



Town of Westlake

December 15, 2008

Dear Westlake Water and Sewer Customer,

In keeping with the mission, vision, and values set out by the Westlake Town Council, the Town of Westlake continuously strives to maintain and improve the effectiveness and efficiency of our Town services.

With the Town's water and sewer utility services, this means both maintaining the system, as well as managing the demands that growth places on our system in order to deliver water and sewer services to you in a safe and reliable manner. Additionally, it means dealing with cost increases we incur to operate the system. The costs to produce, deliver and treat drinking water, and the costs to collect and treat wastewater, which includes building and maintaining the infrastructure, are all on the rise. In addition to these operating expenses, the Town must have sufficient funds to repair and replace aging water and sewer lines, as well as retiring debt incurred to expand the system to accommodate Westlake's growth.

The Town's water and sewer rates were last adjusted in November 2004. Since that time the cost of water purchased from the City of Fort Worth, our drinking water supplier, has increased 53%. The costs we incur from our waste water treatment provider, Trinity River Authority, have also increased 17%. **For these reasons, our water and sewer rates will be increasing as of January 1, 2009, and will be reflected on our customer's January water bills. This date was chosen because it is typically a low water consumption month for the majority of our customers and therefore, is the best time to adjust one's water usage habits before the peak use period of the summer months. Each customer's increase will vary depending on their usage habits and consumption. For your reference, we have enclosed a chart which illustrates these cost increases based on usage.**

This new water and sewer rate structure encourages conservation while providing the necessary revenue to support the operations, debt, and infrastructure of the Town's Utility Fund. The January 1st implementation date also gives our customers as much advance notice as possible, in order to learn ways to address residential water consumption and to obtain the most value for their utility dollar. The Town is providing water conservation tips and literature for our customers on our website, <http://www.westlake-tx.org/en/newutilityrates>. Successful conservation is an important key to managing each customer's own water and sewer bill, as well as managing our water and sewer rates. In turn, this reduces demand and potentially delays the need for costly utility infrastructure projects in the future. Water is one of our most precious natural resources, if not *the* most, and we all can benefit from its conservation.



Town of Westlake

We earnestly look forward to continually providing you excellent service. If you have any questions or concerns related to the new rates, or need assistance with conservation strategies, please call Jarrod Greenwood, Westlake Public Works Superintendent at (817) 490-5717 (office) or (817) 680-1422 (mobile).

Sincerely,

Thomas E. Brymer
Town Manager



Town of Westlake

WATER BASE RATES				
Meter Size	Existing	Proposed	Existing	Proposed
	Residential	Residential	Commercial	Commercial
3/4"	\$ 37.50	\$ 39.00	\$ 25.00	\$ 39.00
1"	\$ 55.00	\$ 65.13	\$ 25.00	\$ 65.13
1.5"	\$ 102.50	\$ 129.87	\$ 75.00	\$ 129.87
2"	\$ 157.50	\$ 207.87	\$ 150.00	\$ 207.87
3"	\$ 325.00	\$ 455.13	\$ 450.00	\$ 455.13
4"	\$ 720.00	\$ 819.00	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 819.00

WATER VOLUME RATES				
Volume	Existing	Proposed	Existing	Proposed
	Residential	Residential	Commercial	Commercial
0-2000	\$ -	\$ 2.85	\$ 2.50	\$ 2.85
2001-10000	\$ 2.50	\$ 2.85	\$ 2.75	\$ 2.85
10001-20000	\$ 2.60	\$ 2.85	\$ 3.50	\$ 2.85
20001-40000	\$ 2.70	\$ 3.56	\$ 4.00	\$ 3.56
40001-400000	\$ 2.80	\$ 4.45	\$ 4.50	\$ 4.45
+400000	\$ 2.90	\$ 5.57	\$ 6.00	\$ 5.57

WASTEWATER BASE RATES				
Meter Size	Existing	Proposed	Existing	Proposed
	Residential	Residential	Commercial	Commercial
3/4"	\$ 30.00	\$ 30.00	\$ 30.00	\$ 30.00
1"	\$ 55.00	\$ 55.00	\$ 55.00	\$ 55.00
1.5"	\$ 105.00	\$ 105.00	\$ 105.00	\$ 105.00
2"	\$ 170.00	\$ 170.00	\$ 170.00	\$ 170.00
3"	\$ 370.00	\$ 370.00	\$ 370.00	\$ 370.00
4"	\$ 635.00	\$ 635.00	\$ 635.00	\$ 635.00

WASTEWATER VOLUME RATES				
	Existing	Proposed	Existing	Proposed
	Residential	Residential	Commercial	Commercial
0-2000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3.21	\$ 3.21
2001-10000	\$ 3.21	\$ 3.21	\$ 3.21	\$ 3.21
10001-20000	\$ 3.21	\$ 3.21	\$ 3.21	\$ 3.21
20001-40000	\$ -	\$ 3.21	\$ 3.21	\$ 3.21
40001-400000	\$ -	\$ 3.21	\$ 3.21	\$ 3.21
+400000	\$ -	\$ 3.21	\$ 3.21	\$ 3.21



Town of Westlake

Water Rates

Residential

Residential base or minimum charge is dependent on the size of meter. The Town has adopted a tiered rate structure to encourage water conservation. This means that the more you use, the higher the unit price, and the more you pay. Please use your water wisely.

