

CHANGES COMING TO UTILITY BILLING

Changes are coming to your Town water, sewer, and garbage utility bills.

The Town of Barrhead is streamlining billing to ensure **full cost recovery** and are moving to charge you, as a consumer, for water used per cubic meter (m³) rather than the tiered system currently in use.

Under the current billing formula, you are charged a flat rate of \$51.05 per month for the first 13.5 m³ with additional charges added in a tiered fashion the more you consume. As we bill every two months (bi-monthly), you are billed \$102.10 for your water usage if you use up to 27 m³ every billing cycle.

This change is being made to modernize our practices, aligning us with other communities throughout the province, to ensure full cost recovery and a fair approach to billing. Under the new formula, you will be charged a flat rate of \$60 each billing cycle, plus \$2.37 for every cubic meter consumed.

On the reverse, you will find comparisons of utility bills using the current formula versus the new formula.

How will this new billing format affect me?

If you are typically a low consumption user, you will see lower utility bills. If you consume a large amount of water each month, typically seen with

large families, commercial accounts, and multi-residential accounts, you will see an increase in your bi-monthly billing.

What does the Flat Fee cover?

Flat fees encompass costs such as those associated with labour, parts, materials, water testing, transfers to capital reserves for future projects and third-party services needed to ensure that safe, drinkable water is delivered from the Water Treatment Plant to your property.

When will I see the changes to my bill?

The new formula will take effect in January and will be reflected on your January/February 2022 billing cycles. This bill will be mailed the first week of March 2022.

What is “cost recovery”?

The Town pays the **Barrhead Regional Water Commission (BRWC)** for the water that is consumed by our residents and business owners. **Effective January 2022**, the rate per cubic meter that the BRWC will charge is **\$2.37**. As we operate under a cost recovery system, in 2022, you as the consumer will pay the same amount to the Town of Barrhead as the Town is required to pay the BRWC for water consumption.

BILLING COMPARISONS

COMPARISON BASED ON BI-MONTHLY CONSUMPTION OF 14 m³

CURRENT FORMULA

Flat Fee (between 0 and 27 m ³ of water)	\$102.10
Sewer Charge (35% of water charges)	\$35.70
Garbage Charge (65 gallon cart)	\$29.20
Total Bi-Monthly Bill	\$167.00

NEW FORMULA

Flat Fee	\$60.00
Consumption Fee (\$2.37 x 14 m ³)	\$33.18
Sewer Charge (35% of water charges)	\$32.61
Garbage Charge (65 gallon cart)	\$29.50
Total Bi-Monthly Bill	\$155.29

COMPARISON BASED ON BI-MONTHLY CONSUMPTION OF 50 m³

CURRENT FORMULA

Flat Fee (between 0 and 27 m ³ of water)	\$102.10
Tier 1 Consumption (between 28 and 50 m ³ of water)	\$56.58
Sewer Charge (35% of water charges)	\$55.54
Garbage Charge (65 gallon cart)	\$29.20
Total Bi-Monthly Bill	\$243.42

NEW FORMULA

Flat Fee	\$60.00
Consumption Fee (\$2.37 x 50 m ³)	\$118.50
Sewer Charge (35% of water charges)	\$62.48
Garbage Charge (65 gallon cart)	\$29.50
Total Bi-Monthly Bill	\$270.48

COMPARISON BASED ON BI-MONTHLY CONSUMPTION OF 500 m³

CURRENT FORMULA

Flat Fee (between 0 and 27 m ³ of water)	\$102.10
Tier 1 Consumption (between 28 and 91 m ³ of water)	\$157.44
Tier 2 Consumption (between 92 and 500 m ³ of water)	\$916.16
Sewer Charge (35% of water charges)	\$411.50
Garbage Charge (95 gallon cart)	\$47.00
Total Bi-Monthly Bill	\$1,634.20

NEW FORMULA

Flat Fee	\$60.00
Consumption Fee (\$2.37 x 500 m ³)	\$1,185.00
Sewer Charge (35% of water charges)	\$435.75
Garbage Charge (95 gallon cart)	\$47.40
Total Bi-Monthly Bill	\$1,728.15