

City of Auburn

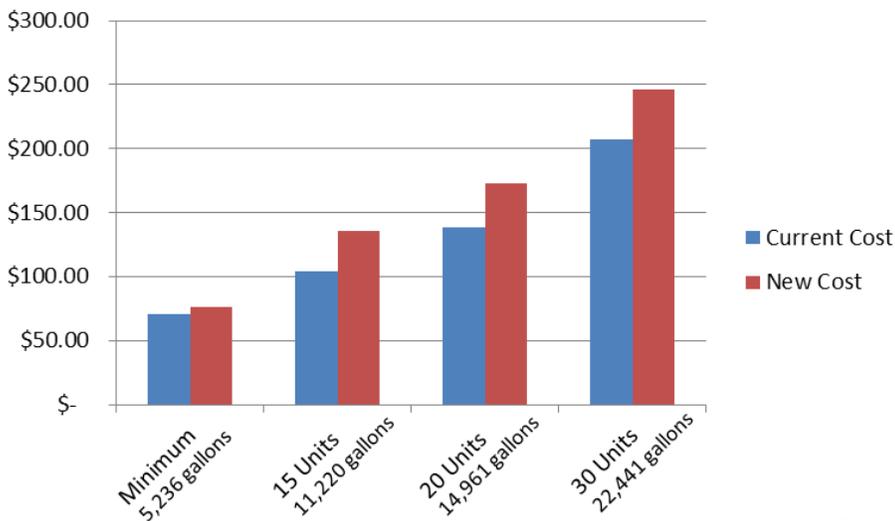
Department of Municipal Utilities 2016 Water and Sewer Rates

The Mission of the Department of Municipal Utilities is to provide, plan, operate and maintain a variety of services in the most efficient and cost effective manner possible. These services include water treatment, waste water treatment, and hydro power. Beginning in September, the City will be implementing a new service charge for water and sewer rates. These increases are necessary to provide residents with clean drinking water and safe sewer services. Please take the time to review the information below and the Q & A section on the back.

How Does This Impact Me?

Below is a comparison of past quarterly water and sewer costs versus new quarterly water and sewer costs .

*Minimum change from 10 units to 7 units

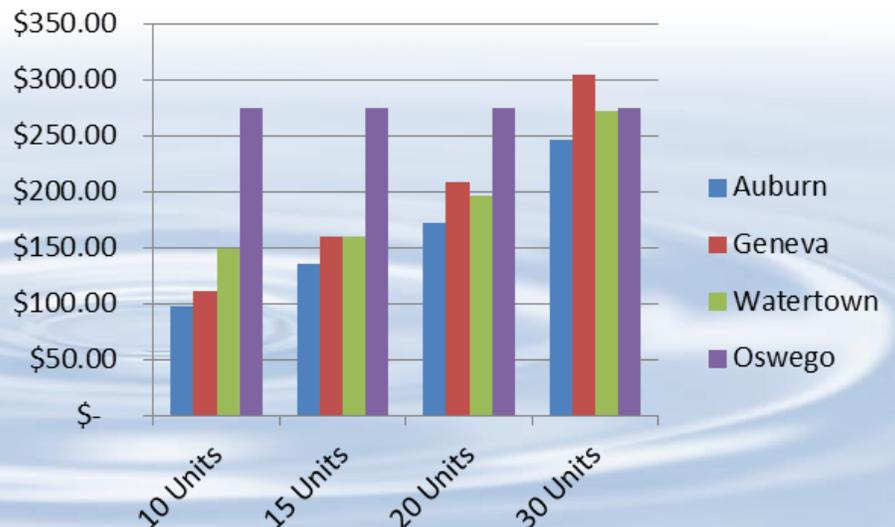


Did You Know?

\$1 provides you with 285 gallons of water. By comparison \$1 provides you with 16oz of bottled water. That's over 2,250 bottles of water delivered directly to your home.

How Do We Compare?

A survey completed in August 2016, compared the City of Auburn to nearby communities with similar sewer and water services.



City of Auburn

Municipal Utilities
35 Bradley Street
Auburn, NY 13021
315-253-6511
www.auburnny.gov

What is the new rate and service charge the City has implemented?

The City has implemented a new service charge in order to help cover a portion of the costs associated with meter reading, billing services and other fixed costs such as debt service which are required to provide customers with clean and safe water and sewer service 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. For a typical 5/8" residential meter, the City has implemented a \$12.10 sewer and \$12.10 water service charge and eliminated the previous \$2.00 meter charge. Certain costs are fixed whether or not a customer uses a large or small volume of water. Given the City's costs of providing service to its customers are largely fixed, the City has decided to implement a new service charge in lieu of a higher volumetric rate increase in order to mitigate the risks of revenue shortfalls due to consumption decreases. With respect to volumetric rates, the sewer rate is staying the same at \$4.78/CCF and water rate is increasing from \$2.05/CCF to \$2.62/ CCF.

What would happen without the rate increases in service charges?

The water and sewer funds would begin to run at a deficit and eventually be unable to pay their bills. The recent increase to water rates and implementation of the service charge in each fund were necessary in order to continue to provide the residents of Auburn with consistently clean and safe water and sewer service. Even though we understand the burden felt by customers, it is important to note in a nation-wide survey, Auburn's typical customer bill falls within the **bottom 30%** of similar sized municipalities' typical customer bills. The City is committed to maintaining fair and affordable water and sewer service for all of its residents.

