written survey results, 57% of water suppliers use a flat or uniform rate structure; 29% use a descending rate structure; 8% use a variable rate structure; 4% use an ascending rate structure; and only 2% use a flat fee. To allow for a comparative analysis, we have calculated the “typical” yearly homeowner’s cost assuming consumption of 96 hundred cubic feet (72,000 gallons) per year. Based on the information included in this survey, typical annual water costs in Connecticut range from a low of \$129 per household to a high of \$590. The 2003 average is \$278 per household.

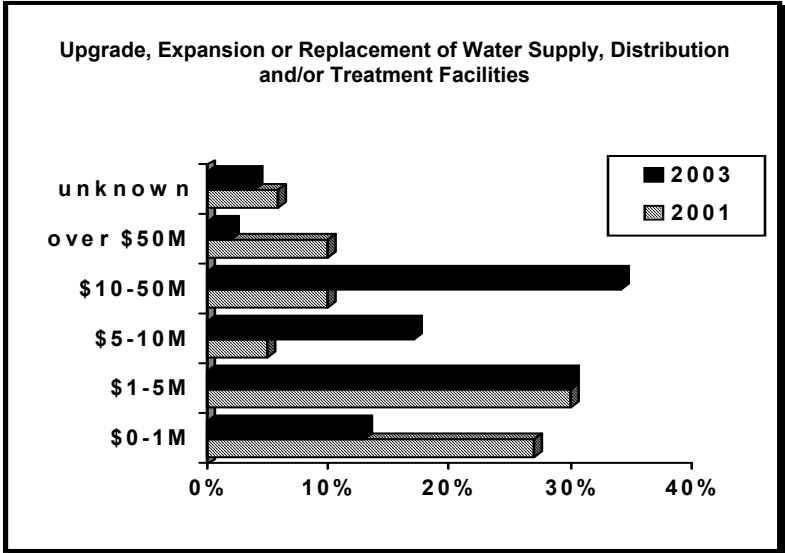
The majority of respondents use a quarterly billing cycle (78%). Sixteen percent use a biannual billing cycle, and the remaining 6% use either an annual, monthly, or tri-annual cycle.



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Approximately 95% of the written survey respondents plan upgrade, expansion or replacement of water supply, distribution and/or treatment facilities in the next 5 years. The amounts budgeted are indicated below.



Tighe & Bond would like to thank all of the water suppliers for their participation in this survey. Comparisons of water rate structures and resulting typical homeowner’s costs can be difficult given the wide variety of user charge methods in use. If we have incorrectly interpreted information for any water supply system please let us know and we will make appropriate corrections. Questions, comments or suggestions are certainly welcome. Please contact Mary Beth Morris, P.E. at (413) 572-3247 for further information.

Tighe & Bond has been providing consulting engineering services to government and industry for decades. An adequate, good quality drinking water supply is essential for every community. Tighe & Bond provides a wide range of water resources services, from identifying needs and evaluating supplies to engineering new sources, treatment facilities and storage and distribution systems. Tighe & Bond also provides expertise in wastewater and residuals management, civil engineering and solid and hazardous waste management.

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Water Supplier	Typical Annual Homeowner's Cost	Water Rate	Billing Cycle	Primary Water Source Type	Separate Business Rate	Seasonal Rate	Elderly Discounts	Low Income Discounts	Early Payment Discounts	Population Served	Last Rate Change
Aquarion Water Company of CT	\$381	Descending	Quarterly	Surface Water						400,000	08/01/97

Notes: Service charge: varies by meter size and equals \$25 per quarter for 5/8-inch meter. \$2.927/HCF up to 42,000 CF; over 42,000 CF - \$1.156/HCF. From website.

Aquarion Water Company of CT - Litchfield County	\$382	Descending	Quarterly	Surface Water						50,000	08/01/97
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Notes: Service charge: varies by meter size and equals \$25 per quarter for 5/8-inch meter. \$3.913/1000 gals. for first 314,160 gals.; over 314,160 gals. - \$1.545/1000 gals. Serving Litchfield County (excluding Kent). From website

Aquarion Water Company of CT - Stamford, New Canaan & Ridgefield	\$238	Descending	Quarterly	Surface Water						50,000	03/17/99
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Notes: Services charge: varies by meter size and equals \$17.13 per bill for 5/8-inch meter. \$1.762/HCF up to 42,000 CF; over 42,000 CF - \$1.135/HCF. From website

Aquarion Water Company of CT - Mystic District	\$419	\$3.4677/HCF	Quarterly	Surface Water	✓					NR	03/27/00
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Notes: Service charge: varies by meter size and equals \$21.60 charge per bill for 5/8-inch meter. Flat rate for residential; descending rates for non-residential customers: \$3.4677/HCF for first 9,000 CF; \$2.2204/HCF for next 291,000 CF; over 300,000 CF - \$1.9655/HCF. From website.

