



2018 Water, Sanitary Sewer and Storm Sewer Rates Increase

Your water bill has three parts: water, sanitary sewer, and storm water charges. This notice provides information related to these charges.

- On January 16, 2018, the Common Council approved a 4.0% increase in sanitary sewer rates and a 6.0% increase in storm sewer rates for 2018, which are reflected on this bill. These rate increases will be used to provide Wauwatosa with an improved sewer infrastructure addressing basement backups, surface flooding, and failing pipes experienced over the past decade.
- Beginning in 2011 and continuing for the next 10-15 years, we are strategically undertaking multiple large sewer rebuilding projects to replace pipes at the end of their useful life. The majority of the sewer infrastructure is 75-100 years old. We will then need to maintain that level of infrastructure spending in order to sustain the system.
- From 2012 to 2016, we repaired and/or replaced 189,211 feet, or almost 36 miles, of sanitary sewer and 64,437 feet, or about 12 miles, of storm sewer. Improvements replace end-of-life sewer mains, expand system capacity and alleviate flooding during storms due to undersized pipes.
- We plan to apply to the Public Service Commission in April for approval of a 3.0% increase in water rates. The increase in the rates was necessary to finance water meter replacements, main replacements, and an increase in the cost of water from the City of Milwaukee. We are in the final stages of upgrading all residential water meters. From 2012 to 2016, we replaced or relined 44,846 feet of water mains – approximately 8.5 miles. Given the age of our water mains, we are planning for an on-going replacement program.

For most customers, **the impact on your water and sewer bill will vary based on your water usage** beginning with the enclosed bill. If you have questions on these rate increases or would like to discuss how your individual commercial bill will be impacted, please visit our website at www.wauwatosa.net/utilityrates or contact the Wauwatosa Water Utility at 414-479-8963.