

Proposed Water Rate Increase for Water System Improvements

The Battle Ground Conservancy District (BGCD) Board of Directors wants you to know that our intent remains to be careful stewards of your water utility. We have a 5-year plan and there are several projects that are mandatory to replace aging infrastructure such as the older water mains.

The utility needs a budget and fee structure that will accomplish this.

We invite you to look at information on the website and to attend the **public hearing at Town Hall on 5/15/2019 at 6:00 p.m.** regarding this matter.

We appreciate the opportunity to address the following main points.



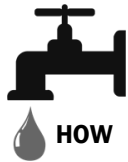
All **Conservancy District members** and customers will experience an increase in **water rates and fees**, including residential, commercial and government accounts. We all share the cost and responsibility for the water system.



Water rates are increasing to cover the cost of water for home and business as well as fire protection. The price of water service is separate from the cost of your sewage service and storm water fees, which are managed by the Battle Ground Town Council.



The **public hearing** on the water rate increase will be **May 15, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. at Town Hall**, with the implementation anticipated to be in June this year.



The **total water fee** for a residential customer using 4000 gallons per month will go from \$27.48 to \$42.88, an increase of less than 4 tenths of a cent per gallon. The minimum charge, up to 2000 gallons, will go from \$13.73 to \$21.42 per month.



The rate increase is needed to provide system improvements including new water meters for ongoing replacement of existing meters, rebuilding Well #2, replacing a utility truck, and contributing to a cumulative maintenance fund for future needs. Debt service for the replacement water tower is secured with property tax levy, however there remain necessary infrastructure improvements.

The proposed increase is not enough to fund all the projects in the 5-year plan; however, the Conservancy Board is taking into consideration the effect a rate increase has on member households.

The across the board rate increase of 56% is in line with water rates of systems serving similar size communities such as Otterbein, Flora, Chalmers and Reynolds. This rate increase will allow a start on some important projects that the BGCD considers responsible water management.

As always, our helpful staff is ready to assist you in signing up for Emergency Alert text or email, listening to your concerns and suggestions or answering your water billing questions.

Call (765) 567-2603 or visit the website www.water.battleground.in.gov for more information.