

Windsor Heights Water and Stormwater rate FAQ

I noticed in the January newsletter that Council was planning to take action on water and stormwater rates. What are my rates?

Council took action in January to increase both water and storm water rates in order to pursue necessary capital projects. Effective May 1st, water rates will be \$3.40 per thousand gallons and stormwater rates will be \$3.50 per month.

It seems as if rates were recently adjusted. When was the last time rates were adjusted?

Water rates were at \$3.00 per thousand gallons in 2002 and were adjusted in 2003, when they went from \$3.00 per thousand gallons to \$2.57 per thousand gallons. The rates were actually decreased by \$.43 per thousand gallons in order to offset the implementation of a water availability charge. Prior to that, water rates had not been increased since 1994, when they were \$2.70 per thousand gallons.

Stormwater rates were increased in June, 2006, approximately 18 months ago to address a capital improvement need at College Avenue Bridge. The most pressing upcoming capital stormwater need is the dredging of Walnut Creek at the bridge at Buffalo Road and 73rd Street.

I remember reading in the January newsletter that the City is financially sound. Why is it necessary to raise rates?

Both water and stormwater functions of the city are considered “enterprise funds” which means that they are functions that are and should be supported by the rate structure. In short, the City is financially sound and in order to maintain that fiscal condition, the City must continue to practice good financial policies. This includes setting a rate structure that is appropriate for the needs in the enterprise areas.

How do Windsor Heights’ average monthly charges compare with surrounding communities?

