

NOTICE

There have been some inquiries recently concerning the availability charges on the recently mailed Utility Bill. This is **only a format change** and reflects the breakdown of the different components of the water and sewer charges and **not an increase or change in charges**. The availability charges have been a component of water and sewer charges since January of 1998. The current bill shows each charge on a separate line. The format of the previous bill lumped the two charges together.

Availability charges are flat fees billed for every incremental 30,000 gallons of use and are used to cover overall administrative costs associated with the Water and Wastewater Departments.

Usage rates are charges based upon the amount of gallons used and reflect the meter reading. The usage charges are used to cover the overall operating costs associated with providing water and sewer service.

Cost analyses of the different components of utility charges are performed each year during the budget process and rates and fees are set accordingly.

Any questions concerning the Utility Bills in general or yours in particular can be addressed to Laura Givens in the Finance Department at 302-856-7391.