

NEW UTILITY RATE STRUCTURE

In 2015 the City of Monroe conducted a utility rate study, and subsequently the City Council adopted a new utility rate structure to begin in 2016. The study looked at the financial requirements of maintaining the utilities, while assessing fees as fairly as possible to each customer. This is a brief summary of the new utility rate structure.

Water

There are two components to your water bill: a fixed base fee (that includes 400 cubic feet of water consumption), and a consumption charge for any water used in excess of the 400 cubic feet included in the base fee.

The base fee used to be charged per <u>unit</u>. It is now charged per <u>meter</u>. So if you have a multifamily dwelling with multiple units, but one meter, you will now be charged only one base fee.

The base fee has been reduced by 23% from the 2015 rates. The consumption charge over the base fee allowance has increased from \$2.75 per hundred cubic feet to \$5.05 per hundred cubic feet. This shifts the costs from the base fees to the consumption charge. So if you are a low-water user, you pay less than a high-water user.

Sewer

For <u>residential</u> customers, the sewer rate remains the same flat fee of \$94.51/month as was charged in 2015. The overage charge for consumption has been eliminated. You only pay the flat fee.

For <u>multi-family</u> customers, the flat fee per unit goes down to \$66.16/month (was \$94.51 per unit in 2015). The overage charge for consumption has been eliminated. You only pay the flat fee per unit.

For <u>non-residential/commercial</u>, and government facility customers, the sewer rate remains the same flat fee of \$94.51. The overage charge for consumption over 800 cubic feet is \$8.14 per hundred cubic feet. This is the same overage rate as in 2015. The allowance of 800 cubic feet is down from the 1,000 cubic feet allowed in 2015. (The industry standard allowance is 500 cubic feet.) Mixed non-residential/residential customers are billed as non-residential/commercial.

Stormwater

The monthly charge per Equivalent Residential Unit (ERU) increased 4% from \$10.50 to \$10.92.

If you have any questions about your bill, please feel free to call customer service at 360-794-7400, Monday – Friday, 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