Aquarion Water Company of CT - Greenwich/Noroton District	\$398	\$3.2460/HCF	Quarterly	Surface Water	✓					NR	03/27/00
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Notes: Service charge: varies by meter size and equals \$21.60 charge per bill for 5/8-inch meter. Flat rate for residential; descending rates for non-residential customers: \$3.2460/HCF for first 9,000 CF; \$2.2204/HCF for next 291,000 CF; over 300,000 CF - \$1.9655/HCF. From website.

Avon Water Co. - Original System	\$313	Variable	Quarterly	Groundwater						13,051	03/11/98
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Notes: Meter charge: \$19.80 per billing for 5/8-inch meter. 0-3,000 gals. - \$1.20/1000 gals.; 3,000-30,000 gals. - \$3.65/1000 gals.; over 30,000 gals. - \$2.45/1000 gals.

Avon Water Co. - Farmington Woods System	\$410	Descending	Quarterly	Groundwater						1,949	03/11/98
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Notes: Meter charge: \$27.00 per billing for 5/8-inch meter. 0-30,000 gals. - \$4.20/1000 gals.; over 30,000 gals. - \$3.65/1000 gals. Fire protection charges: \$245.15/month for Farmington Woods.

Berlin Water Control	\$129	\$1.20/HCF	Biannual	Groundwater							2,760	10/01/99
Notes: Service charge: \$7.00 per billing for meter rental and administrative. Connection charges: \$13.00 per front foot plus \$1,600 first unit.												
Birmingham Utilities Inc. - Ansonia	\$394	\$2.970/HCF	Quarterly	Groundwater/ Surface Water	✓						31,000	08/06/03
Notes: Service charge of \$27.31 per billing for 5/8" meter.												
Bristol, City of	\$237	Descending	Quarterly	Surface Water							52,000	07/01/03
Notes: \$0.0205/CF up to 300,000 CF; \$0.0154/CF over 300,001 CF. Customary charge: \$10.00 per billing administration fee. Connection fee: \$746. Inspection fee: \$115.												
Candlewood Shores Water Department - Brookfield	\$378	Ascending	Triannually	Groundwater							1,900	1998
Notes: Service charge per billing: \$82.84. Up to 32,850 gals. - \$0.0018005/gal., 32,850-49,275 gals. - \$0.0054015/gal., over 49,275 gals. - \$0.00986/gal. Connection fee \$2,500.00 Inspection Fee \$250.00												
Colchester, Town of	\$326	Ascending	Quarterly	Groundwater							4,500	2002/2003
Notes: Fire Protection charges is based on fire service size and connection charges are based on service/meter size (1" service = \$2,900). Breakdown of rates not provided.												
Connecticut Water Company	\$433	Variable	Quarterly	Surface Water Groundwater				✓			237,000	10/01/97
Notes: Rates from website. Service charge: \$20.05 per billing for 5/8" meter. \$4.009/1000 gals. first 4500 gals.; \$5.191/1000 gals. next 61,500 gals.; \$4.009/1000 gals. next 834,000 gals.; \$3.341/1000 gals. over 900,000 gals. 68,000 customers in 36 towns. Services Avon, Beacon Falls, Bethany, Bolton, Burlington, Canton, Chester, Clinton, Coventry, Deep River, East Granby, East Windsor, Ellington, Enfield, Essex, Griswold, Guilford, Madison, Middlebury, Naugatuck, Old Lyme, Old Saybrook, Plymouth, Prospect, Somers, South Windsor, Stafford, Stonington, Suffield, Thomaston, Tolland, Vernon, Voluntown, Waterbury, Westbrook, Windsor Locks.												
Cromwell Fire District Water Division	\$331	Descending	Quarterly	Groundwater							12,500	1997
Notes: Minimum charge: \$37.89 per billing includes up to 4,500 gals. \$3.32/1000 gals. for next 33,000 gals.; \$2.72/1000 gals. - next 112,000 gals.; \$2.19/1000 gals. - over 150,000 gals.												
Danbury Public Utilities	\$140	\$1.95/1000 gals.	Quarterly	Surface Water							48,000	07/01/02
Notes: Fire protection and connection charges: \$500.												
East Lyme, Town of	\$224	\$2.65/1000 gals.	Biannual	Groundwater							13,000	NR
Notes: Minimum charge: \$30.00 per billing includes 5,000 gals. Connection Fee: \$750.00 (3/4" Tap).												
Ellington Acres Company	\$222	\$2.112/1000 gals.	Quarterly	Groundwater							2,230	07/01/97

Notes: Service charge: \$17.40 per billing for 5/8" meter. Inspection fee: \$55/hour. From CT DPUC website

Groton Long Point Water Department	\$210	\$210/year	Annually	Surface Water							2,400	07/01/00
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Notes: Connection charges: \$2,000.

