

This information was compiled by the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources, in compliance with H.769/Act 161 of 2012. The Section I summary contains information on fees for ground water extraction in 29 states. The Section II table contains the fees charged to bottled water suppliers. Only 18 states charge fees for operating a water bottling facility. Overall, the fee amounts for groundwater extraction vary greatly. Some states do not charge. Other states have thresholds for how much need to be extracted before a fee is required. Texas bases it on acres used. Alaska has a range based on the gallons per day withdrawn.

I. States Summary:

Unless noted otherwise, the fees below are assessed on an annual basis and apply to any groundwater withdrawal.

Definition: An acre-foot represents the amount of water it would take to cover an acre of land 12 inches deep. The term is commonly used in irrigation and water resource calculations.

Alaska's groundwater withdrawal fees are based on the rate of the withdrawal. For example: \$200 for 5,000 gallons per day (gpd) or less, \$450 for greater than 5,000 gpd and no more than 30,000 gpd, \$550 for greater than 30,000 gpd and no more than 100,000 gpd and \$900 for greater than 100,000 gpd.

Arizona has Active Management Areas which are locations where groundwater has been heavily withdrawn; such areas include mining or irrigation sites. In these areas the State charges water users \$1-3 per acre-foot of water withdrawn. Municipal water systems pay \$0.0055 per gallon of water withdrawn for their water supply permit.

Arkansas has a \$10 annual water use fee on any non-domestic well that is capable of producing greater than 35 gallons per minute.

California charges the majority of water users (persons, applicants, land owners) \$100 plus an additional fee of \$0.030 per-acre foot greater than 10 acre feet.

Connecticut charges a fee of \$2,050 for withdrawals over 50,000 gpd but less than 500,000 gpd. For withdrawals over 500,000 gpd but less than 2 million gpd, a fee of \$4,000 is charged. A fee of \$6,250 is charged for withdrawals over 2 million gpd.

Florida requires a one- time well construction fee and a Consumptive Use Permit (CUP). Five water management districts issue such permits and annual costs range from \$2,700 to \$11,500 depending on the volume of water used.

Georgia's Environmental Protection Division issues permits for surface and groundwater withdrawals greater than 100,000 gpd on a monthly average. The permits are issued free of charge. Their law does not transfer to the permit recipient any property rights to the water upon issuance of the permit beyond the right to reasonable use of the water.

Hawaii has a groundwater use permit that requires one-time \$25.00 filing fees and a \$400.00 public notice fee.

Indiana does not require permits. However for a high-capacity water well it may be necessary to register the well as a Significant Water Withdrawal Facility (SWWF). A SWWF includes any combination of wells, surface water intakes, and pumping apparatus that supply, or can supply, at least 100,000 gallons of water per day to a common collection or distribution point.

Iowa requires a Water Use Permit of any person or entity that withdraws 25,000 gallons or more in a 24-hour period during any calendar year. The permit lists the amount of water allowed to be withdrawn each year and is valid for 10 years. The cost to apply for the permit is \$350.

Kansas, through the Department of Agriculture, Division of Water Resources, issues permits for surface and groundwater withdrawals under the Water Appropriation Act. No permit is required for water used solely for domestic purposes. In order to obtain a permit, one must file an application accompanied by a filing fee which is determined by the amount of water to be appropriated per acre feet. Fees for 0-100 acre-feet are \$200.00, for 101-320 acre-feet it is \$300.00 and for more than 320 acre-feet it is \$300.00 plus \$20.00 for each additional 100 acre-feet or any part thereof. Public water systems pay \$0.03 per thousand gallons along with a "clean water protection fee" of \$0.03 per thousand gallons for a water supply permit.

Kentucky permits any withdrawals, diversions or transfers of any surface, ground or spring water averaging more than 10,000 gallons per day, in most cases regardless of the purpose for which the water is used. There is no fee.

Maine charges a base fee of \$250 and uses a sliding-scale of \$50/million gallons pumped or fraction thereof for (1) withdrawing at least 75,000 gallons during any week or at least 50,000 gallons on any day when located at a distance of 500 feet or less from a coastal or freshwater wetland, great pond, significant vernal pool habitat, water supply well not owned or controlled by the applicant or a river, stream or brook; or (2) withdrawing at least 216,000 gallons during any week or at least 144,000 gallons on any day when located at a distance of more than 500 feet from a coastal or freshwater wetland, great pond, significant vernal pool habitat, water supply well not owned or controlled by the applicant or a river, stream or brook.

Maryland issues a permit for the withdrawal of groundwater but a fee is not charged for their permit.

Massachusetts has a Safe Drinking Water Act Assessment that assesses users of all public water systems, much the same as Vermont does. The Assessment is collected each year through one bill sent to each public water system. The revenue, approximately \$2.1 million per year, pays for technical and compliance assistance programs for public water systems. The Assessment is \$8.50 per million gallons of water used. The minimum bill is \$20.

Michigan requires reporting of groundwater withdrawals of over 100,000 gpd and also requires a fee of \$200 if the annual volume pumped is over 1.5 million gallons.

Minnesota issues a water use (appropriation) permit for users withdrawing more than 10,000 gallons of water per day or 1 million gallons per year and charges \$150.

