

Adopted Enterprise Fund Budget in Brief

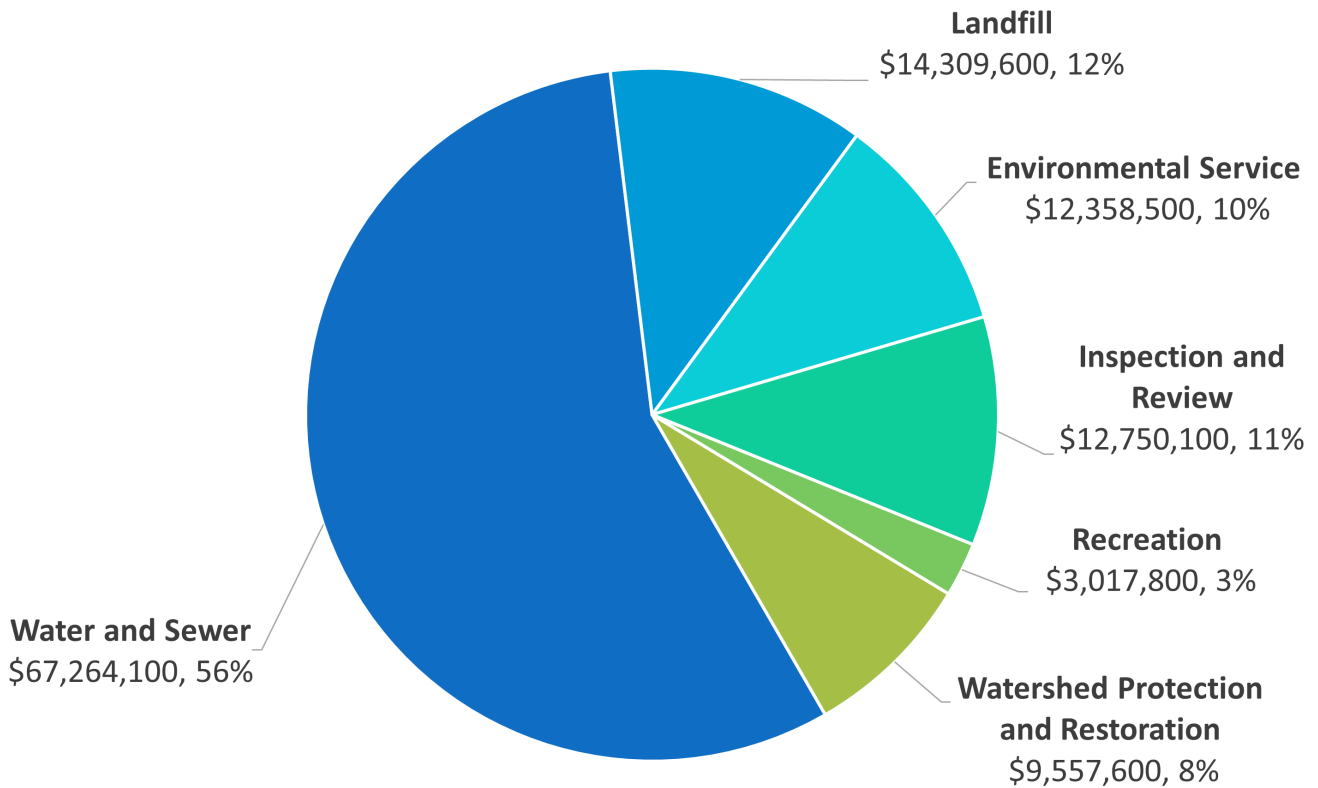
FISCAL YEAR 2027 BUDGET IN BRIEF

Fund Description

Enterprise Fund operating revenue budgets within these funds are estimated based on the expected level of activity unique to each operation and at a level to maintain a self-supporting status. These funds operate on a “break-even” basis; therefore, user fee rates are adjusted so that enough revenue is generated to pay for the system. For example, user fees and charges adopted within the Water and Sewer Fund recover the cost of supplying water to the customers, treatment of the sewer, meter reading, accounts receivable, debt service, and administrative costs of operating the system. Unlike a business enterprise, the County does not include a profit margin within its fees.