Groton Utilities	\$277	Descending	Monthly	Surface Water		✓					25,000	05/01/03
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Notes: Service charge: \$4.42 per billing for 5/8" or 3/4" meter. Peak (May-October): First 10,000 CF - \$2.606/HCF; Next 323,300 CF - \$1.741/HCF; Additional CF - \$1.741/HCF. Off-Peak (November-April): First 10,000 CF - \$2.065/HCF; Next 323,300 CF - \$1.384/HCF; Additional CF - \$1.384/HCF. Connection Fee: \$15.00. Rates from website.

Kensington Fire District	\$238	\$0.81/HCF	Biannual	Surface Water							7,200	NR
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Notes: \$88.10 per bill includes 1,000 CF. Rates from 1999 Water Rate Survey.

Manchester, Town of	\$222	Variable	Quarterly	Groundwater Surface Water							51,100	07/01/03
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Notes: Service Charge: \$4.86 per billing. \$2.11/HCF up to 100 HCF; \$2.23/HCF - 101-500 HCF; \$1.73/HCF - 501 HCF and over. Connection fee: \$400 each development or \$2000/acre of developable acre for industrial/commercial property. Inspection fee: \$40.00 per connection. Bill monthly for highest 50 customers

Meriden, City of	\$255	\$2.49/HCF	Biannual	Groundwater Surface Water							59,479	12/01/94
Notes: Service Charge: \$7.90 per billing (5/8" meter).												
Metropolitan District Commission - member	\$182	\$1.49/HCF	Quarterly	Surface Water							384,000	01/01/03
Notes: Service charge: \$9.66 (5/8" meter) per bill. Member communities served include: Hartford, Bloomfield, West Hartford, East Hartford, Wethersfield, Newington, Windsor, Rocky Hil.												
Metropolitan District Commission - non-member	\$215	\$1.49/HCF	Quarterly	Surface Water							5,800	01/01/03
Notes: Service charge: \$9.66 (5/8" meter) per bill. General Surcharge outside the District (Non-member towns): \$8.31 (5/8" meter) per bill. Serving portions of South Windsor, Manchester, Windsor Locks and East Granby.												
Metropolitan District Commission - Farmington	\$227	\$1.49/HCF	Quarterly	Surface Water							1,300	01/01/03
Notes: Service charge: \$9.66 (5/8" meter) per bill. General Surcharge outside the District (Non-member towns): \$8.31 (5/8" meter) per bill. Special Capital Improvement Surcharge (outside the district) - Farmington - \$2.91 (5/8" meter) per bill.												
Metropolitan District Commission - Glastonbury	\$241	\$1.49/HCF	Quarterly	Surface Water							19,000	01/01/03
Notes: Service charge: \$9.66 (5/8" meter) per bill. General Surcharge outside the District (Non-member towns): \$8.31 (5/8" meter) per bill. Special Capital Improvement Surcharge (outside the district) - Glastonbury: \$6.42 (5/8" meter) per bill.												
Middletown, City of	\$196	\$1.785/HCF	Biannual	Groundwater Surface Water							38,000	05/01/03
Notes: Minimum charge: \$17.85 per billing includes 1000 CF. Other customary charges: \$12.50 per billing (5/8" meter charge). Connection fee: \$3,500. Inspection fee \$100.												
New Britain, City of	\$228	Variable	Biannual	Groundwater							85,000	07/01/03
Notes: Administrative charge/extra capacity charge: \$20.00 per billing for 5/8"-3/4" meter. \$12.45/1000 CF first 400 CF; \$20.25/1000 CF - next 1,899,600 CF; \$18.00/1000 CF - next 2,000,000 CF; \$14.50/1000 CF over 3,900,000 CF.												
New London, City of	\$170	\$14.74/1000 CF	Biannual	Surface Water							45,000	07/01/97
Notes: Customer facility charge: \$14.00-\$453.98 semi-annual charge - varies based on meter size (assume \$14 for residential customers). Billing cycle may be quarterly based on usage. Service area: New London, Waterford, Montville, CT - rate is \$14.83/1000 CF based on location.												
Norwalk, City of (inside First District)	\$160	\$1.75/1000 gals	Quarterly	Surface Water							15,000	01/01/03
Notes: Service charge: \$8.40 per billing (5/8" meter).												
Norwalk, City of (outside First District)	\$227	\$2.45/1000 gals.	Quarterly	Surface Water							25,500	01/01/03

Notes: Service charge: \$12.60 per billing (5/8" meter).

