

AUGUSTA TOWNSHIP UTILITY BILL UPDATE
3/10/2020

Welcome to our new utility bill format. We've eliminated the postcard bill and replaced it with a new design that provides more information for you, including descriptions of charges, and a chart of your usage history.

Below are answers to frequently asked questions that the township has received about the new water and sewer rates. On future bills, we'll be using this space to keep you informed, share information about the water and sewer system, and update you on improvements and projects that are on the horizon.

Why has the township changed the rate structure and raised rates?

The Augusta Township water and sewer utility has lost over \$3,000,000 over the past ten years. Needed long-term repairs have not been made, and the township is out of compliance with the state. The system requires immediate repair and current revenues are insufficient to fund the necessary upgrades.

Many of the costs to operate the system are fixed and consistent year over year. The previous rate formula relied on usage only. This resulted in unreliable revenue generation, insufficient to provide service in a fiscally stable manner. The new rate structure separates fixed and variable costs, to ensure that the system has sufficient revenue to cover the cost of operating the system.

The rate structure now has three components:

Component	Water	Sewer
Operations and Maintenance (O&M/Capacity Charge)	X	X
Debt Service for Capital Improvements	X	X
Commodity Charge (based on your usage)	X	X

I am a water-only customer. Am I paying for repairs to the sewer system?

No. Water and sewer costs are budgeted separately, and charged separately.

I have two meters. Do I pay two capacity charges and two debt service charges?

No. The Capacity and Debt Service charges only apply to the **first** meter.

How can I reduce my bill?

Reduce your usage. The Commodity charge is based on **your usage**. For each unit (748 gallons) of water that you save, you reduce your bill by \$9.39 (for water and sewer customers), and \$4.34 for water customers.

What is the "Operation and Maintenance/Capacity Charge"?

The Operations and Maintenance (Capacity) charge is a fixed charge assessed to each user of the system. This charge covers the day-to-day operations and maintenance of the water and sewer system.

Operations and Maintenance charges are assessed on the first meter only.

What is the Debt Service Charge?

The township has borrowed funds to repair and replace water and sewer system components. A debt service charge has been added to the bi-monthly bill to cover the cost of repaying the loan, and are charged separately.

Debt Service charges are assessed on the first meter only.

CONTACT INFORMATION FOR SERVICE AND BILLING QUESTIONS
Billing (888) 614-5552 | Service (734) 787-2382 | Emergency (734) 238-7245
www.augustatownship.org/utilities

WE'RE UPDATING OUR RECORDS TO BETTER SERVE YOU

PLEASE PROVIDE YOUR CURRENT CONTACT INFORMATION

MAILING ADDRESS _____

PHONE NUMBER _____

EMAIL ADDRESS _____

I AUTHORIZE AUGUSTA CHARTER TOWNSHIP TO CONTACT ME VIA EMAIL TO DISCUSS UTILITY AND TOWNSHIP RELATED ISSUES _____