

**Four Rivers Sanitation Authority (Authority)
Credit Meter FAQ's**

**The decision for having a credit meter MUST be made by the property owner.
Credit Meters usually account for irrigation systems.
ONLY METERED WATER SERVICES ARE ELIGIBLE.**

1. What are my options?

Option 1: *{NO cost Option}*

Use the Authority's Summer Usage Period (SUP) discount program. The SUP is from April 1 through September 30. This period historically includes the greatest usage of non-returnable water to the Authority due to summer activities including, but not limited to, lawn watering, garden watering, filling pools, and car washing. Here is the calculation:

(a) The user's water meter readings for at least 75% (45 days is the minimum amount of water meter readings to qualify) of the Winter Usage Period (January 1 through the last day in February) shall be used to calculate a daily water usage amount. This daily water usage amount plus 20% is compared to the Summer Usage Period average daily usage amounts;

(b) If the SUP average daily usage is less than or equal to the calculated Winter Usage Period daily usage amount plus 20%, then the average daily usage will be used in preparing the user's bill;

(c) If actual usage is greater than the calculated Winter Usage Period daily usage amount plus 20%, the calculated Winter Usage Period daily usage amount plus 20% will be used in preparing the user's bill.

OPTION 1 IS THE DEFAULT OPTION.

Option 2:

Pay a \$12 quarterly fee for a residential credit meter and an Automatic Meter Reading (AMR) head. The fee may be higher if the meter is larger. This quarterly fee covers the cost, installation (up to the current quoted rate from the installer of \$160), and maintenance of the residential credit meter and AMR. An additional fee may be assessed depending on the complexity of the installation, the additional fee is determined by the plumber before installation. The property owner is responsible for any damage not caused by normal usage. The fee will be reviewed annually and may change. **IF, AFTER INSTALLATION, YOU DECIDE YOU DO NOT WANT A RESIDENTIAL CREDIT METER** there is a one-time disconnection fee to cover original installation, de-installation and any reconditioning of the credit meter and AMR. The cost is up to \$600. All credit meter fee payments made to date are considered when calculating the disconnection fee.

Option 3:

Install your own itron compatible meter and pay a \$8 quarterly meter read/ERT fee. The owner assumes responsibility for all meter failures.

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2. What are the benefits of having a credit meter?

The **benefits** of having a credit meter include:

- 1) your credit meter is automatically and accurately read;
- 2) the meter is installed and maintained by the Authority (Option 2)

3. Exactly where will the credit meter be installed, or located (due to pets, a fence, small cellar, etc.)?

The new credit meter location is determined by the location of the current credit meter and/or any concerns determined by the Authority installer. The credit meter must be in an all-weather protected location with good accessibility.

4. How will the credit meter be read? Is an appointment necessary?

The new credit meter will be compatible with the Authority's AMR equipment. This allows Authority staff to read the credit meter from a distance and, in most cases, it can be read from outside the home. No appointment for meter reading is necessary.

5. What happens if my house is sold and the next owner doesn't want the credit meter?

There is a one-time disconnection fee to cover original installation, de-installation and any reconditioning of the credit meter and AMR. **The cost is up to \$600.** All credit meter fee payments made to date are considered when calculating the disconnection fee.

6. Will the yearly fee increase?

The amount of the yearly fee is determined by the cost of the credit meters, installation and maintenance costs, and inspection/permit fees. The Authority must also account for replacement costs. All of these expenses will be reviewed annually and may cause the yearly fee to increase.

7. Who will install the credit meter and AMR?

The credit meter and AMR will be installed by a licensed plumber contracted by the Authority.

8. Our credit meter serves more than one residence. How will we be metered?

Each residence will require a separate credit meter.

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9. **Will an appointment be necessary for installation of the credit meter?**
Whether or not the occupant needs to be present for the credit meter installation depends on a number of factors. The specific requirements for your credit meter will be completely explained to you prior to installation.
10. **Should I get a credit meter?**
The decision is yours. **If you do not want a credit meter, you will be put on the Summer Usage Period discount program, explained in Option 1, above.**