The Enterprise Funds are comprised of the following: the Water and Sewer Fund, the Landfill Fund, the Environmental Service Fund, the Inspection and Review Fund, the Recreation Fund and the Watershed Protection and Restoration Fund.

FY2027 Adopted Budget: \$119,257,700



Adopted Water and Sewer Operations

FISCAL YEAR 2027 BUDGET IN BRIEF

Water and Sewer Fund

The county manages many public water and sewer systems, the largest of which is the Mattawoman Sewer Treatment Plant. The majority of the revenue is paid by customers through user fees for operating and the maintenance of the County's water supply and sewage systems. Fees are being increased to cover the cost of maintaining the county's water and sewer system, new vehicles and equipment to support operations, new Lead and Copper and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) mandates, and for the following positions: four (4) Environmental Operator Trainees, one (1) Technical Support Field Specialist, one (1) Utilities Inventory Program Manager, one (1) Equipment Maintenance Technician II, one (1) Financial Specialist, one (1) SCADA Project Manager Specialist, one (1) Assistant to the Chief of Maintenance, one (1) Assistant Laboratory Supervisor, and one (1) GIS Supervisor. The FY2027 user fees rate will increase the average quarterly bill by 9.4%.

The adopted **user fee rates** for FY2027 are:

WATER USER FEE RATE PER 1,000 GALLONS

• Single Family Residential: 0 – 18,000 gallons	\$6.53
• Single Family Residential: 18,001 – 24,000 gallons	\$13.06
• Single Family Residential: Over 24,001 gallons	\$19.59
• Multi-Family / Commercial: Metered Usage	\$7.73

SEWER USER FEE RATE PER 1,000 GALLONS

• Single Family Residential: Usage capped at 24,000 gallons	\$15.07
• Multi-Family / Commercial: Metered Usage	\$15.07

CUSTOMER ACCOUNT FEE PER QUARTERLY BILL

\$12.62

Note: The average quarterly Water and Sewer bill assuming 132 gallons per day will increase from \$246.11 to \$269.23 (\$23.12 or 9.4%).

For more information, please visit:

<https://www.charlescountymd.gov/services/public-works-utilities>

<https://www.charlescountymd.gov/services/water-and-sewer-billing>

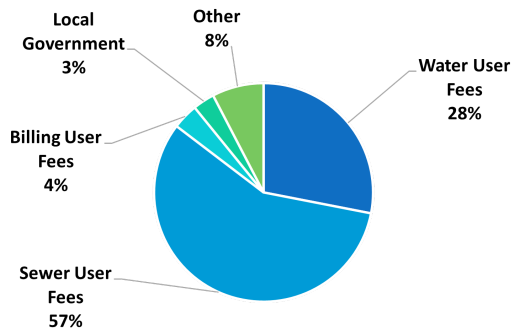
FY2027 Adopted Budget: \$67,264,100

	PRIOR ADOPTED	ADOPTED		
Budget	FY2026	FY2027	\$ Change from FY2026	% Change from FY2026
	\$60,816,100	\$67,264,100	\$6,448,000	11%

Revenue and Expenditure Breakout

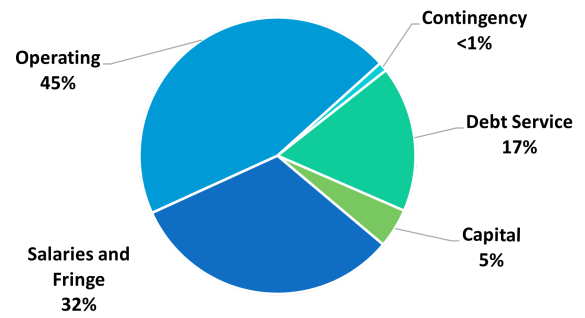
Revenues

Revenue Type	
Water User Fees	\$18,879,976
Sewer User Fees	\$38,544,224
Billing User Fees	\$2,548,000
Local Government	\$2,162,500
Other	\$5,129,400
REVENUE TYPE TOTAL	\$67,264,100



