



# Village of Richmond

## Utility Bill Rates

**Effective May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021**

The Village of Richmond bills quarterly for your water and sewer use. Your bill is based on consumption and charges are calculated to reflect water use in a 90 day period. The water bill is mailed the first week of May, August, November and February annually.

### **WATER RATES**

1. For the first 4,000 gallons or less \$17.50 quarterly
2. Over 4,000 gallons, cost per 1,000 gallons \$0.75 quarterly

### **SEWER RATES**

1. For the first 4,000 gallons or less \$81.12 quarterly
2. Over 4,000 gallons, cost per 1,000 gallons \$10.00 quarterly

There shall be and there is hereby established a debt service surcharge of \$39.00 per quarter applied and charged to each user of the wastewater facility. In addition, the Village shall annually review said charge and consider further adjustment of the surcharge as needed by the respective budget.

**If you have additional questions regarding your water bill,  
please contact the Village Hall office at 815-678-4040, we are always happy to help!**



# Water Conservation Tips for Residents

## First thing's first!

- Repair leaky faucets, indoors and out. Don't wait, if possible!

## In the Kitchen

- When cooking, peel and clean vegetables in a large bowl of water instead of under running water.
- Fill your sink or basin when washing and rinsing dishes.
- Only run the dishwasher when it's full.
- Only use the garbage disposal when necessary (composting is a great alternative).
- Install faucet aerators.

## In the Bathroom

- Take short showers instead of baths.
- Turn off the water to brush teeth, shave and soap up in the shower. Fill the sink to shave.
- Repair leaky toilets. Add 12 drops of food coloring into the tank, and if color appears in the bowl one hour later, your toilet is leaking.
- Install a toilet dam, faucet aerators and low-flow showerheads.

## Laundry

- Run full loads of laundry.

## Outdoors

- Maximize the use of natural vegetation and establish smaller lawns. For portions of your lot where a lawn and landscaping are desired, ask your local nursery for tips about plants and grasses with low water demand (such as creeping fescue). Consider planting more trees, shrubs, ground covers, and less grass. Shrubs and ground covers provide greenery for much of the year and usually demand less water. Use native plants in flower beds. Native plants have adapted to rainfall conditions in New England and often provide good wildlife habitat. Cluster plants that require extra care together to minimize time and save water.
- When mowing your lawn, set the mower blades to 2-3 inches high. Longer grass shades the soil improving moisture retention, has more leaf surface to take in sunlight, allowing it to grow thicker and develop a deeper root system. This helps grass survive drought, tolerate insect damage and fend off disease.
- Only water the lawn when necessary. If you water your lawn and garden, only do it once a week, if rainfall isn't sufficient. Avoid watering on windy and hot days. Water the lawn and garden in the morning or late in the evening to maximize the amount of water which reaches the plant roots (otherwise most of the water will evaporate). Use soaker hoses to water gardens and flower beds. If sprinklers are used, take care to be sure they don't water walkways and buildings. When you water, put down no more than 1 inch (set out a empty cans to determine how long it takes to water 1 inch) each week. This watering pattern will encourage healthier, deep grass roots. Over-watering is wasteful, encourages fungal growth and disease, and results in the growth of shallow, compacted root systems that are more susceptible to drought and foot traffic. If an automatic lawn irrigation system is used, be sure it has been properly installed, is programmed to deliver the appropriate amount and rate of water, and has rain shut-off capability.
- Apply mulch around shrubs and flower beds to reduce evaporation, promote plant growth and control weeds.
- Add compost or an organic matter to soil as necessary, to improve soil conditions and water retention.
- When washing a car, wet it quickly, then use a bucket of water to wash the car. Turn on the hose to final rinse (or let mother nature wash your car when it rains).
- Always use a broom to clean walkways, driveways, decks and porches, rather than hosing off these areas.