



## FINANCE DEPARTMENT

CITY OF NEWARK

220 South Main Street • Newark, Delaware 19711

(302) 366-7080 • Fax (302) 366-7169 • [www.cityofnewarkde.us](http://www.cityofnewarkde.us)

Dear residential and commercial sewer customers,

Sewer rates will increase by approximately 2.3% on August 21, 2013 as a result of a sewer rate increase imposed by New Castle County. Notice of the increase was posted to one of your most recent utility invoices. A breakdown of the rate increase by component follows:

Rate Component	Current Rate	New Rate	Notes
Flow Rate	\$5.7097	\$5.8246	Per 1,000 gal, as measured by water consumption
BOD <sup>1</sup>	\$0.3582	\$0.3722	Per pound; see City Code for lbs per 1,000 gal
SS <sup>2</sup>	\$0.4864	\$0.5054	Per pound; see City Code for lbs per 1,000 gal

A typical residential customer consuming an average of 200 gallons of water per day will see a sewer rate increase of less than \$3 per quarter, or about \$11.64 per year. However, we encourage you to make your best efforts to conserve water. Residential customers that save just 4.5 gallons of water every day will not see an increase in sewer bills at all! Some water saving tips follow below:

- Wash your fruits and vegetables in a pan or bowl of water instead of running water out of the tap and down the drain.
- If your shower fills a one-gallon bucket in less than 20 seconds, consider replacing the showerhead with a water-efficient model.
- Cutting your shower time by one or two minutes can save about 150 gallons per month.
- Monitor your water bill for spikes in consumption, which may indicate a leak.
- Upgrade older toilets for water-efficient models.
- Don't use running water to thaw food. Use the refrigerator or microwave instead.
- Turn off the water while brushing your teeth to save about 25 gallons per month.
- Visit the EPA's website at <http://www2.epa.gov/p2/pollution-prevention-tips-water-conservation> for more water conservation tips and information.

<sup>1</sup> Biological oxygen demand (BOD) is a measure of toxicity in treated wastewater. See city code §25-17 for the poundage per 1,000 gallons loaded by rate class at <http://library.municode.com/index.aspx?clientId=10128>.

<sup>2</sup> Suspended solids (SS) is a measure of toxicity in treated wastewater. See city code §25-17 for the poundage per 1,000 gallons loaded by rate class at <http://library.municode.com/index.aspx?clientId=10128>.