

FAQ – Wastewater

BACKGROUND

What is KMPUD’s wastewater service area?

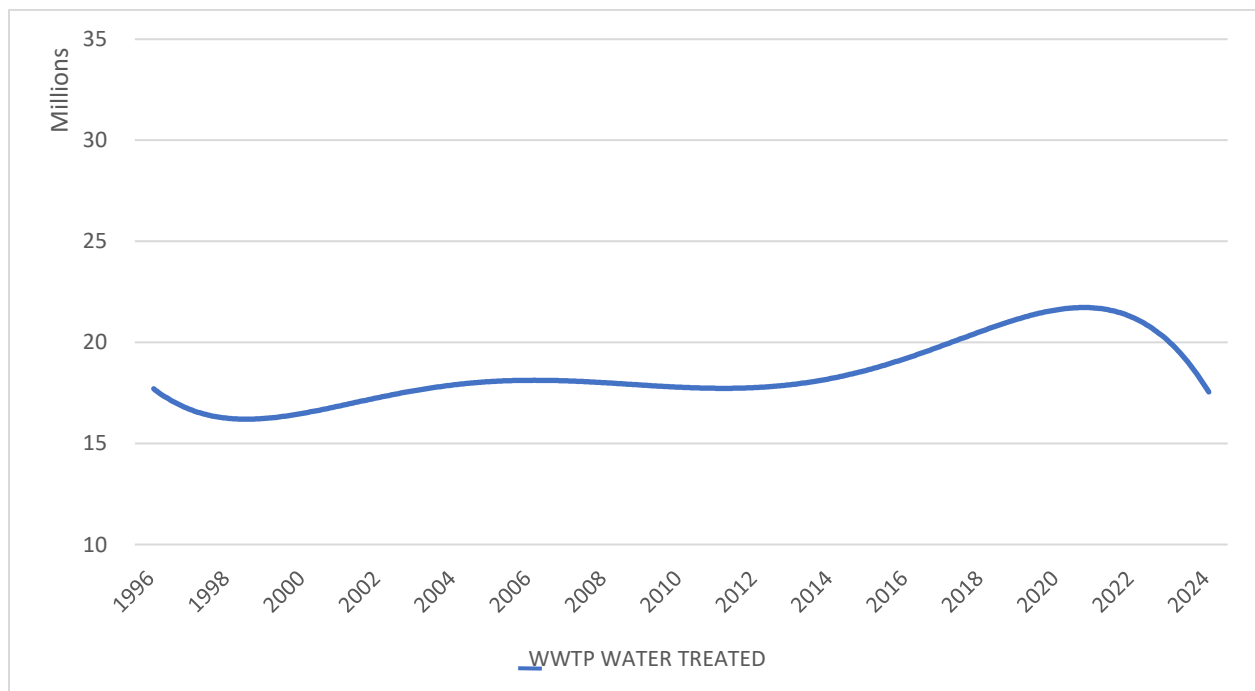
KMPUD provides all wastewater collection, treatment and disposal in the Kirkwood Valley Area.

What infrastructure does KMPUD have for wastewater?

Wastewater is collected through 8.3 miles of 6 to 8 size pipe which flow by gravity to three lift stations that in turn pump the water to the Wastewater Treatment Plant (“WWTP”). There, wastewater is treated and tested to the levels required by the State and our permit and then disposed of in three leachfields. Monitoring wells are located both upgradient and downgradient of the leachfields and that water is likewise tested in compliance with our permit.

How much wastewater does the KMPUD process?

In recent years, KMPUD’s total wastewater treatment has been 15.8 to 21.6 million gallons annually, typically 2.1 million per month in peak winter and 1.3 million gallons per month off-season.



What is Inflow and Infiltration?

Inflow and Infiltration (“I&I”) refers to water infiltrating the wastewater collection system that is not produced by District customers. Groundwater or snowmelt flowing into pipes

through cracks, offset joints, and manholes; uncapped customer laterals; and illegal connections to the collection system are believed to be the largest contributors.

Does KMPUD have sufficient wastewater capacity for build-out of Kirkwood?

Wastewater capacity is considered sufficient for the near term, but improvements will be required depending on the pace of growth. These improvements will be addressed in the Wastewater Master Plan and built as needed.

Are there major infrastructure improvements planned for wastewater service?

Currently, the Wastewater Treatment Plant Repair and Rehabilitation project is underway and on schedule for completion in fall of 2025. The project is funded through a low-interest loan from USDA Rural Utility Services and includes improvements of the treatment processes, electrical equipment, lab, and the computerized control system.

Construction of various projects to reduce inflow and infiltration into the WWTP are planned over the next decade.

How many wastewater customers does the KMPUD serve?

There are approximately 700 wastewater connections.

RATES / FINANCIALS

What are the current Wastewater Service rates?

Current rates for all KMPUD utility services are available at <https://www.kmpud.com/departments/customer-service/rates/>

How are rates set for Wastewater Services?

Through periodic rate studies – generally, every 5yrs -- which are conducted through public hearings or regularly scheduled Board meetings and are open to the public.

What is the annual Wastewater Service operating budget?

It varies from year to year. Please see the current Operations Budget posted at <https://www.kmpud.com/about/financials/>

How much money is in the Wastewater Services reserve fund?

Reserves vary monthly but are included in the Board packets available at kmpud.com.

How do wastewater rate calculations compare between residential and commercial customers?

Each residential customer's Equivalent Dwelling Unit ("EDU") set at 1.0. All commercial customers' EDU calculation considers their water EDU as well as the strength factor based on the type of the wastewater discharged.

Are the rates and reserve funds adequate to cover future infrastructure needs?

Rates studies and KMPUD reserve policy generally provide sufficient capital to fund and/or finance projects anticipated over the next 5 years in the Capital Budget.

Can you explain each line item I see on my monthly Wastewater Services bill?

Base Rates generally pay for existing infrastructure and build reserves for future infrastructure.

Usage charges are based on how many cubic-feet of *water* are used monthly. The calculation excludes any irrigation water used.

Customer FAQs

What should I do if I see wastewater coming out of a manhole or the ground?

Please call the District immediately at (209)258-4444. The District maintains a Sanitary Sewer Management Plan and will respond to assess, stop, and clean up any spills. The District will then report any spill and corrective actions to the California State Regional Water Quality Control Board.

My sewer is backed up, can the District help?

If the sewer is backing up in your home, most often there is an obstruction somewhere in your home or sewer lateral. A sewer lateral is the pipe that leaves your home and connects to the District's collection system. This lateral is owned by and should be regularly maintained by the customer. We recommend calling a plumber for this situation, and if they determine the issue is in the District collection system, you should then contact the District.

How does KMPUD communicate to me about Wastewater service?

[Wastewater Communications Policy](#)

If I have questions about my individual wastewater bill, who do I contact?

info@kmpud.com or (209) 258-4444.