

WATER RATE INCREASE

Based on a recently completed Water Rate Study, the Bridgewater Water Department is providing notice of water rate increases that will be effective in the Spring 2009 billing cycle. This study was prepared in accordance with applicable guidelines established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and the American Water Works Association by Consultants To Management Inc, a CPA firm specializing in water rate structures. In addition, similar results were found from a Water Audit prepared under a Water Conservation Grant. These studies are required as part of the state mandated Water Management permit process. Both of these studies are presented on Town of Bridgewater Water Department web site. These increases are due to increased costs associated with the purchase of chemicals and fuel. The Bridgewater Water Department has not increased its water rates since August 2003. Because the Town had no increase in almost six (6) years we have had some of the lowest rates in the area. The Town of Bridgewater, like 90% of the cities and towns in Massachusetts is very fortunate to have an Enterprise Funding Account. This allows the Bridgewater Water Department to keep the water rates down as the revenues generated through water usage can only be applied to the cost of running the Bridgewater Water Department. The new water rate structure is as follows:

Semi-Annual Bills

Water Rates: Mm rate \$30.00 per half in advance for 1,000 cu. ft. or less; 1,001 cu. ft. to 3,000 cu. ft. \$2.45 per 100 cu. ft.; 3,001 cu. ft. to 20,000 cu. ft. \$4.16 per 100 cu. ft; and 20,001 cu. ft and over \$5.45 per 100 cu. ft. **Sewer Rates:** Mm rate \$90.00 per half for 3,000 cu. ft. or less, 3,001 cu. ft. to 6,000 cu. ft. \$3.00 per 100 cu. ft.; 6,001 cu. ft. and over \$4.00 per 100 cu. ft.

Quarterly Bills

Water Rates: Mm rate \$15.00 per quarter in advance for 500 cu. ft. or less; 501 cu. ft. to 1500 cu. ft. \$2.45 per 100 cu. ft.; 1501 cu. ft. to 10,000 cu. ft. \$ 4.16 per 100 cu. ft; 10,001 and over \$5.45 per 100 cu. ft. **Sewer Rates:** Mm rate \$45.00 per quarter for 1,500 cu. ft. or less, 1501 to 3,000 cu. ft. \$3.00 per 100 cu. ft.; 3001 cu. ft. and over \$4.00 per 100 cu. ft.

Sprinklers/Hydrants

Sprinklers: \$0.25 per sprinkler head per year. **Hydrants:** \$50.00 per hydrant per year.

Backflow Prevention Program

First device tested \$50.00 plus \$25.00 for each additional device. Fittings are \$2.00 each.

Late Payments

1.2% interest per month (14% per annum) and demand will be charged on accounts unpaid after 30 days.

Pay Your Town of Bridgewater Water & Sewer Bills Online! (Current bills only)

To accommodate our residents who want the convenience of paying Bridgewater's Water & Sewer Bills online, we have added a NEW payment option. To pay the Water & Sewer Bills, have your bill and checkbook/credit card in hand and then ...

- 1) Go to www.bridgewaterma.org
 - 2) Click on UniPay Online
 - 3) Complete each screen to process your payment
- Credit card payments are now accepted. Vendor fee applies.

Make Checks Payable To:
Town of Bridgewater

Please Remit To:
Town of Bridgewater
Town Hall/Collector's Office
64 Central Square, Bridgewater, MA 02324-2598

May 2009

