

2007 Water Rates

Service Charge*- Water (See table below)

Service Charge *- Sewer (See table below)

*service charges are based on the meter service size

Consumption Charge – Water (\$0.6024/cubic metre)*

Consumption Charge – Sewer (\$0.8544/cubic metre)*

RATE TABLE FOR MONTHLY SERVICE CHARGES*

Meter Size	Water Rate	Sewer Rate
15mm (5/8")	\$20.07	\$18.58
18mm (3/4")	\$20.07	\$18.58
25mm (1")	\$20.07	\$18.58
37mm (1 1/2")	\$60.21	\$55.74
50mm (2")	\$120.42	\$111.48
75mm (3")	\$240.83	\$222.96
100mm (4")	\$441.52	\$408.76
150mm (6")	\$842.91	\$780.37
200mm (8")	\$1,505.19	\$1,393.50
250mm (10")	\$2,107.27	\$1,950.91

* Rates displayed assumes payment on or before due date. Payments received subsequent to due dates are subject to a Late Payment Charge of 5%.

Please note: All water accounts are being billed and collected by Niagara Falls Hydro. Please remit payments to Niagara Falls Hydro.



About Your Water and Sewer Rates

Water and Sewer Rates in the City of Niagara Falls have been increased for 2007. The impact of these changes will be effective on bills received starting April 1, 2007.

Who Operates the Water and Sewer System?

The supply of water and the treatment of sewage for the residents of Niagara Falls is a collaboration between the City and the Region of Niagara. The Region owns and operates the water and sewage plants, while the City owns and maintains the pipe network that distributes the water and collects the sewage. The Region sells water to the City for distribution to residents while also charging the City for the treatment of sewage. The City, through its billing agent, Niagara Falls Hydro, bills and collects fees for service from all ratepayers.

Rate Changes for 2007

Provincial Legislation dictates that all of the costs operating the Municipal water and sewer charges are generated from users of the system. To accomplish this mandate, the City has a rate structure that has both variable consumption rates and fixed service charges. Water and sewage consumption rates are determined based on the quantity of water registered on your meter during the billing period.

The Region of Niagara has increased both the water rate charged to the City by 4.1% and the sewer rate by 0.8% for 2007. As a result, the City has increased the water consumption rate charged to users by 4.1%. However, due to improvements made to the sewer system through sewer separation projects, the City has been able to lower the rate charged to users for the treatment of sewage by 2.8%.

The monthly service charges are used by the City to maintain the distribution network for both water and sewer. The primary expenditures that are funded by these charges are capital improvements to the system. In 2007, the level of expenditure is \$8,580,000. This is an increase of 17.5% from 2006 when the level of expenditure was \$7,300,000. As a result of this expenditure increase, the combined service charges for 2007 have increased by 15.8%.

The rate structure will be reviewed by City staff during 2007 for determining the 2008 rates. City staff will provide residents an opportunity for feedback throughout the year.

The Municipal Act provides the City with the authority to transfer unpaid water/sewer charges to the property tax account of the owner. A processing fee of \$20 is charged on each account transferred to taxes due to non payment.

How Will the New Rates Affect Me?

A residential ratepayer would pay an additional \$5.27 per month. Provincial Standards indicate that the average residential family of four consumes 360 cubic meters annually. As a result, the average residential user in Niagara Falls can expect an increase of \$5.27. Since the billing system is based on the consumption of water, methods to reduce your consumption of water will have a beneficial impact on your monthly bill.

Need More Information?

If you have any questions regarding meter problems, water locates, leaks, maintenance or new installations, call 356-7521 ext. 6322 to speak with staff in the City's Water Department Service Centre. If you have questions about water rates, call the City's Finance Department at 356-7521 ext. 4040. If you have any questions about your bill, call Niagara Falls Hydro at 356-2681.