

Fact Sheets **Betterment Costs**

Frequency Asked Questions

Q What is a Betterment?

A A betterment is defined as enhanced property value arising from local improvements. The term betterment costs refers to the payment by sewer users to pay for the engineering, design and construction of the municipal sewer system

Q If I am already connected to the sewer, will I have to pay a betterment?

A For property owners who are already connected to the sewer, you will not have to pay another betterment. You already paid a betterment when you connected to the sewer

Q If I am not yet connected to Sewer, How much will my betterment be?

A The table below shows the estimated betterment cost for all remaining residential properties in town that will be served by the sewer by 2030. Betterments costs are calculated by multiplying the Title 5 flow rate by the estimated betterment rate. This Betterment rate is projected to be \$65 and will be finalized in 2025. You may pay your betterment over 20 years.

Property	Total Cost	Annual Cost -20 years
1 Bedroom/studio	\$7150	\$357.50
2 Bedrooms	\$14,300	\$715.00
3 Bedrooms	\$21,450	\$1072.50
4 Bedrooms	\$28,600	\$1430.00

Q When will I have to pay my betterment?

A One-half of the betterment will be assessed when construction begins for your area, with the remaining betterment set and assessed when construction ends in your area. Construction is projected to start in existing sewer areas in 2023 to be completed by 2026; and construction in new sewer areas by 2025 to be completed by 2030. You may pay it over 20 years, and you can prepay the betterment at any time without a charge, including all at once, when assessed.

Q	I have installed a new Title 5 system in the last 20 years, when will I have to pay a betterment?
A	As long as you have a functioning system that was installed after 12/31/99 you do not have to pay a betterment until you connect to the sewer. Once your system fails, you will have an option to connect to the sewer or submit an application to the Board of Health for a new Title 5 permit. If you decide to connect to the sewer, you will be charged a betterment at that time.
Q	Is there any financial assistance available for betterments?
A	There is an existing program for income-eligible property owners, that allows you to delay paying your betterment until the property transfers. There are low-interest rate loans from Barnstable County for connecting to the sewer and grants for income-eligible property owners.