



CLEARFIELD MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY

March 1, 2025

Important Announcement: Upcoming Utility Rate Increase

Dear Customer,

The purpose of this letter is to notify you of an upcoming rate change that will affect the sewer portion of your monthly bill.

As you have most likely seen in the local news, with a DEP mandate, the sewer systems formerly owned by both Clearfield Borough and Lawrence Township were taken over and are now owned by the Clearfield Municipal Authority. Many years ago, by Ordinance, the municipalities had required us to bill and collect a Sewer Surcharge fee, which they established. Because they are our governing bodies, for numerous years, we have billed, collected and remitted the Surcharge collections to them monthly.

Since the takeover has completed and we now have the ability for all customers to be under one rate schedule, we, the Board, have done ongoing research, along with careful study and deliberation of the financial impact of not only the Sewer charge but also of the Sewer Surcharge – with a current rate of \$8.00 per thousand gallons of water usage. As a Board, we are responsible to treat all customers equally. To that end, we have concluded and then voted to (1) stop the step-down scale on the sewer rate, making only one flat rate of \$11.27 per thousand gallons for the Sewer charge; and (2) to completely do away with the Sewer Surcharge, effective with the bills dated April 1, 2025.

The reason that this letter comes to you is that since the inception of the Surcharge, you have never been billed that line-item fee, instead paying a much lower rate for the same service.

Review has shown that 178 customers of the Clearfield Municipal Authority have been being charged considerably less per month than over 4,500 other customers of the Authority. You have been paying, at most, \$3.27 per thousand gallons for treatment of waste at our sewage treatment facility, while most of our customers have been paying a combined Sewer and Surcharge total of \$11.27 per thousand gallons for the same service. This large discrepancy in what customers have been charged, although formerly required by Ordinance, has not been fair to the vast majority of our customers.

It is for that reason that this letter is to inform you that as of the April 1, 2025 bill, you will also be billed what the other customers continue paying for the same service.

However, we were able to establish an offset. With adding many new customers to our service area, our research shows that we are now also able to **reduce** the current \$11.27 per thousand gallons rate, resulting in the **first ever sewer rate decrease in the history of the Clearfield Municipal Authority**. Our end result is that as of the April 1, 2025 bills, what will now be our Sewer rate will decrease from \$11.27 to \$10.75 per thousand gallons for all customers tied to and using the public sewer system. We are pleased to announce the \$0.52 per thousand rate decrease as part of the restructuring.

Respectfully,

Wayne Smith
Chairman
Clearfield Municipal Authority