Expenditures

Expenditures	
Salaries and Fringe	\$21,538,603
Operating	\$30,292,054
Contingency	\$700,871
Debt Service	\$11,486,002
Capital	\$3,083,270
Capital Projects	\$163,300
EXPENDITURES TOTAL	\$67,264,100



Adopted Solid Waste Management

FISCAL YEAR 2027 BUDGET IN BRIEF

Solid Waste Management Fund

A tipping fee per ton for commercial and residential refuse is collected to cover the cost of operating the current landfill, future landfill cell expansion, and post closure costs. The **tipping fee** is increasing from **\$108 per ton** to **\$118 per ton** for FY2027. The **open top roll-off container fee** is increasing from **\$132 per ton** to **\$142 per ton**/\$15 minimum fee. The increase in the fee is to cover the cost of operating and maintaining the landfill, which includes purchasing needed equipment, and the cost of an Assistant Scale House Manager position. This fee is the primary revenue source for the landfill operation. Citizens also have the option of paying a **flat rate tipping fee** of **\$5 for cars** or **\$15 for pick-up trucks**. For **vehicles with trailer weigh in**, the fee is increasing from **\$108 per ton** to **\$118 per ton**/\$15 minimum fee, and for mixed loads the fee is increasing from **\$132 per ton** to **\$142 per ton**/\$15 minimum fee. New for FY2027, a **new fee of \$50 per tire and rubber track** will be established.

Citizens may also purchase **Tag-A-Bag tickets** for **\$2.25**. Bagged trash is accepted at the landfill on Billingsley Road and at the recycling centers in the county (Gilbert Run, Pisgah, or Breeze Farm). The landfill is located on a 16-acre site and is estimated to last until 2035.

For more information, please visit:

<https://www.charlescountymd.gov/services/environmental-resources/landfill>

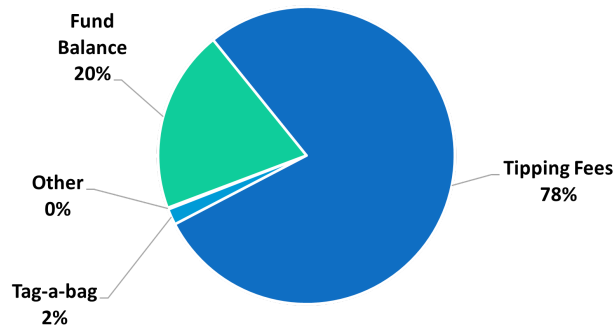
FY2027 Adopted Budget: \$14,309,600

	PRIOR ADOPTED	ADOPTED		
Budget	FY2026	FY2027	\$ Change from FY2026	% Change from FY2026
	\$14,128,200	\$14,309,600	\$181,400	1%

Revenues and Expenditure Breakout

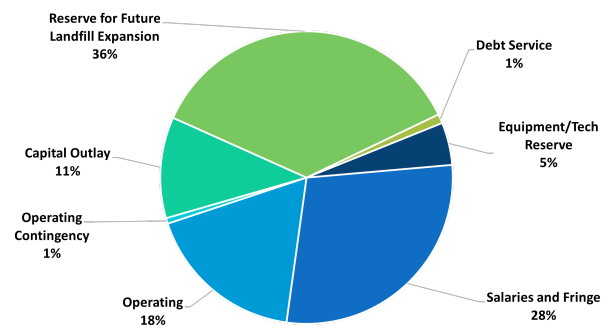
Revenues

Revenue Type	
Tipping Fees	\$11,187,800
Tag-a-bag	\$250,000
Other	\$25,000
Fund Balance	\$2,846,800
REVENUE TYPE TOTAL	\$14,309,600



Expenditures

Expenditures	
Salaries and Fringe	\$4,090,218
Operating	\$2,533,300
Operating Contingency	\$89,482
Capital Outlay	\$1,600,000
Reserve for Future Landfill Expansion	\$5,178,900
Debt Service	\$145,600
Equipment/Tech Reserve	\$672,100
EXPENDITURES TOTAL	\$14,309,600



