



**COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC  
DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT**  
Division of Environmental Health

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**Environmental Health Fees**

**Effective November 3, 2022, the Merced County Community and Economic Development Department, Division of Environmental Health fee schedule below includes a seven and four tenths (7.4%) automatic Consumer Price Index escalator applied to local fees listed in previously adopted Ordinance 1898, approved on October 4, 2022, by the Merced County Board of Supervisors.**

Equal Opportunity Employer

**FOOD PROGRAM**

**\$ RATE/FREQUENCY**

Food Facility with food preparation (i.e. restaurants, delicatessens)	
0 - 49 seats	475/year
50 - 149 seats	665/year
≥150 seats	816/year
Hotel/Motel Continental Breakfast Only	275/year
Bar	510/year
Bakery	510/year
Cafeteria	510/year
School Cafeteria Other – Warehouse	427/year
Commissary	510/year
Satellite Food Distribution Facility	257/year
Restricted Food Service Transient Occupancy Establishment (Bed and Breakfast)	510/year
Cottage Food Operation Class A	71/year
Cottage Food Operation Class B	284/year
Farmers Market (certified)	257/year
Produce Stand	257/year
Farm Stand	284/year
Produce Vehicle	128/year
Foodborne Illness Investigation	118/hour

**FOOD PROGRAM (Continued)****\$ RATE/FREQUENCY**

## Vending Machines (per machine) \*

1 - 5 at location	25/year
6 or more at one location	14/year

\*Excludes machines with food or beverage which are not potentially hazardous pursuant to HSC Section 113938.

## Mobile Food Facility

Mobile food facility (Basic Cart) with packaged non-potentially hazardous or commercially packaged frozen foods (i.e. produce, baked goods, packaged ice cream bars, packaged frozen meat)	214/year
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Mobile food facility (Intermediate Cart) with packaged potentially hazardous food (i.e. hot food sales), sales of raw fish	248/year
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Mobile food facility (Advanced Cart) with non-potentially hazardous food preparation, preparation of hot dogs or coffee-based drinks with milk as an ingredient (i.e. snow cones, fresh popped popcorn, cotton candy, churros)	284/year
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Mobile food facility (Deep fat fryer, and/or cooked-to-order carts)	510/year
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Single operating site mobile food facility w/non-potentially hazardous food	143/year
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Single operating site mobile food facility w/potentially hazardous food	214/year
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Mobile support unit	257/year
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Mobile food facility (Food Preparation Unit)	706/year
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Food Bank/Pantry	143/year
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## Temporary food facility

Temporary food facility operating at a weekly or monthly community event less than 25 consecutive or non-consecutive days in any 90-day period	427/event
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Temporary food facility – low risk single event	37/event
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Temporary food facility – low risk annual fee	186/year
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Temporary food facility – high risk single event	106/event
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Temporary food facility – high risk annual fee	529/year
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**FOOD PROGRAM (Continued)**

**\$ RATE/FREQUENCY**

Community Event Organizer

Community food events with 2-5 temporary food facilities	177/event
Community food events with 6-15 temporary food facilities	295/event
Community food events with 16-25 temporary food facilities	413/event
Community food events with 26+ temporary food facilities	649/event

Swap Meet Prepackaged Food Stands 237/year

Swap Meet/Flea Market Organizer Fee

2-5 facilities	208/year
6-15 facilities	345/year
16-25 facilities	484/year
26+ facilities	763/year

Retail Market (grocery store)

<300 sq. ft. (Pre-packaged, non-hazardous food)	35/year
<2,000 sq. ft.	382/year
2,001 - 6,000 sq. ft.	510/year
6,001 - 15,000 sq. ft.	768/year
15,001-30,000 sq. ft.	1,076/year
>30,001 sq. ft.	1,261/year

Licensed Health Care Facility 16-99 beds	510/year
Licensed Health Care Facility 100-199 beds	768/year
Licensed Health Care Facility 200+ beds	1,026/year

Plan Checks

Prepackaged food / equipment remodel (2.5 hour minimum, each additional hour at hourly rate)	295/each
Unpackaged food, food preparation (7 hour minimum, each additional hour at hourly rate)	826/each
Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point (HACCP) Plan Review (3.5 hour minimum, each additional hour at the hourly rate)	413/each

Re-inspection Fee 118/hour

**Multiple Food Establishment Fees**

Fees shall be set on any premises with multiple food establishments operating under the same business name/ownership, and shall pay the following fees: 100% of annual fee for the type of establishment with the highest prescribed fee, and 70% of each remaining fee. Mobile food facilities and retail food vehicles shall not be included as multiples and shall pay the standard fees.

