



# 2021 Water & Wastewater Rate Changes

Effective October 1, 2021 | On November 2021 Bills

## Overview

In 2020, the City reviewed how it charges customers for water and wastewater service. Utilities conduct rate studies as a best practice to ensure the rates they charge will cover their cost of operations, maintain their financial health, and ensure rates remain fair and equitable.

## Current Rate Structure vs. Proposed Rate Structure

### Current

Flat monthly service charge, no matter the meter size

First 3,000 gallons included in base charge, each additional thousand gallons charged at uniform rate

### Starting October 2021

Monthly service charge by meter size, which better recovers true cost of providing service

Tiered single-family residential rates promote water efficiency and ensure those who use more, pay more

## Study Goals

### Implement rate structure that:



Is easy for customers to understand



Encourages water conservation



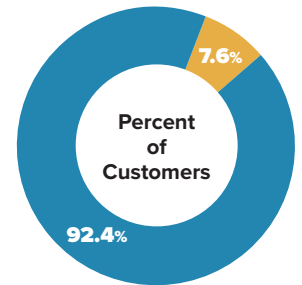
Ensures everyone pays their fair share based on strain they place on the system

## Anticipated Bill Impacts

### Monthly Bill Impact

- Lower Bill or the Same
- Bill Increase

\*Assumes same water use



### Single-Family Residential Bills

We estimate that our typical single-family residential customers - everyone with the most common 5/8" meter - will see their **monthly bill go down by almost \$9/month**, which reflects the low strain this customer group places on the system.

### All Other Customer Bills

Under the new rate structure and with updated rates in effect, **customers with a greater than 5/8" meter will see a higher monthly bill** that better reflects the higher cost they place on the system.

## Water and Sewer Rates with a Purpose

Following a comprehensive rate study conducted by an independent consultant that specializes in helping water and wastewater utilities across the country charge their customers fair rates for their water and wastewater services, changes to our rate structure (*how you are charged*) and rates (*what you are charged*) are designed to accomplish four objectives:



**Encourage water conservation** – to protect one of Florida’s most precious resources and reduce the strain on our aging wastewater treatment plant until critical upgrades can be made.



**Charge equitably for services** – different customer groups place different costs on the system. Our rate structure ensures everyone pays their fair share.



**Enable infrastructure investment** – to maintain a reliable, resilient water and wastewater system that provides high quality water and conforms with current environmental regulations.



**Enable continued financial health of each utility** – through a modest 3% rate adjustment, we’ll continue to qualify for grants and low-interest loans, while maintaining our ability to respond quickly to any emergency.

## Why Tiered Rates?

Tiered rates encourage water conservation by increasing water bills for single-family residential high water users and rewards those who are water efficient.

SINGLE-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL 2021 TIERED WATER RATES	TIER I	TIER II	TIER III
	0-3,000 gal	3,001-7,000 gal	More than 7,000 gal
Inside City	\$2.63	\$5.52	\$7.88
Outside City	\$3.94	\$8.28	\$11.82

### Single-Family Residential (All 5/8" Meters)<sup>[1]</sup>

INSIDE CITY 8,000 GALLON/MO. USER

#### OLD WAY

		Unit Cost	Total
WATER	Base Charge	\$39.44	\$39.44
	+  First 3,000 Gallons	Included	\$0.00
	+  \$5.82 / Thousand Gallons Over 3,000	5 x \$5.82	\$29.10
		Water Subtotal	\$68.54
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WASTEWATER	Base Charge	\$39.91	\$39.91
	+  First 3,000 Gallons	Included	\$0.00
	+  \$5.92 / Thousand Gallons Over 3,000	5 x \$5.92	\$29.60
		Wastewater Subtotal	\$69.51
	Grand Total		\$137.20

#### NEW WAY

		Unit Cost	Total
WATER	Base Charge By Meter Size	\$25.03	\$25.03
	+  Tier 1 @ \$2.63	3 x \$2.63	\$7.89
	+  Tier 2 @ \$5.52	4 x \$5.52	\$22.08
	+  Tier 3 @ \$7.88	1 x \$7.88	\$7.88
	Water Subtotal		\$62.88
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WASTEWATER	Base Charge By Meter Size	\$25.13	\$25.13
	+  Usage @ \$4.61/ Thousand Gallons	8 x \$4.61	\$36.88
		Wastewater Subtotal	\$62.01
		Grand Total	

### All Other Customers (All Meters Larger Than 5/8")<sup>[2]</sup>

INSIDE CITY 8,000 GALLON/MO. USER WITH 1" METER

#### OLD WAY

		Unit Cost	Total
WATER	Base Charge	\$39.44	\$39.44
	+  First 3,000 Gallons	Included	\$0.00
	+  Per Thousand Gallons Over 3,000	5 x \$5.82	\$29.10
		Water Subtotal	\$68.54
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WASTEWATER	Base Charge	\$39.91	\$39.91
	+  First 3,000 Gallons	Included	\$0.00
	+  Per Thousand Gallons Over 3,000	5 x \$5.92	\$29.60
		Wastewater Subtotal	\$69.51
	Grand Total		\$138.05

#### NEW WAY

		Unit Cost	Total
WATER	Base Charge By Meter Size	\$62.57	\$62.57
	+  Usage @ \$5.52/ Thousand Gallons	8 x \$5.52	\$44.16
		Water Subtotal	\$106.73
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WASTEWATER	Base Charge By Meter Size	\$62.83	\$62.83
	+  Usage @ \$4.61/ Thousand Gallons	8 x \$4.61	\$36.88
		Wastewater Total	\$99.71
	Grand Total		\$206.41

<sup>1</sup> For detailed schedule for less common customer bill types, see the City's website.

<sup>2</sup> Includes apartments, hotels, churches, mobile home parks, commercial, multi-family units, government buildings, master metered or individually attached living units.