Adopted Environmental Service

FISCAL YEAR 2027 BUDGET IN BRIEF

Environmental Service Fund

Recycling and environmental programs are paid with revenues generated primarily by an Environmental Service Fee (ESF), which is charged annually to each improved property within the County. The fee is established annually based on the estimated cost of various programs divided by the number of improved properties. The towns of Indian Head and La Plata have their own recycling program and pay a reduced ESF fee. The fee increase is mainly due to the house count increase, increase in contract services for litter control, and new and replacement equipment to support operations at various recycling centers and facilities. It also includes the funding for a Recycling Equipment Operator. The funds also support the costs associated with the popular Septic Pump Out Reimbursement and Riser Reimbursement programs. The budget increases the **annual ESF fee** from **\$193** to **\$206** (\$13 increase) per improved property for property owners outside of Indian Head and La Plata. The **annual fee for properties located within these municipalities** is increasing from **\$31** per improved property to **\$36** per improved property.

Charles County and has achieved a 38.33% recycling rate and a 5% source reduction credit equaling a total waste diversion rate of 43.33% for calendar year 2023. By the end of FY2026, approximately 52,500 households will receive weekly curbside collection of recycling. The residential recycling program also consists of four Recycling Centers, and three 24-Hour Used Motor Oil and Antifreeze Collection Sites. The permanent centers are located at Gilbert Run Park in Dentsville, Breeze Farm in Cobb Island, the Landfill in Waldorf, and the old Landfill in Pisgah.

For more information, please visit:

<https://www.charlescountymd.gov/services/environmental-resources/curbside-recycling>

<https://www.charlescountymd.gov/services/environmental-resources/litter-control>

<https://www.charlescountymd.gov/services/environmental-resources/recycling-centers-drop-off-facilities>

<https://www.charlescountymd.gov/government/planning-and-growth-management/septic-system-reimbursement-programs>

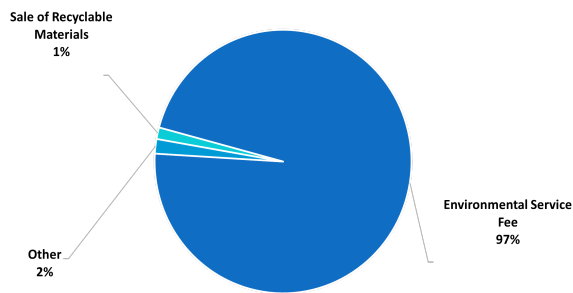
FY2027 Adopted Budget: \$12,358,500

	PRIOR ADOPTED	ADOPTED		
Budget	FY2026	FY2027	Change from FY2026	% Change from FY2026
	\$11,727,800	\$12,358,500	\$630,700	5%

Revenue and Expenditure Breakout

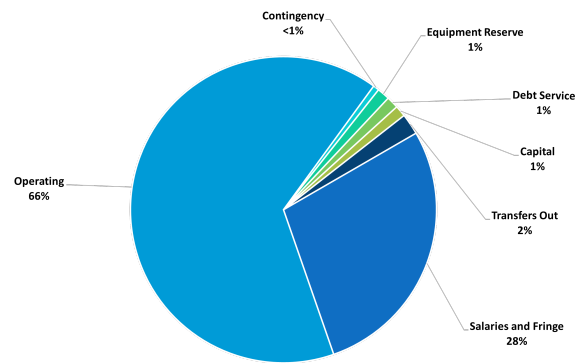
Revenues

Revenue Type	
Environmental Service Fee	\$11,962,500
Other	\$221,000
Sale of Recyclable Materials	\$175,000
REVENUE TYPE TOTAL	\$12,358,500



Expenditures

Expenditures	
Salaries and Fringe	\$3,461,658
Operating	\$8,077,100
Contingency	\$78,442
Equipment Reserve	\$164,600
Debt Service	\$156,700
Capital	\$145,400
Transfers Out	\$274,600
EXPENDITURES TOTAL	\$12,358,500



