



Dear Augusta, Hallowell, Manchester and Winthrop Water Customers and Augusta and Hallowell Sewer Customers,

The Board of Trustees of the Greater Augusta Utility District will be conducting public hearings on proposed water and sewer rate adjustments on **Thursday, July 28th** in the following locations:

Augusta City Hall - Lecture Hall - 4:00 p.m.

Hallowell City Hall - Council Chambers - 7:00 p.m.

All customers are invited to attend either meeting.

1. Sewer impacts; apply to all GAUD sewer customers in Hallowell and Augusta.
 - a. Impact: rates will rise as shown on table.
2. Stormwater impact; apply only to GAUD stormwater customers in Augusta.
 - a. Impact: rates will rise as shown on table. Stormwater contributes to the CSO problem we're trying to solve.
3. Fire protection impacts; apply to Augusta, Manchester, East Winthrop and Granite Hill (Hallowell customers).
 - a. The cost of fire protection is higher than it was before due to an updated rate model that more closely aligns costs with services.
4. Drinking water impacts; apply to customers from #3 above.
 - a. The cost of producing drinking water is lower now that the plant is paid off so the rate for drinking water is going to go down.

Rates may be seen on the back of this letter for your convenience.



**Greater Augusta Utility District
Proposed water, sewer and stormwater rates**

<u>Water rates (Maine PUC regulated):</u>						
<u>Rate per 100 cubic feet (HCF) of water:</u>						
	<u>Proposed</u>	<u>Current</u>	<u>Decrease</u>	<u>% decrease</u>		
Cost > 3 HCF	\$2.400	\$3.500	\$1.100	31%		
<u>Service charge based on meter size:</u>						
<u>Meter size</u>	<u>Monthly</u>	<u>Quarterly</u>	<u>Seasonal</u>	<u>Quarterly current</u>	<u>Quarterly decrease</u>	<u>% decrease</u>
5/8"	\$11.33	\$33.99	\$82.77	\$44.53	\$10.54	24%
3/4"	\$13.18	\$39.55	\$105.02	\$50.36	\$10.81	21%
1"	\$15.04	\$45.12	\$127.27	\$62.03	\$16.91	27%
1 1/2"	\$21.99	\$65.98	\$210.73	\$91.21	\$25.23	28%
2"	\$28.02	\$84.06	\$283.05	\$126.21	\$42.15	33%
3"	\$35.90	\$107.71	\$377.63	\$237.07	\$129.36	55%
4"	\$51.20	\$153.61	\$561.23	\$616.32	\$462.71	75%
6"	\$85.05	\$255.14	\$967.37	\$1,199.79	\$944.65	79%
<u>Fire protection:</u>						
<u>Service diameter</u>	<u>Annual</u>	<u>Current</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>% increase</u>		
1"	\$253.44	\$153.00	\$100.44	66%		
1 1/2"	\$380.16	n/a	n/a	n/a		
2"	\$506.76	\$306.00	\$200.76	66%		
3"	\$760.20	\$459.00	\$301.20	66%		
4"	\$1,013.64	\$612.00	\$401.64	66%		
6"	\$1,520.40	\$918.00	\$602.40	66%		
8"	\$2,027.28	\$1,224.00	\$803.28	66%		
10"	\$2,534.04	\$1,530.00	\$1,004.04	66%		
12"	\$3,040.92	\$1,836.00	\$1,204.92	66%		
<u>Public hydrants</u>	<u>Annual</u>	<u>Current</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>% increase</u>		
	\$ 1,635.00	\$1,560.00	\$ 75.00	5%		
<u>Sewer (not regulated by the Maine PUC):</u>						
	<u>Proposed</u>	<u>Current</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>% increase</u>		
Rate per 100 cubic feet of sewer	\$4.440	\$3.210	\$1.230	38%		
	<u>Proposed</u>	<u>Current</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>% increase</u>		
Service Charge, quarterly	\$ 26.10	\$ 18.85	\$ 7.25	38%		
Unmetered, quarterly	\$ 117.69	\$ 85.00	\$ 32.69	38%		
<u>Stormwater (not regulated by the Maine PUC):</u>						
	<u>Proposed</u>	<u>Current</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>% increase</u>		
Catch Basins - Combined	\$ 141.01	\$ 99.00	\$ 42.01	42%		
ERU - Stormwater	\$ 23.00	\$ 16.15	\$ 6.85	42%		

Drinking water and fire protection customers that are aggrieved by the proposed rates may seek assistance from the Public Advocate at (207) 287-2445 to file a petition with the Maine Public Utilities Commission in accordance with MSRA §1302 as described below:

“When a written complaint is made against a public utility by 10 persons aggrieved that the rates, tolls, charges, schedules or joint rate or rates of a public utility are in any respect unreasonable or unjustly discriminatory; that a regulation, measurement, practice or act of a public utility is in any respect unreasonable, insufficient or unjustly discriminatory; or that a service is inadequate or cannot be obtained, the commission, being satisfied that the petitioners are responsible, shall, with or without notice, investigate the complaint.”

Sewer customers who are concerned with the impact of the rate increase or who have questions about the Bond Brook CSO Project are encouraged to attend the public hearings or call the District. The Board of Trustees of the District are charged with setting sewer rates.

Any customer may request information from the Utility regarding current and proposed rates.