Sewer Rates

Residential

Residential base or minimum charge is dependent on the size of meter. The Town recognizes that higher water usage by residents during the summer months is usually due to outside activities such as watering lawns, washing cars, filling pools, etc. For this reason, Westlake has implemented the Winter Quarter Average rate methodology. This is determined by averaging the usage in December, January and February of each calendar year. The winter average will set the amount of sewer to be billed for the following 12 months. Each March the winter average will be re-calculated and you will be billed for that amount beginning in April for the next 12 months. The previous rate structure included a sewer cap of 20,000 gallons. The new rate structure eliminated this sewer cap. Residents can manage their wastewater bill and save money by monitoring water usage during these winter months and repairing leaks.

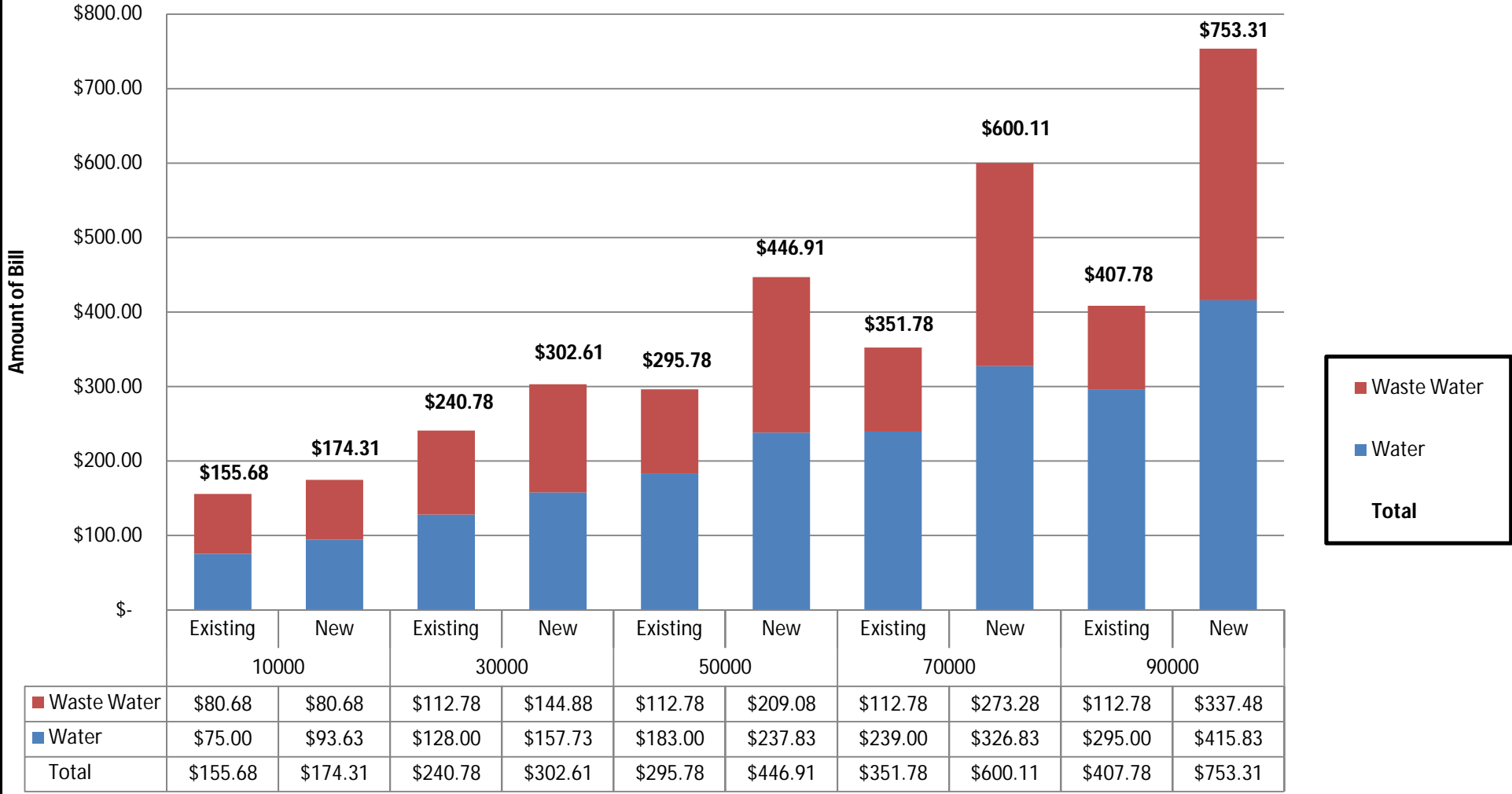
Residential Sewer Rate – New Resident

If you are a new resident and do not have usage in the stated winter months, a sewer cap of 20,000 gallons will be used until you establish your own sewer cap.

Sewer Adjustments

Since we have eliminated the cap on sewer charges, reflecting indoor water use, we are asking residents to notify the Town prior to the filling of swimming pools or immediately following any water line leaks in order to facilitate any billing adjustments.

Existing vs. New



Consumption Categories