Adopted Inspection and Review

FISCAL YEAR 2027 BUDGET IN BRIEF

Inspection and Review Fund

The county manages building inspections and developer plan reviews through the use of an enterprise fund. The recession in the early 1990's depressed the construction industry and left the county with high overhead costs. To allow for greater flexibility regarding the expansion and contraction of the building and renovation activities within the county, this operation was privatized and is managed partly with outside contractors. Operating revenues for this fund are generated primarily by service charges such as environmental site review fees, site plan reviews, main inspection, design reviews, inspection reviews, road inspections, grading inspection, water and sewer inspections, technology fee, and storm drain and storm water inspections. The FY2027 budget adjusts fees to recoup the cost of providing the service. Changes to existing fees, and new fees, are listed in the [FY2027 Fees and Charges](#). Included in the budget is funding to support the following positions: Inspections Technician and a Small Business Inspection Navigator.

For more information, please visit:

<https://www.charlescountymd.gov/government/planning-and-growth-management>

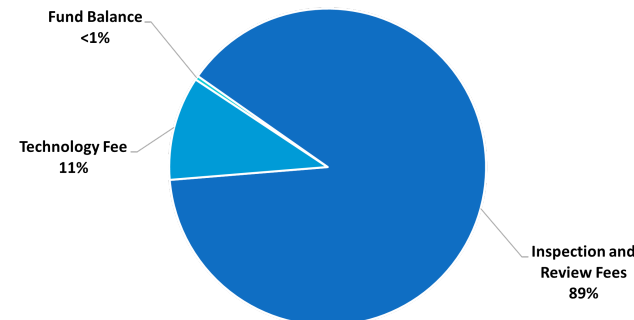
FY2027 Adopted Budget: \$12,750,100

Budget	PRIOR ADOPTED	ADOPTED	\$ Change from FY2026	% Change from FY2026
	FY2026	FY2027		
	\$12,829,000	\$12,750,100	-\$78,900	-1%

Revenues and Expenditure Breakout

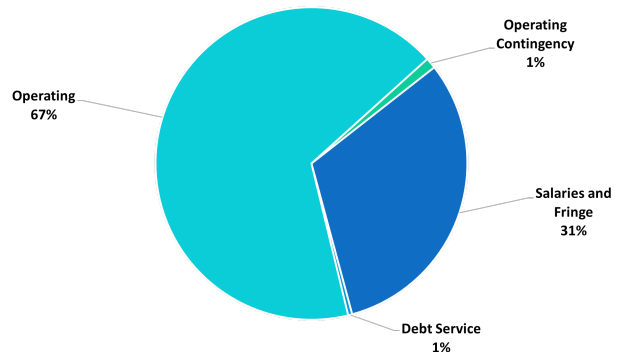
Revenues

Revenue Type	
Inspection and Review Fees	\$11,345,300
Technology Fee	\$1,353,100
Fund Balance	\$51,700
REVENUE TYPE TOTAL	\$12,750,100



Expenditures

Expenditures	
Salaries and Fringe	\$3,996,872
Debt Service	\$53,500
Operating	\$8,558,830
Operating Contingency	\$140,898
EXPENDITURES TOTAL	\$12,750,100



Adopted Recreation Programs

FISCAL YEAR 2027 BUDGET IN BRIEF

Recreation Programs Fund

This fund is used to manage the recreational and leisure time activities for county residents including the following: recreational classes, special events, indoor sports leagues for youth and adult, drop-in programs, special population programs which includes support of the Special Olympics, swim lessons, summer sports camps, and trips and tours. Additionally, the fund accounts for the operation of the Elite Gymnastics and program related costs at the Waldorf Senior and Recreational Center. The FY2027 budget includes funding to support one concert and additional part-time funding for camp co-op, class programs, community centers, and sports to support increased participation.

