

2010 Utility Increases

**Water Department:** Water rates for 2010 are already set by ordinance from 2008 when the new tiered, seasonal structure was implemented and are scheduled to increase an average of 3% on January 1, 2010.

Proposed new base rate and seasonal structure for 2010 is listed below in Tables 15-A.1 and 15-A.2;

Table 15-A.1: Base Water Rate Structure

Meter Size	2009	2010
	Within City	Within City
Up to 3/4"	14.69	15.13
1"	18.64	19.20
1-1/2"	26.79	27.59
2"	37.28	38.39
3"	55.35	57.01
4"	89.78	92.48
6"	173.18	178.38
8"	424.30	437.03

In addition to the base rate identified in Table 15-A.1 customers will pay a usage charge per CCF (100 cubic feet) of water consumed as illustrated in Table 15-A.2 below;

Table 15-A.2: Seasonal Rate Structure

Effective Beginning		1/1/2009	1/1/2010
<b>Winter</b>			
Single-family & Multifamily residential	2 - 7 CCF	1.82	1.87
	7.01 - 15 CCF	2.05	2.15
	Over 15 CCF	2.30	2.47
Commercial/ Industrial		1.87	1.93
Schools		1.77	1.82
<b>Summer</b>			
Single-family & Multifamily residential	2 - 7 CCF	1.82	1.87
	7.51 - 15 CCF	2.18	2.33
	Over 15 CCF	2.62	2.92
Commercial/ Industrial		1.87	1.93
Schools		1.87	1.93

**Sewer Department:** The current economic crisis and sluggish housing market continue to weigh heavily on utility operations. The City had hoped that completion of the new treatment plant would coincide with new development which would help offset any increase in rates that would be necessary to repay debt. The City should experience some additional revenue in 2010 when Rainier School is able to connect to the existing system and becomes a sewer customer. However, a minimum rate increase of 3% is being implemented for 2010 to fund operations and debt repayment.

**Table 17: Sewer Rates**

Sewer Rates	2009	2010 (3%)
For a single-family residence	\$63.64/month	\$65.55/month
for multi-family residences	\$53.77 per unit, per month	\$55.38 per unit, per month
For mobile homes	\$63.64/month	\$65.55/month
Non-System Sewage Disposal	\$224.97/105 cubic feet	\$231.72/105 cubic feet
Commercial users	\$63.64/900 cubic feet + \$2.49/100 cubic feet excess	\$65.55/900 cubic feet + \$2.56/100 cubic feet excess

**Stormwater Department:** In 2009 the City continued to expand the Phase II NPDES Stormwater Management Program that was mandated by DOE. In 2010 further emphasis will be placed on implementing the program by updating and adopting new Illicit Discharge Regulations, updating stormwater regulations and initiating a sampling program in specific discharge areas of the community. This program requirement is another of those unfunded mandates imposed on local communities that will end up costing approximately \$1 million over the next ten years to implement.

The financing plan adopted in the City’s Comprehensive Stormwater Plan identified that in 2010 a rate increase of 3% would be necessary to support funding of the Phase II NPDES Stormwater Management Program.

**Table 18: Storm Sewer Monthly Service Charge**

Storm Sewer Monthly Service Charge		
Use	2009 Rate	2010 Rate
Single-family residence	\$16.65/residence/month.	\$17.15/residence/month.
Multi-family and/or Accessory residences	\$10.98/residence/month.	\$11.31/residence/month.
Other	\$16.65/ERU*/month.	\$17.15/ERU*/month.
*ERU for Storm Sewer calculation is defined to mean 8,000 square feet of impervious surface area		
Alternate: Commercial	\$16.65/business/month plus \$16.65 for parking whether on-site or off-site	\$17.15/business/month plus \$17.15 for parking whether on-site or off-site

**Solid Waste:** Revenues from solid waste are slightly short of revised projections made in May when the City had to implement additional rate increases to cover costs from an increase in current service contract with D&M Disposal and tipping fees at Pierce County. With the expectation of another increase coming from both D&M and the County once again in March, 2010 and increases in administrative and insurance costs of 5.64% the City is implementing a rate increase of 6.5% in January, 2010.

**Cemetery:** The Cemetery budget is experiencing increases similar to those throughout the rest of the budget such as in wages, benefits, administration, insurance and utilities. In order to offset the costs the City Council is implementing an adjustment of 3% to the current rates in January, 2010.