**ORGANIC WASTE / EDIBLE FOOD RECYCLING** **\$ RATE/FREQUENCY**

Facilities meeting the definition of a Tier 1 facility or a Tier 2 facility (MCC § 9.06.030) that already have a permit and a scheduled inspection shall pay in addition to the Health Permit Fee 118/year

Facilities meeting the definition of a Tier 1 facility or a Tier 2 facility (MCC § 9.06.030) shall obtain a Health Permit and shall pay the following fees 236/year

**HOUSING PROGRAM** **\$ RATE/FREQUENCY**

Hotel/Motel  
Confirmed complaint 118/hour

Clearance of Substandard Housing/Posted Building 1,026/each

**PUBLIC WATER SYSTEM PROGRAM** **\$ RATE/FREQUENCY**

State Small Water Systems (5 - 14 connections) 313/year

Permit Application – Initial 208/each

Public well construction permit and installation inspection (No water samples) 866/each

**PRIVATE WATER SYSTEM PROGRAM** **\$ RATE/FREQUENCY**

Domestic Well Permit and Installation Inspection 898/each  
(to include bacteriological and chemical water samples)

Other well permits and installation inspections 304/each

Domestic surface water system approval 866/each

Low Temperature Geothermal Well Permit (per site) 353/each

Monitoring and Test Well Permits 271/each

Each additional monitoring/test well per assessor’s parcel number/project 52/each

Soil Boring and Test Hole Permits 271/each

Each additional soil boring/test hole per assessor’s parcel number/project 52/each

Out-of-Service Well Permit 237/each

Reconstruction of Existing Well Permit 237/each

Water Well Destruction Permits

Permit obtained with well construction permit 62/each

Permit obtained without construction permit 237/each

Permit obtained after 30 days of date on written notice\* 757/each

Monitoring well permit (first) 237/each

**PRIVATE WATER SYSTEM PROGRAM (Continued)**

**\$ RATE/FREQUENCY**

Each additional well per assessor’s parcel number/project 62/each

\*When a violation letter is issued requiring a well to be destroyed under permit by a specific date, the higher fee will be charged if the permit is obtained more than 30 days past the destruction due date indicated in the violation letter.

**PUBLIC SWIMMING POOL PROGRAM**

**\$ RATE/FREQUENCY**

Public Pool (year-round)	768/year
Public Pool (seasonal)	382/year
Each additional pool per site or facility	171/year
Reopening of Closed Pool	510/each
New Pool Plan Check:(5.5 hour minimum, each additional hour at the hourly rate)	649/each
Pool Renovation Plan Check:(3 hour minimum, each additional hour at the hourly rate)	354/each
Water Activity Park	1,280/year

**LIQUID WASTE PROGRAM**

**\$ RATE/FREQUENCY**

Septic Tank/Chemical Toilet Cleaning Business	257/vehicle/year
Sewage System Permit (New or Repair)	636/each
Special Sewage System Permit	1,020/each
Septic Tank Abandonment Permit	508/each
Septic Tank Abandonment Permit with new system	257/each
Reclamation Wastewater Permit	257/year
Greywater Permit	380/year
Zone of Benefit Sewage Inspection	118/hour

**SLUDGE PROGRAM**

**\$ RATE/FREQUENCY**

Sludge Management Plan	2,732/each
Sludge Site Plan	2,047/each
Sludge Appeal	1,026/each
Sludge Monitoring	118/hour

**SOLID WASTE PROGRAM**

**\$ RATE/FREQUENCY**

<u>Facilities/Operation</u>	<u>Notification</u>	<u>Registration</u>	<u>Full Permit</u>
Agricultural Material Composting Operation	409/year	---	---
Green Material Composting Operations & Facilities	409/year	---	---
Biosolids Composting Facility	---	---	7,312/year

Research Composting Operation	409/year	---	---
Chipping and Grinding Operations	409/year	816/year	2,558/year
Construction Inert Demolition Processing Operations			
Small Volume	409/year	---	---
Medium Volume	---	816/year	---
High Volume	---	---	2,558/year
Agricultural Waste Disposal Permit (per facility)			409/year

**WRECKED, ABANDONED VEHICLE PROGRAM**

**\$ RATE/FREQUENCY**

Abandoned Vehicle			118/hour*
Abandoned Vehicle Removal <14,000 lbs.			156/each
Abandoned Vehicle Removal >14,000 lbs.			313/each

\* If the responsible party of the vehicle is determined.

