



## Water and Sewer Rate Increase Frequently Asked Questions

Miamisburg City Council has approved increases to the City's water and sewer rates. The following information is intended to answer questions about these increases.

### **Why are water and sewer rates being increased at this time?**

Last year, the City worked with consultants to develop master plans for both the water and sewer systems. These master plans identified numerous critical improvements necessary to ensure the future viability and reliability of both systems. The critical needs include the replacement of aging infrastructure and the implementation of new technology for improved drinking water and effluent quality. The rate increases approved by City Council will enable the City to make important investments in the systems over the next few years, while also keeping up with the impacts of inflation in the general operation of the systems, meeting increasing regulatory requirements and meeting a growing demand in the community.

### **When is the last time water and sewer rates were increased in Miamisburg?**

Customers have not be subjected to water and / or sewer rate increases since a 4.5 percent bump in 2001.

### **What are the approved rate increases and when will they go into effect?**

The City's new rates will become effective July 2, 2009. Increases will be phased in over a five-year period according to the table below:

DATE	WATER	SEWER
July 2, 2009	25%	25%
September 1, 2010	12%	34%
September 1, 2011	12%	15%
September 1, 2012	12%	12%
September 1, 2013	10%	10%

### **Why is there such a range in percentage increases from year to year, and why the difference in water and sewer rate increases?**

The schedule of increase is primarily designed to fund specific infrastructure improvement projects as they are scheduled to occur over the next several years. Also, the cost of these projects varies.

### **How do Miamisburg's water and sewer rates compare within this region?**

For the second consecutive year, the City of Miamisburg's combined water and sewer rates are the absolute LOWEST in Southwest Ohio. This data was reported in a survey of 63 utility providers in the region conducted by the City of Oakwood. At \$113.70 per quarter (based on average usage), Miamisburg's combined rate is 75 percent below the regional mean of \$199.44. It also is approximately half the rate paid by Montgomery County water and sewer customers in neighboring communities like Centerville, Kettering and Moraine.

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### How will the amount of my residential utility bill change?

Your water meter is read quarterly, and billing is based on volume of water consumed. There is a minimum volume charge of 1,000 cubic feet per quarter. For usage beyond 1,000 cubic feet per quarter there is a bulk discount. Sewer charges are based on the same volume as the water consumption. Irrigation or sprinkler meters are billed for water only. There is a rate structure for customers inside the City (Table 1 & Table 3) and a different rate structure for customers outside the City limits (Table 2 & Table 4).

#### Table 1

Minimum quarterly charge for the first 1,000 cubic feet for residential meters size 3/4" and less.

#### **Water - Inside the City Limits:**

current	7/2/2009	9/1/2010	9/1/2011	9/1/2012	9/1/2013
\$ 19.11	\$ 23.89	\$ 26.75	\$ 29.96	\$ 33.56	\$ 36.92

#### Table 2

Minimum quarterly charge for the first 1,000 cubic feet for residential meters size 3/4" and less.

#### **Water - Outside the City Limits:**

current	7/2/2009	9/1/2010	9/1/2011	9/1/2012	9/1/2013
\$ 26.75	\$ 33.44	\$ 37.46	\$ 41.95	\$ 46.98	\$ 51.68

#### Table 3

Minimum quarterly charge for the first 1,000 cubic feet for residential meters size 3/4" and less.

#### **Sewer - Inside the City Limits:**

current	7/2/2009	9/1/2010	9/1/2011	9/1/2012	9/1/2013
\$ 20.59	\$ 25.74	\$ 34.49	\$ 39.66	\$ 44.42	\$ 48.86

#### Table 4

Minimum quarterly charge for the first 1,000 cubic feet for residential meters size 3/4" and less.

#### **Sewer - Outside the City Limits:**

current	7/2/2009	9/1/2010	9/1/2011	9/1/2012	9/1/2013
\$ 28.83	\$ 36.04	\$ 48.29	\$ 55.53	\$ 62.20	\$ 68.42

### **After these increases go into effect, won't Miamisburg customers go from having the lowest rates in the region to some of the highest?**

Actually no. Based on past rate trends, the City has concluded that Miamisburg rates at the end of the five-year period will remain below average in the region.



