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Cleveland Water Pollution Control (WPC) helps keep our community and the environment healthy and safe. We're responsible for managing and maintaining sewer and stormwater collection in the City of Cleveland.

Following a comprehensive rate study and approval by Cleveland City Council, new WPC rates have been set for 2022, 2023 and 2024. The gradual increase in rates over this period will support critical infrastructure investment and improved service delivery.

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### WATER POLLUTION CONTROL

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## WATER POLLUTION CONTROL

### UNDERSTANDING YOUR SEWER RATES



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## What the New Rates Look Like

WPC rates have two components. The fixed charge is based on the size of your water meter. Most residential customers have a meter measuring between 5/8 and 1 inch. The usage charge is based on the amount of water you use and is measured in thousand cubic feet (MCF). Both charges will be increasing as shown below.

### Monthly Fixed Charge

	2021	2022	2023	2024
5/8" to 1" Meter	\$6.00	\$6.90	\$7.95	\$8.90
Homestead	\$3.60	\$4.15	\$4.75	\$5.35

### Monthly Usage Charge

	2021	2022	2023	2024
Per MCF	\$12.53	\$14.03	\$15.43	\$16.97
Homestead	\$7.43	\$8.32	\$9.15	\$10.06

1 MCF = 7,480 gallons

On average, WPC customers use 0.5 MCF (3,740 gal.) of water a month. Based on this amount, monthly WPC charges would look like the following.

2021	2022	2023	2024
\$12.27	\$13.92	\$15.67	\$17.39

WPC's current rate structure has a minimum monthly usage charge of \$4.17 (0.3 MCF) that customers are billed regardless of usage. This minimum charge will be phased out over the next three years, as shown below.

2021 Minimum	2022	2023	2024
\$4.17 (0.3 MCF)	\$2.81 (0.2 MCF)	\$1.54 (0.1 MCF)	\$0



## How the Changes Help Us Better Serve You

These new rates will allow for \$41.5 million in investment over the next three years to fund capital projects like sewer repair and replacement and major equipment upgrades. These projects are critical to address issues like sewer collapses and storm drain overflows that can cause major inconvenience to our customers in the form of collapsed streets and flooded basements.

This increase also will give WPC the ability to complete more maintenance on sewers and catch basins as well as respond quicker to customer requests. Improving maintenance activities helps avoid potential health and safety hazards and minimize the inconvenience created by sewer breaks and backups.



## Why a Rate Increase is Needed

WPC needs to continue to invest in upgrading aging infrastructure, much of which was installed between 1910 and 1940. Currently, 40% of WPC's sewer mains are 100 years or older, which is past their useful life. By 2025, that number will be 51% unless we invest more in infrastructure.

WPC relies almost entirely on rates for funding. Without a rate increase, WPC would not be able to maintain its infrastructure or operate at a level that effectively meets our customers' needs.



## Available Assistance

We recognize the burden that an increase in rates places on customers. Our priority is to maintain affordability while improving services to our customers. Our Homestead Program offers significantly reduced rates to low income customers who are age 65 and older and/or totally disabled. For more information, please call 216.664.2513.

Other assistance programs are available through CHN Housing Partners. For more information, visit [chnhousingpartners.org](http://chnhousingpartners.org) or call 216.574.7100.

