

## Commercial Fire Development Fee (Monthly)

### Introduction

DeSoto County is the 3<sup>rd</sup> fastest growing county in Mississippi, but it is the most densely populated of all the counties. With a great school system, strong economic atmosphere, an abundance of developable land, and a booming industry in the Midsouth area, it has made the Eudora area desirable both residentially and commercially. We are going through growing pains of transitioning from a rural country water system to a suburban water supply system. Where fire hydrants and the water main size were once not even a consideration, we are tactically and financially planning to upgrade water mains, capacity, and add fire hydrants.

### Why is this important?

“The availability of water is essential for fire-fighting operations. The amount of water required to fight a fire depends on many things, including the type of construction, the location of the fire, the contents of the building, response time and the capabilities of the fire department. Fires will increase in size very quickly from the time of ignition to the arrival of the fire department.” (2018 International Fire Code and Commentary as adopted by DeSoto County, Appendix B)

**40% of your fire insurance rating is based on Water Supply.** The bottom line is the more businesses and more houses that come into our area (we call this an increased fire load), the more we must protect through water supply and firefighting operations. When the rating bureau comes to review and grade us, they look at all of our development commercially (gas stations, event centers, churches, large commercial barns, etc.) and residentially to see if adopted Building and Fire Codes have been enforced (fire hydrants, fire sprinkler systems, fire pumps, etc.) and if water supply is sufficient for both drinking water and fire protection.

### Why does fire protection cost so much?

**If our community water system was not used to fight fires, the water system would cost significantly less to operate and maintain due to smaller mains, pumps, and storage tanks.** When we look at fire protection, we must look at increasing the size of our water mains from the water tower, installing hydrants, increasing pump capacity, and increasing storage capacity, which all must be in place to supply water for a fire.

What is the Commercial Fire Development Fee?

The Commercial Fire Development Fee is a fee applied monthly to commercial water customers used to develop our rural water system into a sufficient fire protection water supply needed for commercial building. We are basing this fee off the required fire flow of the 2018 International Fire Code as adopted by DeSoto County without any reduction or increase in fire flow values. (Non-profit community-based entities may petition EUA for waiver or partial waiver of this fee based on financial need. This will require an annual review of the financial hardship.)

What is the formula for the Commercial Fire Development Fee?

The formula is based on the 2018 International Fire Code Appendix B TABLE B105.1(2). This table is provided on the next page for information on the Commercial Fire Development Fee Schedule only. Any decision(s) made by the DeSoto County Building Department or Fire Marshal's Office to increase or reduce fire flow has no effect on the fee schedule itself.

The Formula is:

Commercial Fire Protection Fee = (Fire Flow (Gallons per Minute)) x Number of Minutes in an hour (60) x Flow Duration/10 years/12 months/1000 gallons (price based on every thousand gallons X \$10 (per thousand gallons

The table provided on the next sheet provides the calculated fees to fire flow requirements.

Is this a guarantee of fire flow from the water supply system?

**NO.** This fee is for us to financially develop the water supply system with the goal of meeting fire flow demand. The honest answer is this could take us decades to achieve.

Will these funds end up permanently in the General Fund and be used for other purposes?

**NO.** These funds will be transferred monthly from the General Fund to the System Development Fund for the purposes of fire protection development. This is included but not limited to: increasing the size of our water mains from the water tower, installing hydrants, increasing pump capacity, and increasing storage capacity. **These funds will not be used for operations and maintenance.**

FIRE-FLOW CALCULATION AREA (square feet)					FIRE FLOW (gallons per minute)	FLOW DURATION (hours)	CFPSF Per Month
Type IA and IB	Type IIA and IIIA	Type IV and V	Type IIB and IIIB	Type V-B			
0-22,700	0-12,700	0-8,200	0-5,900	0-3,600	1,500	2	\$ 15.00
22,701-30,200	12,701-17,000	8,201-10,900	5,901-7,900	3,601-4,800	1,750		\$ 17.50
30,201-38,700	17,001-21,800	10,901-12,900	7,901-9,800	4,801-6,200	2,000		\$ 20.00
38,701-48,300	21,801-24,200	12,901-17,400	9,801-12,600	6,201-7,700	2,250		\$ 22.50
48,301-59,000	24,201-33,200	17,401-21,300	12,601-15,400	7,701-9,400	2,500		\$ 25.00
59,001-70,900	33,201-39,700	21,301-25,500	15,401-18,400	9,401-11,300	2,750		\$ 27.50
70,901-83,700	39,701-47,100	25,501-30,100	18,401-21,800	11,301-13,400	3,000	3	\$ 45.00
83,701-97,700	47,101-54,900	30,101-35,200	21,801-25,900	13,401-15,600	3,250		\$ 48.75
97,701-112,700	54,901-63,400	35,201-40,600	25,901-29,300	15,601-18,000	3,500		\$ 52.50
112,701-128,700	63,401-72,400	40,601-46,400	29,301-33,500	18,001-20,600	3,750		\$ 56.25
128,701-145,900	72,401-82,100	46,401-52,500	33,501-37,900	20,601-23,300	4,000	4	\$ 80.00
145,901-164,200	82,101-92,400	52,501-59,100	37,901-42,700	23,301-26,300	4,250		\$ 85.00
164,201-183,400	92,401-103,100	59,101-66,000	42,701-47,700	26,301-29,300	4,500		\$ 90.00
183,401-203,700	103,101-114,600	66,001-73,300	47,701-53,000	29,301-32,600	4,750		\$ 95.00
203,701-225,200	114,601-126,700	73,301-81,100	53,001-58,600	32,601-36,000	5,000		\$ 100.00
225,201-247,700	126,701-139,400	81,101-89,200	58,601-65,400	36,001-39,600	5,250		\$ 105.00
247,701-271,200	139,401-152,600	89,201-97,700	65,401-70,600	39,601-43,400	5,500		\$ 110.00
271,201-295,900	152,601-166,500	97,701-106,500	70,601-77,000	43,401-47,400	5,750		\$ 115.00
295,901-Greater	166,501-Greater	106,501-115,800	77,001-83,700	47,401-51,500	6,000		\$ 120.00
Any larger, please contact Eudora Utilities Association							

For SI: 1 square foot = 0.0929 m<sup>2</sup>, 1 gallon per minute = 3.785 L/m, 1 pound per square inch = 6.895 kPa.

\*\*This table is provided for information for the CFDF Schedule only. Any decision(s) made by the DeSoto County Building Department or Fire Marshal's Office to increase or reduce your fire flow has no effect on the fee schedule above. This table is not a guarantee of fire flow.\*\*

Formula = (Fire Flow (Gallons per Minute)\*Number of Minutes in an hour (60)\*Flow Duration)/10 years/12 months/1000 gallons (price based on every thousand gallons)\*\$10 per thousand gallons