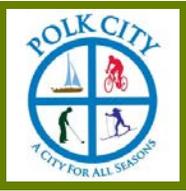




City of Polk City Utility Bill Changes Effective July 1, 2020



We are making some changes to the City Utility bill beginning July 1, 2020. During these next upcoming months we value helping each resident better understand their utility bill charges. Please do not hesitate to contact us with questions.

Beginning in July, we will be utilizing a consolidated solid waste pick-up for residential properties (will not include apartment complexes). There were a number of factors in making this decision that included: 1) Lower rate for our residents at \$8.34 per month for collection, 2) Fewer trucks on our city streets and 3) Ease of paying one utility bill for your services. We have partnered with Metro Waste Authority (MWA) to assist us with this transition and will be communicating the transition plan with you soon.

Also, beginning July 1st we will start passing along the costs of recycling to our residents. Since the inception of recycling, the City has covered the costs for each homeowner to recycle. This is no longer sustainable for the City. The monthly cost will be \$3.45 per month.

We will also be increasing water and sewer fees on July 1, 2020. Last year, we hired a third-party financial consulting firm to evaluate both the water and sewer funds. After a comprehensive cost analysis was completed, they provided the City Council with options on how to increase these funds to avoid operating negatively in the next Fiscal Year. The City Council wanted to provide the least amount of impact on lower end users.

Beginning in July, you will no longer see a flat \$15.00 Rockcreek fee. Instead we have spread the fee amongst the availability fee (increase from \$15.63 to \$17.30) and sewer usage (increase from \$5.90 per 1,000 gallons to \$11.35 per 1,000 gallons).

You will also see an increase in your water portion of the bill. Each resident will see an approximate 7% increase to domestic water and a 40% increase to irrigation. The new rates are as follow: availability fee will be decreased from \$13.71 to \$8.80, however, will no longer include 1,000 gallons of water; the usage charge will be increased from \$5.50 per 1,000 gallons to \$5.89 per 1,000 gallons; and the irrigation fee will be increased from \$7.18 per 1,000 gallons used to \$10.05 per 1,000 gallons used.

Please note that increasing water and sewer rates each year is necessary. A majority of our water is purchased through Des Moines Water Works (DMWW)-if they increase our purchase price, we have to increase our water rates. The same goes for sewer, as all of our sewage goes directly to the Waste Reclamation Authority (WRA).

Water irrigation is attributed to a large amount of water we purchase from DMWW. Things you can do as a homeowner and to keep your water usage lower is to USE WATER WISELEY. The City of Polk City sent out information regarding an irrigation program earlier this spring that will help reduce consumption, save money, and reduce the peak load on our water facilities. The program aims at educating people not to irrigate on Mondays nor the hottest part of the day. Even numbered addresses are encouraged to water Sunday, Wednesdays, and Fridays and odd numbered addresses are encouraged to water on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays between 10am and 5pm.

Previous Bill:

Rockcreek		\$15
Sewer	4500 gallons	\$42.18
Water	4500 gallons	\$32.96
Water Irrigation	1000 gallons	\$7.18
Tax		\$2.41
TOTAL....		\$99.73 (+ \$14.16 to a garbage hauler)

New Bill:

Sewer Availability		\$17.30
Sewer Usage	4500 gallons	\$51.08
Water Availability		\$8.80
Water Usage	4500 gallons	\$26.51
Water Irrigation	1000 gallons	\$10.05
Solid Waste		\$8.34
Recycling		\$3.45
Tax		\$2.72
TOTAL...		\$128.25

Net Effect:

In summary, the average user will see an increase of \$14.36 per month to their Polk City Utility Bill including garbage services