Mississippi charges a \$10 permit fee for a groundwater withdrawal of any size that serves a public water system, irrigation, industrial, commercial and other uses.

Missouri's groundwater users having a water source and the equipment able necessary to withdraw or divert 100,000 gallons or more per day (70 gallons per minute) are considered major water users in Missouri. All major water users are required by law to register water use annually and there is no fee. However, customers who receive drinking water from Missouri's community public water systems pay a fee, considered a user fee. Households pay from \$1.08 to \$3.24 annually (about the price of one liter of commercial d water). The amount is based on the size of population served by the water system. For customers with larger water meters (for example, businesses, industrial users, etc.), the fee generally ranges from \$7.44 to \$82.44 per meter annually, with a maximum of \$500 per year. The fee generates \$4.6 million annually and provides 43 percent of the funding needed to implement, administer and enforce public drinking water requirements that ensure safe drinking water is provided to the public.

Montana requires a groundwater permit for anyone who anticipates using more than 35 gallons a minute or 10 acre-feet a year. The fee for this permit is \$125.

Nebraska requires registration fees based on the use and pumping rate of wells; the fees are divided between the DNR and Health and Human Services (HHSS). There is a \$70 fee for wells that are designed and constructed to pump less than 50 gallons per minute and a \$110 fee for wells that are designed and constructed to pump 50 gallons per minute or more.

North Carolina has a one-time fee of \$50.00 for groundwater withdrawals over 100,000 gpd

New Hampshire has a Groundwater Withdrawal Program. Withdrawals of 57,600 gallons per day must obtain a large groundwater withdrawal permit but there is no withdrawal or permit fee.

New Jersey regulates all users of water that have the capacity to divert in excess of 100,000 gallons per day. Fees range from \$200-\$8,000.

Rhode Island has a water surcharge of \$0.0292/100 gallons sold by suppliers of water. There is no separate fee for groundwater withdrawals and the only fees involved would be the wetlands permit application fees (\$600 - \$1500) if wetlands were impacted.

Texas has 13 groundwater conservation districts that may charge fees not to exceed \$1.00 per acre foot annually for agricultural use and \$10 per acre foot payable annually for any other use.

Vermont charges \$1,390 per year for a bottling/bulk facility withdrawing groundwater. A public community drinking water supplier pays \$0.0439 per 1,000 gallons of water produced annually. A non-drinking water facility, such as industrial bio-mass boiler for a steam driven turbine, withdrawing greater than 57,600 gpd of groundwater pays an operating fee of \$2,300 annually.

Virginia's groundwater withdrawal permit fees range from \$6,000 to \$12,000 and are good for ten years.

Washington has a \$50 application fee. The fee to appropriate new water is assessed at the rate of \$1 per 4.488 gpm, with a minimum fee of \$50 and a maximum fee of \$25,000. The fee to store water is assessed at a rate of \$2.00 for each acre foot of water, with a minimum fee of \$50 and a maximum fee of \$25,000. The fee to change, transfer or amend an existing water right certificate, permit, or claim is \$0.50 per 4.488 gpm, with a minimum fee of \$50 and a maximum fee of \$12,500. A fee of \$1.00 for each acre foot of water must be paid to change an existing storage right. There is a minimum fee of \$50.00 and a maximum fee of \$12,500.

II. Summary of State Bottled Water License/Operating Fees

Although many states do not charge a specific bottled water withdrawal fee, eighteen states do charge a licensing/operating fee for a bottled water facility. In Vermont, an operating permit fee is required, which must be paid annually. Bottled water license renewal among the other states may be annual or otherwise.

2012 BOTTLED WATER LICENSE/OPERATING FEE SCHEDULE

State	Fee for the original State License	Fee for license renewal	Notes:
Arkansas	\$50.00	\$50.00	
California	\$473 -\$1335.00	\$473 - \$1335.00	For bottlers distributing greater than 5000 gallons per week \$473 for less than 5000 gallons per week
Connecticut	\$300.00	\$150.00	
Illinois	\$150.00	\$150.00	
Louisiana	\$20.00	\$20.00	License fee is \$20.00 Per brand/resp party/type
Maine (Product)	\$150.00	\$150.00	
Maine (Bev Container Reg)	\$500.00	\$500.00	Initiator of deposit fee (may not be the responsibility of the bottler)
Massachusetts	\$300.00	\$300.00	
Michigan (Product)	\$25.00	\$25.00	License fee is \$25.00 Per brand/type
Mississippi	\$200.00	\$200.00	
Nevada	\$175.00	\$175.00	
Nevada (labels)	\$83.00	\$83.00	Label review fee is assessed once/label @ \$83.00 Per label
New Hampshire	\$400.00	\$400.00	
New Jersey	\$1,000.00	\$650.00	Initial license fee is per Source
North Dakota	\$65.00	\$65.00	License fee is \$65.00 Per Brand/Type
Oklahoma	\$350.00	\$250.00	
Rhode Island	\$550.00	\$550.00	
Vermont	\$1,390.00	\$1,390.00	For an Operating permit per year per facility
West Virginia	\$100.00	\$100.00	
Wyoming	\$100.00	\$50.00	