

CITY OF EASTLAKE SEWER RATE INCREASE FAQ

What are the sewer funds being used for?

Sewer funds are currently being used as follows:

1. \$1,050,000.00 for the day to day operations of the Sewer plant which is jointly owned by the City of Eastlake and the City of Willoughby.
2. Approximately \$400,000.00 in wages and payroll related costs of the City of Eastlake's Sewer Department.
3. Approximately \$250,000.00 for maintenance and re-construction costs relating to the sewer pipes and pump stations throughout the City and for the pump stations' utilities.
4. In 2009, as part of the EPA licensing process, the EPA mandated that a SSES Study be performed on the entire jointly owned sewer system; Eastlake's share of this study is not expected to exceed \$275,000.00.
5. In 2010, the City is in the process of rehabbing the Quentin Road Pump Station at an expected cost to the City of \$430,000.00
6. Of the sewer bill paid by residents, over \$105,000.00 will be paid to the Lake County Department of Utilities for just the billing and collection of sewer charges.

How does Eastlake pay for sewer operations?

Eastlake pays for the operation of the sewer system by charging residents and businesses of Eastlake, Timberlake and Lakeline a fee based on their water consumption as determined by the Lake County Department of Utilities.

Is any of the money collected used to pay for other City services?

No – All monies collected are used only to pay sewer plant operations and sewer related expenses. None of these monies are used to pay for police, fire, recreation, pool or and other City service.

Is the rate increase related in any way to the opening or operation of the pool?

Absolutely not.

How much am I paying now?

Currently, residents are charged \$1.89 per 100 cubic feet of water consumption.

What is the proposed new rate?

Residents will be charged \$3.20 per 100 cubic feet of water consumption.

How much does the average Eastlake resident spend a quarter for sewer?

The average Eastlake resident uses 1,700 cu. ft. of water per quarter. The current charge for 1,700 c.f. is \$41.44. With the proposed rate, the charge for 1,700 c.f. would be \$62.70 – an increase of \$21.26 a quarter or \$7.09 a month.

When were the rates last increased?

The last sewer rate increase was effective January 1, 2007. Those rates were based on the water usage in 2006; however, since 2006 water usage throughout Eastlake, Timberlake and Lakeline has decreased over 23%.

How does this compare with Other Cities?

The following provides details of the rates currently charged by surrounding Cities:

Municipality	Minimum Bill With Admin Costs	Per 100 Cubic Feet	Admin Costs per Bill	Comments
Willoughby	None	2.450	7.25	City is looking to increase rates this year.
Wickliffe	\$28.30	2.480	3.50	
Eastlake Proposed	\$27.50	3.200	3.50	
Willowick	\$33.15	3.315	3.50	City is looking to increase rates this year.
Euclid	None	3.317		
Willoughby Hills	None	4.255	3.50	
Mentor	\$70.56			Flat amount charged to each user.