

Water/Sewer rate increases go into effect with the March 2019 billing due April 14, 2019.

At the February 19, 2019 council meeting, the Braham City Council adopted Ord. 284 increasing the water and sewer billings to cover infrastructure repairs and improvements. The last increases the City had on water/sewer rates was in 2010, and on the Debt Service fees in 2013. Due to the economy, the City held off on rate increases, and instead used reserves to offset the shortfall in the budgets. Depleted reserves and an increase in water line breaks and lift station repairs with the aging infrastructure warrants the increases to keep the water and sewer funds stable.

Rate Increases

Water Rate increase from \$3.65 to \$4.30/1,000 gallon = \$.65/1,000 g. increase

Sewer Rate increase from \$7.60 to \$8.00/1,000 gallons = \$.40/1,000 g. increase

New Usage Fees Structure

Water Usage Fee of \$8.00 per month based on the below tiered increments.

Sewer Usage Fee of \$4.00 per month based on the below tiered increments.

<u>Gallons</u>	<u>Increment- gallons</u>	<u># of Fees</u>
0-5,000 g.	5,000 increment	1 Fee
5,001-15,000	10,000 increment	2 Fees
15,001-30,000	15,000 increment	3 Fees
30,001-50,000	20,000 increment	4 Fees
50,001-75,000	25,000 increment	5 Fees
75,001-105,000	30,000 increment	6 Fees
105,001-140,000	35,000 increment	7 Fees
140,001-180,000	40,000 increment	8 Fees
180,001-225,000	45,000 increment	9 Fees
225,001-275,000	50,000 increment	10 Fees

And so on, adding an additional 5,000 gallons to the previous increment.

<u>GALLONS</u>	<u>CURRENT</u>	<u>NEW</u>	<u>INCREASE</u>
3,500 gallons	\$ 57.45	\$73.13	\$15.68
5,000 gallons	\$ 74.33	\$91.58	\$17.25
10,000 gallons	\$130.58	\$165.08	\$34.50
20,000 gallons	\$243.08	\$300.08	\$57.00

Multiple unit dwellings are required by Minnesota Statutes 2010, section 103G.291 to be calculated on a **per unit basis**. The rate structure must consider each residential unit as an individual user. Each unit in a multi-family complex counts as 1 unit, this includes apartment buildings, duplexes, mobile home parks, etc. Each complex will be charged the 1 Fee Usage Fees X (times) the number of units in the complex.

Example: New Usage Fee Charge for a 12 unit apartment building:

Monthly Water Usage Fee: 12 x \$8.00 = \$96.00/mo.

Monthly Sewer Usage Fee: 12 x \$4.00 = \$48.00/mo.

No one likes rate increases, and we apologize for any inconvenience this may cause, but considering the last increases were 2010 for rates, and 2013 for debt service, and with the necessary repairs and improvements of the infrastructure, rate increases are inevitable. We appreciate your understanding.