For more information, please visit:
<https://www.charlescountyparks.com/home-recparks>

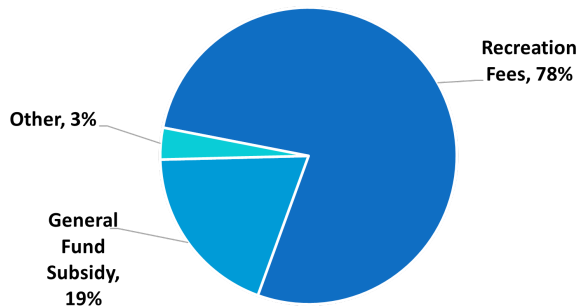
FY2027 Adopted Budget: \$3,017,800

	PRIOR ADOPTED	ADOPTED		
Budget	FY2026	FY2027	\$ Change from FY2026	% Change from FY2026
	\$2,291,300	\$3,017,800	\$726,500	32%

Revenue and Expenditure Breakout

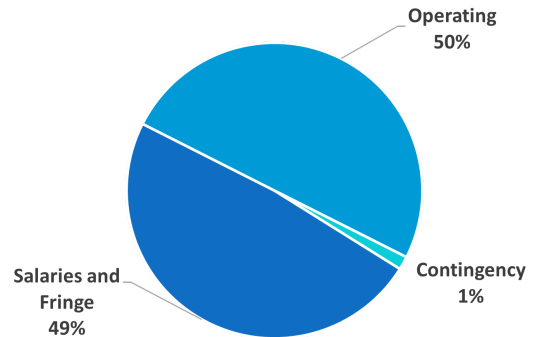
Revenues

Revenue Type	
Recreation Fees	\$2,338,600
General Fund Subsidy	\$575,000
Other	\$104,200
REVENUE TYPE TOTAL	\$3,017,800



Expenditures

Expenditures	
Salaries and Fringe	\$3,996,872
Debt Service	\$53,500
Operating	\$8,558,830
Operating Contingency	\$140,898
EXPENDITURES TOTAL	\$12,750,100



Adopted Watershed Protection and Restoration

FISCAL YEAR 2027 BUDGET IN BRIEF

Watershed Protection and Restoration Fund

The county's Watershed Protection and Restoration Fund is for implementation of local stormwater management plans and practices, and stream and wetland restoration activities. The fund covers related planning, mapping, monitoring, inspections, enforcement, operations and maintenance, public education and outreach, grants to non-profits, administrative costs, and debt service payments to cover the cost of capital improvements. Revenues to the fund are generated primarily by the Stormwater Remediation Fee, which is charged annually to each improved property within the county. The FY2027 budget includes an annual fee increase from **\$162** to **\$168** (\$6 increase) per improved property. Properties within the Town of La Plata and Town of Indian Head will not be charged the county fee, since the towns have their own stormwater permit. The fee increase is to cover additional contract services to meet permit requirements. It also includes funding for a GIS Supervisor position.

For more information, please visit:

<https://www.charlescountymd.gov/government/planning-and-growth-management/stormwater-management/watershed-protection-and-restoration-fund>

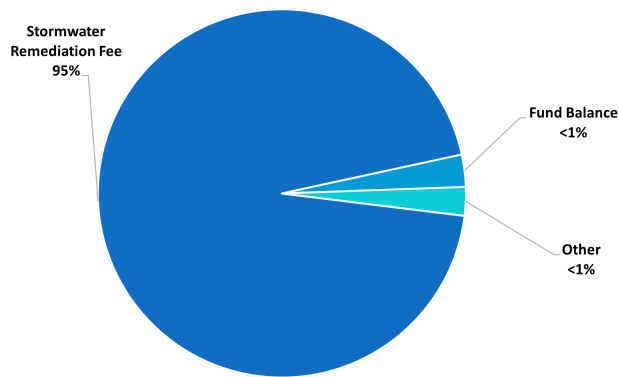
FY2027 Adopted Budget: \$9,557,600

Budget	PRIOR ADOPTED	ADOPTED	\$ Change from FY2026	% Change from FY2026
	FY2026	FY2027		
	\$8,812,700	\$9,557,600	\$744,900	8%

Revenue and Expenditure Breakout

Revenues

Revenue Type	
Stormwater Remediation Fee	\$9,047,500
Fund Balance	\$270,100
Other	\$240,000
REVENUE TYPE TOTAL	\$9,557,600



Expenditures

Expenditures	
Salaries and Fringe	\$2,555,053
Operating	\$3,732,200
Contingency	\$132,447
Debt Service	\$2,616,300
Agency Funding	\$444,600
Capital Projects	\$77,000
EXPENDITURES TOTAL	\$9,557,600

