



Utility Rate Changes

On June 17, 2013, the Florence City Council with the recommendation of the Florence Budget Committee voted to increase the water and wastewater rates by 3%. The new rates were effective July 1, 2013, and are reflected in the rates charged in your July 2013 bill.

While the City is very sensitive to the difficulties facing all of its customers in this economically challenged time, the rate increases are necessary to provide funding for current and on-going maintenance and operational activities within these systems. With recent increases in the cost of electricity, fuel, oil, metals and petroleum based products our utility budgets can't continue without a reasonable increase in rates to cover these costs. The 3% rate increase will generate an additional \$57,000 in revenue for the water utility and \$85,000 for the wastewater utility. The City will continue to be fiscally responsible by controlling costs and conserving resources whenever possible. The City is committed to providing you, our customers, the best possible utility service at the lowest possible cost.

For the typical residential utility customer that uses 700 cubic feet (cf) of water in a one month billing period, the combined water, wastewater, stormwater, well rehab fee and street maintenance fee was previously \$89.79 for a month of service. The increases to the water and wastewater portion of the utility bill are \$2.35 per month (\$0.90 for water and \$1.45 for wastewater). The revised monthly bill for a typical residential customer will be approximately \$92.14 per month. This is an average increase of 2.62%.

A comparison of a typical residential customer's utility bill comparing old rates to the new rates is provided in the following chart:

<i>Residential Utility Bill</i>	<i>2012-13 (old) Average Monthly Charges</i>	<i>% Increase</i>	<i>\$ Amount Increase</i>	<i>2013-14 (new) Average Monthly Charges</i>
Water (700 cf of usage)	\$29.32	3%	\$0.90	\$30.22
Well Rehabilitation Fee	1.00	0%	-	1.00
Sewer	48.27	3%	1.45	49.72
Stormwater	6.20	0%	-	6.20
Street Maintenance Fee	5.00	0%	-	5.00
Total Average Monthly Bill	\$89.79	2.62%	\$2.35	\$92.14

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