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Mayor



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News Release Sewer Rate Increase

(September 24, 2013) - A gentle reminder that sewer rates will go up in October. The City of Nampa bills in two month cycles, so bills that cover both a September and October period will have both rates noted. We want customers to be aware the first bill will look a little different because it will show the old rate for days in September on the bill and the new rate days in October on the bill.

Sewer rates for all Nampa residents, businesses and industries are increasing as of October 1st to fund improvements to the City's wastewater treatment plant. Design will begin this fall and the improvements should be completed by 2017. Cost for the new basins, pump stations and digesters and other improvements will be approximately \$28 million. The good news is \$17 million of that is covered in a very low interest loan through the Department of Environmental Quality, which then allowed the City to charge a smaller rate increase.

Since 2010, the City has been working with wastewater experts, leaders of local industry, residents, business owners, community leaders, elected officials and a citizen's advisory committee. Receiving input from a wide variety of community members has helped the City determine how to best meet the new federal regulatory requirements for treating and disposing wastewater.

Wastewater includes water from washing machines, dishwashers, sinks and toilets, showers and bathtubs, and industrial manufacturing and operating processes.

The attached sheet shows the new rates and how they are calculated. To learn more about Nampa's wastewater improvements visit <http://wastewater.cityofnampa.us/>. Questions can be sent to wastewater@cityofnampa.us or by calling 468-5441.

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UPCOMING SEWER BILL INCREASE

All utility customers are classified by wastewater strength. The new rate for sewer bills will be based on three factors including:

- 1. The amount of water used each month.** Sewer bills for residential and commercial customers are based on water usage, which is measured by your water meter. You can find how much water you use by looking at your utility bill.
- 2. The cost of treating wastewater.** Classification for each utility customer is determined by the type of wastewater treatment needed. *See table on the next page to find your customer class and new rate.*
- 3. Wastewater fixed rate.** The City charges all customers a fixed rate of \$7.24 each month for the associated costs of bill processing, customer service and utility administration. The fixed rate is proposed to remain the same at \$7.24 once the rate increase is in effect.



FOR MORE INFORMATION

Please call (208) 468-5441 or visit cityofnampa.us/wastewater

Customer Classes and Rates



| Customer Class | Example Customers | Current Rate for every 100 cubic feet of water used | New Rate for every 100 cubic feet of water used |
|----------------|---|---|---|
| SE1 | Car washes, car dealerships, dry cleaners, laundromats | \$1.12 | \$1.85 |
| SE2 | Residential, retail stores | \$1.73 | \$2.30 |
| SE3 | Hospitals, schools, churches, commercial laundries | \$2.03 | \$2.97 |
| SE4 | Food markets, sit-down restaurants | \$2.44 | \$3.49 |
| SE5 | Freeze-dried food processing | \$2.94 | \$4.31 |
| SE6 | Bakeries, dairies, drive-through restaurants | \$3.60 | \$5.10 |
| SE7 | Special permit | \$4.67 | \$6.18 |