

BRUNSWICK SEWER DISTRICT NOTICE OF PUBLIC RATE HEARING

The Board of Trustees of the Brunswick Sewer District will hold an important public hearing on **Thursday, January 16, 2020 at 6:00 PM** in the Board Room at District offices at 10 Pine Tree Road, Brunswick, Maine. Purpose of the hearing is to present details, receive public comment, and answer questions concerning the proposed changes to the District's **User Rate** schedules. It is proposed that the rate schedules shall become effective **April 01, 2020**, and shall supersede all previous rate schedules.

PROPOSED SCHEDULE OF RATES & CHARGES

Rate Schedule A - METERED USE: The sewer use rate for property deriving its main supply of potable water from a METERED source will be based on water meter readings for the property.

	<u>Current</u>	<u>Proposed</u> (per quarter)	<u>Increase of</u> (per quarter)	<u>Increase of</u> (per month)
Minimum quantity in cubic feet (cf)	800	800		
Minimum quarterly charge (800 cf)	\$60.96	\$64.00	\$3.04	\$1.01
Rate thereafter per 100 cf	\$7.62	\$8.00	\$0.38	\$0.13
Charge per 1,000 cf	\$76.20	\$80.00	\$3.80	\$1.27
Average annual charge (8,000 cf/yr.)	\$609.60	\$640.00	\$7.60	\$2.53

Rate Schedule B - FLAT RATE FIXTURES: The quarterly sewer use charge for property deriving its potable water from an UN-METERED source will be based on the following schedule of fixture unit rates.

	<u>Current</u>	<u>Proposed</u> (per quarter)	<u>Increase of</u> (per quarter)	<u>Increase of</u> (per month)
Minimum quarterly charge	\$60.96	\$64.00	\$3.04	\$1.01
Average annual charge	\$243.84	\$256.00	\$3.04	\$1.01

Rate Schedule C - ROOF DRAINS: The sewer use rate for property having an existing roof drain(s) discharging to District sewers.

	<u>Current</u>	<u>Proposed</u>
Minimum quantity in square feet (sf)	1,000	1,000
Minimum quarterly charge	\$76.20	\$80.00
Rate thereafter per 100 cf	\$7.62	\$8.00
Average annual charge	\$304.80	\$320.00

Rate Schedule D - CATCH BASINS: The quarterly rate for catch basins discharging to District sewers.

	<u>Current</u>	<u>Proposed</u>
Rate per catch basin	\$432.00	\$453.60
Average annual charge	\$1,728.00	\$1,814.40

Rate Schedule E - SEPTIC & HOLDING TANK WASTE: The rate for discharge of Septic Tank/Holding Tank at the POTW.

	<u>Current</u>	<u>Proposed</u>
Rate per disposal of 1,000 gallons Septage Waste	\$135.00	\$135.00
Rate per disposal of 1,000 gallons Holding Waste	\$70.00	\$70.00
Minimum disposal charge	\$20.00	\$20.00

Rate Schedule F - TSS & BOD Limits: The sewer use surcharge rate for discharge of excessive Total Suspended Solids (TSS) and/or Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD) to District facilities.

	<u>Current</u>	<u>Proposed</u>
TSS rate per pound (lb) discharge	\$1.17	\$1.23
BOD rate per pound (lb) discharge	\$1.14	\$1.20

Rate Schedule G - ENTRANCE CHARGE: Per Equilivant Dwelling Unit Flow of 175 gallons.

	<u>Current</u>	<u>Proposed</u>
	\$2,045.00	\$2,147.00

BRUNSWICK SEWER DISTRICT RATE CHANGE PROCESS

- Changes to our rate structure requires two (2) affirmative votes of our Board of Trustees. The first vote adopts the proposed rates to be discussed at this public hearing. This vote, per our Charter, happens before this hearing. That first vote was taken on December 19, 2019.
- The second and final vote is scheduled to occur at the February 20, 2020 Regular Board meeting, assuming the Board decides to move forward based on the public comments received at this hearing and all other comments received between now and the February Board meeting.
- Comments may be submitted by calling 729-0148, by letter, by email at bsd@brunswicksewer.org, or a comment on our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/brunswicksewer
- If the proposed rate schedule, or a revised rate schedule, is adopted, the new rates will become effective April 01, 2020.

PROPOSED SCHEDULE OF RATES

- The most important rate schedule for the vast majority of our customers is Rate Schedule A. This is the rate for all those with metered water use.
- The proposed rate is \$8.00 per 100 cubic feet (748 gallons) or \$80.00 per 1,000 cubic feet (7,480 gallons). The typical family uses 2,000 cubic feet (about 15,000 gallons) per calendar quarter, our normal billing cycle.

- For the average homeowner it is an increase of \$2.53 per month or **\$0.63 per week.**
- The **MINIMUM** quarterly consumption billing will remain at 800 cubic feet.
- The minimum charge for 800 C.F. will be \$64.00 per quarter, an increase of \$3.04, which equates to an increase of \$1.01 per month or **\$0.25 per week.**
- **The proposed rate equals a household disposal cost of one cent per gallon (\$0.01).**
- The **MINIMUM** charge for those on a flat rate, that is - those without metered water use, will be \$64.00 per quarter. This equals the minimum rate for 800 cubic feet.

IMPACT OF NEW RATE SCHEDULE

- Based on the 2019 revenue from our Rate Schedule A customers (basically 94% of our billing revenue), the increase is expected to yield an additional \$184,000 for 2020.

Thank you for your support and understanding.