What projects will this rate increase and new service charge support?

In the past three years the City has rehabilitated the State Dam and replaced the Franklin Street Waterline, both of these multi-million dollar projects will be placed into permanent financing in the next couple of years which will significantly increase the water fund budget. Over the next 5 years, the City plans to complete multiple capital improvement projects in both the Sewage Treatment and Water Distribution System. Currently, the City is completing a \$3.4 million dollar Water Filtration Plant and Pump Station improvement project. These pumps and pipes within the pump station are over 100 years in age. Water main upgrades are planned for South Street, North Street, North Division Street totaling over \$3 million dollars. In the Sewer Fund, critical disinfection upgrades at the Water Pollution Control Plant are needed along with continuous repair and replacement of sanitary sewer lines some of which exceed 100 years old. These Sewer projects are estimated to cost near 7 million over the next 5 years.

Are service charges common?

Service charges are very typical within the water and sewer industry. According to a recent industry survey, 93% of utility respondents have some variation of a service charge similar to that now charged by the City of Auburn.

What else changed in the rate?

In an effort to minimize the impact to the low volume user, the City of Auburn has lowered the minimum billing unit from 10 to 7 units. There is also no longer a meter fee. This is part of the new service charge.

What is a billing unit?

One billing unit is the equivalent to 100 cubic feet of water. 100 cubic feet is approximately 748 gallons of water. That's 468 toilet flushes!

What if I have questions relating to my water and sewer service?

The City of Auburn Municipal Utilities Department is located at 35 Bradley Street, Auburn, NY. For general service questions, please call 315-253-6511. For reporting a water main or sewer emergency, please call 315-253-8754.



City of Auburn
Department of Municipal Utilities
2016 Rate Comparison

Service Fee Schedule		
Meter Size	Sewer Service Fee	Water Service Fee
5/8"	\$12.10	\$12.10
3/4"	\$13.24	\$13.24
1"	\$16.66	\$16.66
1.5"	\$21.23	\$21.23
2"	\$33.78	\$33.78
3"	\$126.20	\$126.20
4"	\$160.43	\$160.43
6"	\$240.30	\$240.30
8" +	\$331.58	\$331.58

Old Bill			
Usage	Combined Water & Sewer Rate	Fixed Fee	Total Bill
(Ccf)	Sewer: \$4.78; Water: \$2.05	5/8" service	
0-7	\$6.83	\$2.00	\$70.30
10	\$6.83	\$2.00	\$70.30
11	\$6.83	\$2.00	\$77.13
12	\$6.83	\$2.00	\$83.96
13	\$6.83	\$2.00	\$90.79
14	\$6.83	\$2.00	\$97.62
15	\$6.83	\$2.00	\$104.45
16	\$6.83	\$2.00	\$111.28
17	\$6.83	\$2.00	\$118.11
18	\$6.83	\$2.00	\$124.94
19	\$6.83	\$2.00	\$131.77
20	\$6.83	\$2.00	\$138.60
21	\$6.83	\$2.00	\$145.43
22	\$6.83	\$2.00	\$152.26
23	\$6.83	\$2.00	\$159.09
24	\$6.83	\$2.00	\$165.92
25	\$6.83	\$2.00	\$172.75
30	\$6.83	\$2.00	\$206.90
40	\$6.83	\$2.00	\$275.20
50	\$6.83	\$2.00	\$343.50

New Bill				
Combined Water & Sewer Rate	Sewer Fixed Fee	Water Fixed Fee	Total Bill	Difference
Sewer: \$4.78; Water: \$2.62	5/8" service	5/8" service		
\$7.40	\$12.10	\$12.10	\$76.00	\$5.70
\$7.40	\$12.10	\$12.10	\$98.20	\$27.90
\$7.40	\$12.10	\$12.10	\$105.60	\$28.47
\$7.40	\$12.10	\$12.10	\$113.00	\$29.04
\$7.40	\$12.10	\$12.10	\$120.40	\$29.61
\$7.40	\$12.10	\$12.10	\$127.80	\$30.18
\$7.40	\$12.10	\$12.10	\$135.20	\$30.75
\$7.40	\$12.10	\$12.10	\$142.60	\$31.32
\$7.40	\$12.10	\$12.10	\$150.00	\$31.89
\$7.40	\$12.10	\$12.10	\$157.40	\$32.46
\$7.40	\$12.10	\$12.10	\$164.80	\$33.03
\$7.40	\$12.10	\$12.10	\$172.20	\$33.60
\$7.40	\$12.10	\$12.10	\$179.60	\$34.17
\$7.40	\$12.10	\$12.10	\$187.00	\$34.74
\$7.40	\$12.10	\$12.10	\$194.40	\$35.31
\$7.40	\$12.10	\$12.10	\$201.80	\$35.88
\$7.40	\$12.10	\$12.10	\$209.20	\$36.45
\$7.40	\$12.10	\$12.10	\$246.20	\$39.30
\$7.40	\$12.10	\$12.10	\$320.20	\$45.00
\$7.40	\$12.10	\$12.10	\$394.20	\$50.70