

«Billing\_Name»  
Or Current Occupant  
«Address\_1»  
«Address\_2»  
«City», «State» «Zip»

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## February 2013 Newsletter

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# City of New Richland

203 N Broadway, New Richland, MN 56072  
www.cityofnewrichlandmn.com T: (507)465-3514

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Special edition newsletter complete with water/sewer rate information that will be in effect with the February billing cycle.

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### **New Rates:**

The City Council, at the January 14 council meeting, voted to a change in water/sewer rates to cover the expenses for each plant and to cover upcoming maintenance costs. The new rates are as follows:

|                        | <u>Water</u> | <u>Wastewater</u> |
|------------------------|--------------|-------------------|
| Base Rate:             | \$7.12       | \$9.76            |
| Rate per 1000 gallons: | \$9.79       | \$9.75            |

Flat Sewer: \$48.80 (The flat sewer rate pertains to a few households outside city limits that have their own water source)

*Mark your calendars:*

*There will be an informational meeting to obtain input into organized garbage collection on March 18, 2013 at 6:30pm and New Richland City Hall.*

*City-Wide Garage Sales will be scheduled for April 27.*

*Also note: There is currently no city-wide spring clean up*

## How do we compare?

Often times our rates are compared to other cities surrounding us. It's difficult to compare as each city has its own infrastructure and improvements to pay for. Larger cities often have industries to help offset the cost for its residents. Some cities subsidize their water/sewer fund with property taxes. Here is a breakdown of how we compare to surrounding cities:

| SYSTEM              | COUNTY        | POP.        | Monthly Water/Sewer Rate based on 4000 gal use | Total yearly cost Property Tax and AVG 4000 gal/mo |
|---------------------|---------------|-------------|--|--|
| Hayfield            | Dodge         | 1325        | \$19.19  | \$1,499.31   |
| Mapleton            | Blue Earth    | 1678        | \$20.14  | \$1,512.68   |
| Owatonna*           | Steele        | 25572       | \$28.07  | \$1,530.84   |
| Medford             | Steele        | 1170        | \$35.73  | \$1,616.76   |
| Waterville          | LeSueur       | 1869        | \$49.70  | \$1,650.40   |
| Janesville          | Waseca        | 2280        | \$31.80  | \$1,779.60   |
| Wells               | Faribault     | 2543        | \$38.18  | \$1,782.16   |
| Albert Lea*         | Freeborn      | 17953       | \$42.08  | \$1,859.96   |
| Waseca*             | Waseca        | 9827        | \$52.22  | \$1,925.64   |
| Blooming Prairie    | Steele        | 2082        | \$50.90  | \$2,078.80   |
| Hartland            | Freeborn      | 288         | \$42.33  | \$2,102.00   |
| <b>New Richland</b> | <b>Waseca</b> | <b>1203</b> | <b>\$95.04</b>                                 | <b>\$2,307.48</b>                                  |
| Waldorf             | Waseca        | 230         | \$69.14  | \$2,327.68   |
| Ellendale           | Steele        | 636         | \$67.00  | \$2,361.00   |
| Freeborn            | Freeborn      | 289         | \$57.60  | \$2,509.20   |
| St. Clair           | Blue Earth    | 827         | \$97.00  | \$2,536.00   |

\*Please note that some larger cities have rate structures based on meter size, the larger the meter, the higher the rate. The rate given is for our average residential meter size.

Sources: Minnesota Rural Water Association, League of MN Cities or the cities themselves.

## How does your household compare?

When new prospects are looking at a house, they often ask what the average rate is for that house, however since Water and Sewer is based on actual usage, it is more accurate to give a rate based on household size. These rates can fluctuate for you because of personal water use habits and efficiency of water using fixtures. The averages below were calculated on 10 households with the stated number of people.

| Household Usage per month based on household size |          |          |          |           |
|---|----------|----------|----------|-----------|
| 1 person  | 2 person | 3 person | 4 person | 5+ person |
| 1760 gal  | 3160 gal | 3722 gal | 4293 gal | 6057 gal  |