

Fact Sheet



The Barossa Council

Community Wastewater Management System (CWMS) Connection / Augmentation Charge

Properties in The Barossa Council are serviced by a Community Wastewater Management System (CWMS) servicing over 7800 connections across 7 networks.

The CWMS provides environmentally safe management of wastewater. The connection/augmentation charge allows for new loads to be added to the CWMS and is based on the need to construct additional treatment infrastructure to cater for the additional wastewater.

The Water Industry Act 2012 establishes the regulatory framework for the water and sewerage industry in South Australia. Under the Act, the Council's CWMS, as a water entity, must operate under a full cost recovery financial model, which is independent of Council's rate income.

To comply with this regulatory framework all activities undertaken by the Council CWMS have been separated from Council's general budget and are operated independently, as if a separate business. In turn, within the CWMS, the sewer operation business and the reuse water supply business have been separated.

It is under this framework that Council determines the real cost of the supply of sewerage services to our customers and charges are based on achieving full cost recovery of all service and connection fees.

There are two general types of CWMS charges which are charged annually on the property rates notice.

- **Vacant Residential / Non-Residential Charge (Land Only)**

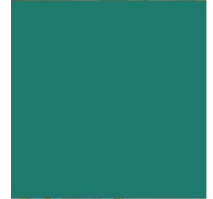
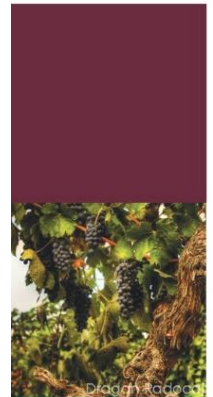
- CWMS infrastructure only has been provided for the piece of land.

*** Please note – You can only discharge wastewater once an approved septic system is connected to the CWMS.*

- *The annual fee will then convert from Vacant to Connected.*

- **Connected Residential / Non-Residential Charge (Single Dwelling)**

- Permits the property owner to discharge all sewerage waste via an approved wastewater system into the CWMS.



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CWMS – Annual Service Charge Cost Breakdown

	Activity / Costs	Approx. % of charge	Vacant Charge (32% of full fee)	Connected Charge (100% of full fee)
1	Septic pump out	8	-	Payable
2	Effluent collection, maintenance and repair	34	-	Payable
3	Treatment	11	-	Payable
4	Depreciation of assets	30	Payable	Payable
5	Admin, customer service	6	-	Payable
6	Government Fee	2	Payable	Payable
7	Operational reserve / other	9	-	Payable

Charged per new Residential Connection Allotment or additional loads to the CWMS are based on the need to construct additional treatment infrastructure to cater for the additional wastewater. The augmentation is paid per dwelling load blocks with a disposals rate of 490L/day (SA Health Design Guideline flow rate)

Please refer to The Barossa Council's Fees and Charges Register.

All land sub-divisions within townships may be subject to a connection/augmentation charge per allotment. Connection/augmentation charges are payable before clearance is given.

The installation of a new CWMS connection or septic tank size upgrade may require a connection/augmentation charge, which is payable before final wastewater system approval is given.

Please note that no connection to the CWMS can be commenced without written approval from all relevant authorities.

For additional clarification of these guidelines contact the CWMS Co-ordinator at The Barossa Council 8563 8444.