

ST. MARY'S COUNTY METROPOLITAN COMMISSION
EXEMPTIONS: FEES & CHARGES BY PROPERTY CLASSIFICATION

PROPERTY CLASSIFICATION	ENGINEERING/ REVIEW/INSP FEES ⁷	CAPITAL CONTRIBUTION / CONNECTION CHARGE	SYSTEM IMPROVEMENT CHARGE	SERVICE CHARGE	BAY RESTORATION FEE (BRF)
Residential ¹	A	R ¹	R	R	R
Commercial	A	C	C	C	C
Churches ²	A	R	R ²	R	R
Church Halls	A	C	C	C	C
Schools (Public) ³	A	C	C	C	Exempt ³
Schools (Private)	A	C	C	C	C
College (Community) ³	A	C	C	C	Exempt ³
College (4-year)	A	C	C	C	C
County Building ³	A	C	C	C	Exempt ³
Housing Authority Project ³	A	C	C	C	Exempt ³
Public Parks & Playgrounds ³	A	C	Exempt	C	Exempt ³
Volunteer Fire Departments ^{3,4}	A	C	Exempt ⁴	Exempt ⁴	Exempt ³
Volunteer Rescue Squads ⁴	A	C	Exempt ⁴	Exempt ⁴	C
Agricultural Land ⁵	A	R	Exempt ⁵ <i>(until connected)</i>	R	Exempt ⁵ <i>(until connected)</i>
Federal Government Property	A	C	C	C	C
Department of Defense ⁶	A	C	C	C	Exempt ⁶

A = Applicable C = Fee/Charge owed at Commercial Rate R = Fee/Charge owed at Residential Rate E= Exempt

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NOTES

The above tabulation identifies which property classifications are entitled to exemptions from certain fees and charges, in accordance with all current applicable local and State regulations.

1. Residential properties may apply for a waiver of connection charges or extensions of time to pay.
2. Churches including parsonages and Church Offices are exempted from the first 3 EDU's of System Improvement Charges per Chapter 113 of the Code of St. Mary's County. This exemption does not extend to Church Halls and/or Church Schools.
3. The BRF exemptions are actually in Senate Bill 320, codified at 2004 Laws of Maryland Chapter 428. The law does exempt the following: County, Municipal Corporation, Bi-County or Multi-County Agency under Article 28 or 29 of the Code, Housing Authority under Article 44A of the Code, School Board, Community College, or any other Unit of the County or Municipal Corporation, or a local fire department as defined in § 9-401 of the public safety Article. The fee exemption chart is consistent in this regard.
4. Volunteer Fire & Rescue Departments are exempt from water or sewer service charges (although the law does not specifically say system improvement charges – service charges are defined as charges and fees collected to pay for the operational costs of MetCom) while used for public purposes per Chapter 113 of the Code of St. Mary's County. Exempt from service charges effective April 14, 2014 in accordance with HB 1531.
5. Agricultural land is exempt per Chapter 113 of the Code of St. Mary's County. Land classified as agricultural by the Commission, when in actual use for farming or trucking purposes, may not be subject to the System Improvement Charge when the agricultural land has constructed through it or in front of it a sewer or water main, if a water or sewer connection is not made.
6. The State has an Agreement (MOU) with the Department of Defense to authorize exemptions.
7. The Metropolitan Commission may enter upon and excavate any State, County or municipal street, road alley or any other public highway for the purposes of installing, maintaining and operating the water supply or sewerage systems and may construct in any such street a water main or sewer, or any appurtenance thereof, without the payment of a charge in accordance with Chapter 113 of the Code of St. Mary's County.