Portland, Town of	\$391	\$3.45/HCF	Quarterly	Groundwater Surface Water				✓	✓		5,000	NR
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Notes: Service charge: \$15.00 per billing. Fire protection charge: \$135-\$180 semi annual. Connection fee: \$450+.

Salmon Brook District - Water Co., Granby, CT	\$215	\$2.05/1000 gals.	Biannual	Groundwater							1,100	2000
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Notes: Minimum charge: \$85.00 includes 25,000 gals. Connection fee: \$175. Inspection fee: \$50/hr. Other customary charges: \$25 - turn water on and off.

South Central CT Regional Water Authority	\$299	Descending	Quarterly	Surface Water							390,800	08/30/00
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Notes: Service charge: \$28.14 per billing (5/8" meter). \$1.945/HCF up to 1,000,000 CF; \$1.477/HCF over 1,000,000 CF. Connection fee: \$625.00 (5/8" meter) - inspection fee included. Fire protection fees: \$65.61-\$563 depending on size. Serving portions of Bethany, Branford, Cheshire, East Haven, Hamden, Milford, New Haven, North Branford, North Haven, Orange, West Haven and Woodbridge.

Southington, Town of	\$224	Descending	Quarterly	Groundwater							29,600	10/01/94
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Notes: Service charge: \$9.00 per billing (5/8" meter). \$1.96/HCF - 0-100 HCF; \$1.81/HCF - 101-1,000 HCF; \$1.67/HCF - over 1,000 HCF. Connection fee: \$159 (1" tap and 5/8" meter).

Sprague, Town of	\$410	\$3.46/1000 gals.	Quarterly	Groundwater							1,200	09/01/02
Notes: Customary Charge: \$40.33 (debt service) per billing. Connection fee \$100.												
Torrington Water Company	\$403	Descending	Quarterly	Surface Water							36,000	05/02/02
Notes: Service charge: \$23.34 per billing (5/8" meter). \$4.297/1000 gals. first 75,000 gals.; \$2.292/1000 gals. next 1,925,000 gals.; \$1.910/1000 gals. over 2,000,000 gals. Fire protection charge: \$91.28-\$3,286.33 billed annually. Service area: part of Harwinton, New Hartford.												
United Water Company	\$336	\$4.669/1000 gals.	Quarterly	Groundwater	✓						15,500	1993
Notes: Commercial rates billed monthly. Service area: New Milford, Newtown and Woodbury.												
Valley Water Systems, Inc. - Plainville	\$309	\$2.221/HCF	Quarterly	Groundwater	✓						6,300	02/19/03
Notes: Service charge: \$24.03 per billing. Connection fee: \$150 (1" meter). Inspection fee: \$50.00. Fire protection charges: \$68.95-\$620.54 per quarter depending on size.												
Wallingford, Town of	\$274	\$2.22/HCF	Quarterly	Surface Water							42,000	06/01/02
Notes: Service charge: \$15.27 (5/8" meter) per billing.												
Waterbury, City of	\$184	Descending	Quarterly	Surface Water							103,000	07/01/87
Notes: Service charge: \$5.00 per billing. \$1.71/HCF - up to 4,000 CF; \$1.61/HCF - 4,001 CF and over. Connection fees vary by size and no inspection fees.												
Watertown Fire District	\$227	Descending	Quarterly	Groundwater	✓						7,500	07/01/01
Notes: Minimum charge: \$35.44 per billing includes 10,568 gals; \$2.87/1000 gals. - 10,568-36,988 gals.; \$2.33/1000 gals. - 36,988+ gals. Different rates apply outside the district.												

Windham, Town of (inside town)	\$244	\$1.75/HCF	Quarterly	Surface Water						23,100	07/01/03
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Notes: Service charge: \$19.08 per billing (5/8" & 3/4" meter). Fire protection charge: \$5.71-\$91.39 depending on meter size. Connection fee: \$250. Assessment fee: \$250.

Windham, Town of (outside town)	\$307	\$2.20/HCF	Quarterly	Surface Water						1,900	07/01/00
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Notes: Service charge: \$24.03 per billing (5/8" & 3/4" meter). Fire protection charge: \$7.67-\$122.78 depending on meter size.

Footnotes:

1. Typical Annual Homeowner's Cost was determined assuming annual household consumption of 96 HCF = 72,000 gals as per the CT DPUC.
2. HCF is hundred cubic feet.
3. NR = No Response