**HAZARDOUS MATERIAL\WASTE PROGRAM**

**\$ RATE/FREQUENCY**

Underground Storage Tanks

Operating permit - underground storage tanks (UST)*			
New or existing facility and first tank			709/year
Each additional tank			128/year
Existing facility with < 3,000 gallons total capacity			439/year
Permanent closure (per tank)			1,108/each
Temporary closure (per tank)			1,108/each
Major Modification permit (per facility)			1,108/each
Minor Modification permit (per facility)			415/each
Installation permit (per facility)			1,108/each
Each additional tank			159/each
Remediation			118/hour

\*Includes Business Plan Fee

Hazardous Waste Generators

Small Quantity Generators (less than or equal to 2,199 pounds/month)			257/year
Large Quantity Generators (equal to or greater than 2,200 pounds/month)			1,026/year
Small Quantity Generators of waste oil, oil filters, radiator fluid only (less than or equal to 2,199 pounds/month)			143/year
Large Quantity Generators of waste oil, oil filters, radiator fluid only (equal to or greater than 2,200 pounds/month)			171/year
RCRA Large Quantity Hazardous Waste Generator			1,194/year

**HAZARDOUS MATERIAL\WASTE PROGRAM (Continued)****\$ RATE/FREQUENCY**

## Tiered Permits

Conditionally Exempt	187/year
Conditionally Authorized	750/year
Permit by Rule	750/year

## Business Plans

Hazardous material storage permit: For storage of any hazardous material above these threshold limits- 500 pounds solid; 55 gallons liquid; 200 cubic feet of gas at Standard Temperature and Pressure (STP). The threshold for an asphyxiating non-flammable gas or medical gas (oxygen or nitrous oxide) is greater than or equal to 1,000 cubic feet; the threshold for an irritant or sensitizer solid or liquid is 5,000 pounds.

1 - 5 chemicals	171/year
1 - 5 chemicals (large volume/high risk) *	340/year
6 or more chemicals	340/year
6 or more chemicals (large volume/high risk) *	597/year

\*If business stores greater than 2,000 pounds, 220 gallons, or 800 cubic feet of gas at STP and/or stores any acutely hazardous material.

## California Accidental Release Program (Cal/ARP) Risk Management Plan (RMP)

RMP application review and approval (3 hours minimum, each additional hour at hourly rate)	354/each
Cal/ARP annual operating fee	1,704/year

Remedial Action/Oversight of Hazardous Waste Site	118/hour
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Hazardous Material/Waste Investigation/Response	118/hour
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## Aboveground Storage Tank Program

10,001-100,000 gallons	331/year
100,001-1,000,000 gallons	331/year
1,000,001-10,000,000 gallons	331/year
10,000,001-100,000,000 gallons	331/year

**MEDICAL WASTE PROGRAM****\$ RATE/FREQUENCY**

Small Quantity Generators (with no on-site treatment)	82/year
Small Quantity Generators on-site treatment (less than 200 pounds/month)	160/year

**MEDICAL WASTE PROGRAM (Continued)**

**\$ RATE/FREQUENCY**

Common Storage Facility serving:	
2 - 10 generators	325/year
11 - 49 generators	808/year
50 or more generators	1,621/year
Large Quantity Generator (200 or more pounds/month)	
Acute care hospital	
1 - 99 beds	1,948/year
100 - 199 beds	2,790/year
200 - 250 beds	3,565/year
251 or more beds	4,537/year
Acute care hospital with onsite treatment pays the additional fee of:	
1-99 beds	974/year
100-250 beds	1,621/year
251 or more beds	3,240/year
Specialty clinic (Surgical, dialysis, etc.)	1,133/year
Skilled Nursing Facility	
1 - 99 beds	891/year
100 – 199 beds	1,133/year
200 or more beds	1,296/year
Acute Psychiatric Hospital	653/year
Intermediate Care Facility	974/year
Primary Care Clinic	1,133/year
Clinical Laboratory (licensed)	653/year
Health Care Service Plan Facility	1,133/year
Veterinary Clinic or Hospital	653/year
Medical/Dental/Veterinary Office	653/year
Large Quantity Generator with on-site treatment additional fee (except for acute care hospitals)	974/year
Plan review for on-site treatment	118/hour
Limited Quantity Haulers	
1-4 haulers	128/year
Each additional hauler over 4	46/year
	(25 max. total)
Tattooing, Body Piercing, Permanent Cosmetics or Ear Piercing	
Body Art Facility Permit	768/year
Practitioner Annual Registration Fee	107/year
Ear Piercing Notification Fee (one-time)	53/each