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### **Are rates for commercial and industrial increasing as well?**

Yes. Rates for customers in these classes are also increasing.

### **Are rates for irrigation customers increasing as well?**

Yes. Rates for customers with irrigation meters are also increasing.

### **How long are these rates effective?**

The revised City water and sewer utility rates are effective July 2, 2009 through December 31, 2014 as described in the table. Should the cost to produce and distribute water or collect and treat wastewater increase beyond what was anticipated, rates may need to be adjusted accordingly during this time frame.

### **Can you describe the function of the City's water utility?**

Our water mission is to treat and distribute a clean, safe, reliable supply of drinking water to the residents and businesses of Miamisburg, meeting all environmental regulations. Our operations include:

- Operate and maintain a 5.2 MGD municipal water treatment facility, 5 groundwater production wells, 5 water storage tanks, 3 water booster stations, and 90 miles of pipe and associated valves and hydrants.
- Provide water to approximate 20,000 residents and businesses via approximately 7,400 service connections.
- Treat water using: filtration, chlorination, iron & manganese removal, fluoridation.
- Maintain the wellfield source water groundwater protection program.
- Maintain compliance with Ohio EPA public water system license requirements and all environmental regulations.
- Operate an Ohio EPA certified drinking water laboratory.
- Manage the water meter program – read, test, repair, install, integrate with billing.
- Perform water service requests - leak checks, pressure issues, hydrant repairs, valve repairs, backflow program, OUPS utility locates.
- Perform water main repairs and replacements.

### **Can you describe the function of the City's sewer utility?**

Our sanitary mission is to provide cost effective collection and treatment of wastewater, ensuring a clean safe effluent discharge to the Great Miami River and land application of safe biosolids, meeting all environmental regulations. Our operations include:

- Operate and maintain a 4.0 MGD water reclamation facility, 10 sanitary lift stations, 80 miles of pipe and associated manholes.
- Provide sanitary sewer services to approximately 20,000 residents and businesses in Miamisburg.
- Treat wastewater via the activated sludge process: primary clarification, aeration, secondary clarification, filtration and disinfection.
- Treat biosolids through anaerobic digestion and dewatering.
- Maintain an industrial pretreatment program.
- Maintain compliance with Ohio EPA NPDES permit requirements, land application regulations and all environmental regulations.
- Operate an environmental laboratory.
- Perform sewer service requests - back-ups, manhole repairs, flooding issues, routine sanitary sewer cleaning and camera inspection.

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- Perform sewer main repairs and replacements.

### What are the City's Long Term Utility Plans?

The City of Miamisburg has remained committed to providing quality water and sanitary utility services over many decades and will continue to do so. Our goals are to provide safe and sustainable drinking water and protect public health and the environment by safely transporting and treating wastewater. It is important to note that the City meets or exceeds all current environmental regulations.

### Water Projects

Time Frame	Project
2009	Central Avenue Tank Rehab
2009	Clearwell Rehab
2009-2011	Main Street & Richard Street Transmission Mains Transmission Main to new High Booster
2010	Wellhouses #8 Rehab
2011-2013	New Benner Road Booster Station Transmission from new High Booster to High Zone Transmission from new High Booster to East Medium Zone
2011	Wellhouses #9, #10 and #11 Rehab
2013-2014	New Richard Street Tank (1 MG)
2012-2014	Water Treatment Facility Improvements (softening) Wellfield Expansion

### Sewer Projects

Time Frame	Project
2009	Flow Monitoring & Attribute Mapping Hydraulic Model
2009-2011	New Eastside Pump Station New EQ Basin and Primary Rehab Belt Filter Press Replacement Anaerobic Digester Rehab
2010 -2011	Relief Sewer Design & Construction (ESPS to FM5) I&I Rehab
2012 -2013	Westover Lift Station Design & Construction I&I Rehab
2012-2014	Gravity Belt Thickener Sludge Storage New Grit Removal Additional Primary Rehab Secondary Treatment Improvements
2013 - 2014	Byers Road and Cherry Hill Lift Station Design & Construction I&I Rehab Relief Sewer Design (FM5 – FM2)