



New Sewer Rates Effective July 1st

Why is my utility bill increasing?

Sewer fees are increasing to reflect the cost of operating Edson's new Waste Water Treatment Plant, expected to come online later this year. Most utility costs will stay the same; however, consumption rates for sewer will be increased to \$1.21/m³. For the typical household, this translates into a monthly increase of approximately \$7.00.

But why do I have to pay for this?

The new sewer rates were developed based on the user pay principle, and are in line with municipal best practices of cost recovery. What does this mean? \$1.21/m³ reflects the **actual cost** of processing sewage; since this money has to come from somewhere, fairness requires that instead of raising taxes on the general population, **those who use more, pay more.**

Don't I already pay for the WWTP?

The fixed \$14.25 monthly WWTP fee goes towards **construction** costs for the WWTP. This is a temporary charge that will end once the loan for the facility has been repaid.

The new sewer consumption fees will pay for the **ongoing operation** of the WWTP, including staffing, maintenance, quality testing, depreciation, and more.

Why do we even need a treatment plant?

The Town was mandated by the provincial government to build the WWTP in order to comply with environmental standards. Under the previous lagoon system, contaminants in our effluent (water being released into the river) were putting a strain on river ecosystems.



DID YOU KNOW

- Operating the WWTP will increase Town costs by an estimated \$800,000 per year. The new fees will enable us to provide this higher service level.
- Including this price increase, the typical utility customer in Edson will still pay below the regional monthly average for water and sewer services:

Typical Water and Sewer Charges:



Edson's new Waste Water Treatment Plant will come online this year, ensuring the long-term quality and resilience of local sewage services and helping to preserve regional water systems.