

THE POWER OF LOCAL OWNERSHIP

Community Minded
Community Proud
Community Owned

June 2014

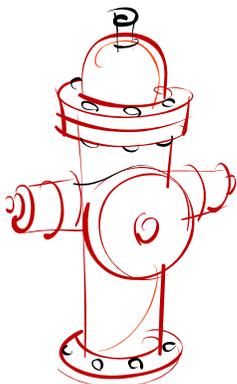
Notice of Rate Increase

Water customers of Rice Lake Utilities.....

Rice Lake Utilities would like to give you notice that we have filed an application on June 13, 2014 with the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin (PSC) for authority to increase water rates. Rates for general service will increase 3%. The increase is necessary to reduce the existing deficiency in present rates. The request is being made under Wis. Stat. 196.193. Rate increases granted under this statute do not require a public hearing. The effect of the increase for some selected customers is shown below. Public Fire Protection and Wholesale Rates (if applicable) will also increase 3%. Even after this increase Rice Lake Utilities water rates will still be among the lowest 11% in the state of Wisconsin. This rate increase will go into effect on August 1, 2014. If you have any questions about the rate increase request, please contact Rice Lake Utilities at (715) 234-7004.

Customer Class	Water Meter Size	Gallons	Existing Monthly Rate	Revised Monthly Rate
Average Residential	5/8"	4,000	\$12.51	\$12.88
Large Residential	3/4"	6,000	\$15.29	\$15.74
Commercial	1"	50,000	\$75.01	\$77.33
Public Authority	1 1/2"	75,000	\$111.88	\$115.37
Industrial	2"	150,000	\$194.67	\$200.71

"Even after this increase Rice Lake Utilities water rates will still be among the lowest 11% in the state of Wisconsin."



Hydrant Flushing and Waterline Maintenance

You may notice our water department crews working at fire hydrants and see water running down the street. Your first thought may be that we are ignoring our own philosophy of conserving water. Normally throughout the spring and summer, we flush water lines through the use of fire hydrants, which is an important preventive maintenance activity. Although it may appear to waste water, the process is part of a routine maintenance program necessary to maintain the integrity of the water system allowing us to continue to deliver the highest quality water possible to our customers.

The city's water distribution system is a complex network of pipes and storage reservoirs where sediment or deposits may naturally accumulate over time. If not removed, these materials may cause water quality deterioration, taste and odor problems, or discoloration of the water. Water may also stagnate in lesser used parts of the distribution system. This can result in degraded water quality.

As a result of the line flushing process, residents in the immediate vicinity of the work may experience temporary discoloration of their water. This discoloration consists primarily of harmless silt and air and does not affect the safety of the water. If you experience discoloration in your water after crews have been flushing in your neighborhood, clear the pipes in your home by running all water faucets for a few minutes. Thank you for helping keep our water award-winning!

Beware of Downed Power Lines in a Storm!



Downed Power lines can carry an electric current strong enough to cause serious injury or possibly death. The following tips can keep you safe around downed lines:

- If you see a downed power line, move away from the line and anything touching it. The human body is a ready conductor of electricity.

- The proper way to move away from the line is to shuffle away with small steps, keeping your feet together and on the ground at all times. This will minimize the potential for a strong electric shock. Electricity wants to move from a high voltage zone to a low voltage zone—and it could do that through your body.

- If you see someone who is in direct or indirect contact with the downed line, do not touch the person. You could become the next victim. Call 911 instead.

- Do not attempt to move a downed power line or anything in contact with the line by using another object such as a broom or stick. Even non-conductive materials like wood or cloth, if slightly wet, can conduct electricity and then electrocute you.

- Be careful not to put your feet near water where a downed power line is located.

- If you are in your car and it is in contact with the downed line, stay in your car. Tell others to stay away from your vehicle.

- If you must leave your car because it's on fire, jump out of the vehicle with both feet together and avoid contact with the live car and the ground at the same time. This way you avoid being the path of electricity from the car to the earth. Shuffle away from the car.

Rice Lake Utilities Financial Summary For 2013

(Electric Utility)

Serving 5498 consumers	
Operating revenues	\$12,722,955
Operating expenses	\$12,409,983
Operating income	\$362,972
Rate of return on rate base	4.02%
Total plant in service	\$15,600,947
Purchased power costs in 2013	\$10,442,957
Tax Equivalent paid to the City of Rice Lake in 2013	\$271,011

(Water Utility)

Serving 3848 consumers	
Operating revenues	\$1,234,904
Operating expenses	\$1,238,769
Operating income	(\$3,865)
Rate of return on rate base	-.09%
Total plant in service	\$11,147,059
Gals. Pumped in 2013	480,783,000
Tax equivalent paid to the City of Rice Lake in 2013	\$191,181

(Wastewater Utility)

Serving 3,813 consumers	
Operating revenues	\$1,832,897
Operating expenses	\$1,668,358
Operating income	\$164,539
Rate of return on rate base	1.74%
Total plant in service	\$19,024,116
Wastewater gallons treated in 2013	461,476,000

RICE LAKE UTILITIES

Electric * Water * Wastewater
320 West Coleman Street
Rice Lake, WI 54868

Phone: 715-234-7004 Fax: 715-236-7934

E-mail: info@ricelakeutilities.com

Web Page: www.ricelakeutilities.com

Commission President	Thomas Moullette
Commission Secretary	Richard Sandstrom
Commissioner	Susan Dietz
Commissioner	Mark O'Brien
Commissioner	Dr. Daniel Wolner
GM/CEO	Scott Reimer
Office Manager	Kristi Nelson
Water/Wastewater Mgr.	Wally Thom
Electric Superintendent	Leo Diehl
Editor	Janet Mahowald



Thank you to everyone who participated in Operation City Pride on April 26th! A special thank you to Meyer's Electric for handing out compact fluorescent bulbs on Rice Lake Utilities' behalf. We gave away over 140 energy-saving compact fluorescent bulbs during the event. There were also 419 fluorescent bulbs, 128 incandescent and 178 compact fluorescent bulbs turned in for recycling!!