

January 2011 Water/Sewer/Garbage Rates

After much consideration by the town council, input from the community, and a utilities rate study by Rural Communities Assistance Corporation in 2008, the town council implemented new rates for water, sewer and garbage in 2009. Recognizing the need to balance a self-sustaining utility operation with needed maintenance, repairs and upgrades to the system, while also taking into account citizens' household budgets, the town council decided to establish a planned rate increase that would take effect every two years. This eliminates the unexpected larger rate increases that can plague a town and its citizens. The last rate increase was January 2009. The next planned increase will take effect January 2011. The increase is 4% for sewer and 6% for water and garbage. The average household bill (with no extra water or garbage cans) will go up \$4.44 a month to \$90.83 from the current bill of \$86.39.

The following rate table gives a summary:

	2010 Rate	January 2011 Rate
<u>Water</u>		
Base 5,000 gallons	\$22.50	\$23.85
Overage per 1,000 gallons		
5,001 to 30,000	\$.75	\$.75
30,001 to 70,000	\$1.00	\$1.00
70,001 and over	\$1.25	\$1.25
 <u>Sewer</u>		
	\$35	\$36.40
 <u>Garbage</u>		
2 - 32 gallon cans	\$24	\$25.44
Extra can	\$3.00	\$3.18
 Utility Tax 6% (no increase in %)		
	\$4.89	\$5.14
 Average Household Bill		
With no overage	\$86.39	\$90.83

Your comments and input are welcome any time. Please feel free to call us at 635-1604 or email us at garfield-town@completebbs.com.