**ANIMAL CONFINEMENT FACILITY PROGRAM**

**\$ RATE/FREQUENCY**

Cow Dairy Fees* (based on the number of milk cows)	
Less than 300 Milk Cows	204/year
300 to 699 Milk Cows	408/year
700 to 1,499 Milk Cows	664/year
1,500 + Milk Cows	1,225/year
Feedlots	494/year
Goat Dairies	331/year
Hog/Swine/Horse/Sheep/Lamb Animal Confinement Facilities	331/year
Poultry (Facilities with potential to discharge)	494/year
Retention Pond/Settling Basin construction permit fee	494/each

\*Facilities certified under a quality assurance program approved by the State Water Resources Control Board will receive a 25% fee reduction.

Annual fees will be charged for facilities that are required to be regulated through waste discharge requirements.

**MISCELLANEOUS FEES**

**\$ RATE/FREQUENCY**

Photocopy charges per page (if greater than 50 pages)	.28/copy
In addition, copies in excess of 50 pages may be charged for the filing and copying time at the hourly rate.	
Environmental Sampling (Lab Cost plus)	
Water	58/per event
Soil	58/per event
Sludge	58/per event
Plant	58/per event
Manure	58/per event
Hazardous Waste	58/per event
Other sample type handling fee	58/per event

**SERVICES AND COSTS NOT SPECIFICALLY DESCRIBED:**

A service fee based on a per hour fee of \$118.00 or \$177.00 for overtime or costs (cleanup, laboratory costs, etc.) may be charged for services or costs rendered by personnel or contractors of the Division of Environmental Health that are necessary to the performance of their duties as required by law, not specifically described in this Ordinance (e.g. smoking enforcement, drug lab response, solid waste, and other types of environmental health activities).

## **INSPECTION FREQUENCY**

Facilities, as identified below, which are assessed an annual operating permit fee and then receives less than the minimum inspection frequency, will be exempt from fees the next fiscal year, if adequate staffing was available during the period of time that the inspection(s) were missed.

Food Facility	
Restaurant	1/year
Market	1/year
Mobile Food Facility	1/year
Hotel/Motel	Inspected on a complaint basis only
Public Pool	
Seasonal	1/year
Year round	2/year

## **PRO-RATED FEES FOR NEW BUSINESSES**

The annual fee shall be pro-rated by month except for mobile food facilities, mobile support units, temporary food facilities, and state fees.

## **REINSPECTION FEES**

A reinspection is a follow-up inspection. A fee may be charged for each reinspection needed to ensure or confirm correction of documented violations.

Except when otherwise specified, all services in this Ordinance, which are charged at an hourly rate, are 1-hour minimum and charged in half hour increments thereafter.

## **LATE FEES/ FAILURE TO OBTAIN PERMIT/SUSPENDED AND REVOKED PERMIT FEES**

Any fee not paid within thirty (30) days of the initial billing will incur a penalty of 25% of the initial fee. If the fees are not paid within sixty (60) days of initial billing, the initial fee will be doubled. Fees not paid after ninety (90) days of the initial billing will be forwarded to Revenue and Reimbursement.

Any person who fails to obtain any required construction and/or operating permit prior to commencing work or operation may be subject to closure of the facility or stoppage of work and must pay the original permit fee and a penalty of three times the regular or full annual permit fee.

The suspended permit reinstatement fee shall be \$494.00 in addition to the fee for reinspection.

In order to reopen a facility after permit revocation, the full annual fee and reinspection fee must be paid.

As a condition for the issuance of a permit, the permittee must have clearance from the appropriate planning agency to operate. Failure to obtain the appropriate clearance from the planning agency will result in suspension of the permit.

### **CONSUMER PRICE INDEX ADJUSTMENT**

All Environmental Health fees referenced in this Section of this ordinance, with the exception of State established surcharges, shall be adjusted as of July 1 of each year based on the percentage change in the Consumer Price Index, All Urban Consumers (All Items), for the West Urban area, with the Standard Reference Base (December 1996 = 100), or closest corresponding reference base as may be updated, and as published by the United States Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics. The “annual average” percentage published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics will be used to determine the maximum annual increase. This percentage, which is calculated at the end of each calendar year, is available in January following the end of the previous calendar year. If reasonable program costs exceed the maximum annual increase, an additional fee increase may be established by ordinance of the Board of Supervisors. Fees will be rounded to the nearest whole dollar.

**If inconsistencies exist between any electronic version and the official printed code and/or the underlying ordinances, the official legislation will be considered definitive.**

*Fee schedule revised November 3, 2022*