

Horsham Water & Sewer Authority issues a surcharge credit



Please review your enclosed bill!

Dear Horsham Water & Sewer Authority Customer:

As you may recall, the Horsham Water and Sewer Authority (HWSA) instituted a surcharge to fund a groundbreaking and dynamic short-term plan to reduce the levels of Perfluorooctane Sulfonate (PFOS) and Perfluorooctanoic Acid (PFOA) in the public water supply.

Initially, the surcharge was set based on a conservatively estimated cost of approximately \$1.2 million per year to carry out the short-term plan. Due to savings in the volume of bulk purchased water and other cost control measures, in December 2017 the surcharge was reduced.

Based on review of actual surcharge revenues vs. actual short-term plan related costs incurred through the 3rd quarter of 2018, HWSA is pleased to inform you that all customers who have been paying the surcharge since it was first instituted late in 2016 will receive a one-time surcharge credit. This credit represents a proportional refund of surplus surcharge revenues. The one-time credit is being issued during the first quarter of 2019 and is reflected on the enclosed bill.

As we continue carrying out the short-term plan, the surcharge will remain in effect to cover the related ongoing expenses. However, with time and experience we are better able to forecast those costs with more precision. Therefore, in addition to the one-time credit, we are pleased to announce that there will also be another slight reduction in the ongoing surcharge starting in January 2019.

Separate from the surcharge, base fees for water and sewer are being increased to reflect normal market increases in the cost of routine operations of the system. The result is that the average residential customer using 15,000 gallons per quarter will see an increase of 3%, or approximately 7 cents per day in the overall standard water and sewer charges.

In total, the net result of the combined surcharge reduction, one-time surcharge credit, and the increase in the base fees, is that the average residential water and sewer user in 2019 will pay **3%, or 8 cents per day, less than in 2018.**

While HWSA may not be in a position to prevent another surcharge increase in the future, HWSA will continue to balance the costs of the short-term plan against surcharge revenues and make necessary adjustments going forward. In the meantime, trust that we are working diligently to continue to provide you with the highest quality of drinking water at the lowest possible cost.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tina M O'Rourke".

Tina M. O'Rourke
Business Manager

For regular updates on matters relating to PFOS/PFOA, the short and long-term plans, as well as routine Authority business, please sign up for email updates. You may do so by going to the Authority's website at <https://www.horshamwater-sewer.com/customer-updates>. Please be assured that your email address will only be used for the purpose of informing you of Authority business.

As usual, we are also available by phone at 215-672-8011 or via email at contact@horshamwater-sewer.com.