

WESTERN BUTLER COUNTY AUTHORITY

607 MARKET STREET
ZELIENOPLE, PA 16063
724-452-5501

January, 2019

Dear Customer,

This letter is to inform you of new rates for Western Butler County Authority (WBCA) customers that will go into effect on February 1st, 2019. After performing a detailed analysis of the system and billing structure, the Board of Directors has elected to change our billing structure. Your new rate will reflect a 'usage only' structure and eliminate the Debt and Administration charge. As a result of this change, each customer's bill is calculated based on actual water usage.

The details of our new rate structure are reflected below:

- Residential customers: \$15.00 per 1,000 gallons of water usage with a minimum billable charge of \$15.00.
- Non-Residential customers: \$15.00 per 1,000 gallons of water usage with a minimum billable charge of \$30.00.

As costs throughout the industry continue to rise, the staff at WBCA work diligently to manage those costs while still upholding the Authority's commitment to a sustainable future. Rate adjustments are the only way to ensure the reliability and affordability of sewer services for all WBCA customers moving forward. They also support the Authority's commitment to the replacement of aging infrastructure, which will allow uninterrupted services into the future. The new rates will help WBCA continue to address important capital improvements which provide a better quality of life and long-term cost savings to customers through more efficient operations.

The 2019 rate adjustment, and billing structure change, is based on a detailed cost of service analysis performed by a qualified consultant to ensure that each customer pays their proportionate share of the costs to providing services. As our customer, you are our most valuable asset. Your continued confidence in the safety and high quality of our services along with our role in protecting the environment remain our primary goals.

WBCA values our customers and we are committed to doing everything we can to keep rate increases and billing changes to a minimum. Included on the back of this letter are some ways that you can minimize your environmental impact and water consumption.

If you have questions about the rate changes, please contact WBCA at (724) 452-5501. Our office hours are Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Sincerely,

The Board of Directors and Management of Western Butler County Authority

Water Conservation Tips from The Water Project

https://thewaterproject.org/water_conservation_tips

- Always turn taps off tightly so they do not drip.
- Promptly repair any leaks in and around your taps. (One leak can waste several thousand liters of water per year.)
- Use an aerator and/or a water flow-reducer attachment on your tap to reduce your water usage.
- When hand-washing dishes, never run water continuously. Wash dishes in a partially filled sink and then rinse them using the spray attachment on your tap.
- If you have an electric dishwasher, use it only to wash full loads, and use the shortest cycle possible. Many dishwashers have a conserve/water-miser cycle.
- When brushing your teeth, turn the water off while you are actually brushing. Use short bursts of water for cleaning your brush. (This saves about 80% of the water normally used.)
- When washing or shaving, partially fill the sink and use that water rather than running the tap continuously. (This saves about 60% of the water normally used.) Use short bursts of water to clean razors.
- Use either low-flow shower heads or adjustable flow-reducer devices on your shower heads. (They reduce flow by at least 25%.)
- Installing low-flush toilets can reduce water usage by 40% to 50%.
- Wash only full loads in your washing machine.
- Use the shortest cycle possible for washing clothes, and use the "suds-saver" feature if your machine has one.
- Use only cleaning products that will not harm the environment when they are washed away after use. Look for "environmentally friendly" products when shopping.
- Lawns and gardens require only 5 millimeters of water per day during warm weather. Less is needed during spring, fall, or cool weather.
- Water lawns every three to five days, rather than for a short period every day. In warm weather, apply 5 millimeters of water for each day since the last watering.
- Water during the cool part of the day, in the morning or evening. Do not water on windy days.
- Do not over-water in anticipation of a shortage. Soil cannot store extra water.
- Use shut-off timers or on-off timers, if possible. Do not turn on sprinklers and leave for the day.