

## GREATER AUGUSTA UTILITY DISTRICT IS PROPOSING NEW WASTEWATER AND STORMWATER RATES TO REFLECT OUR CHANGING COSTS OF PROVIDING SERVICE.

Our ongoing review of District expenses has determined that wastewater services are costing less and stormwater costs have risen (see over to learn why). To maintain accurate, transparent allocation of costs, we are proposing to **raise** ERU stormwater rates, while **reducing** stormwater catch basin rates and wastewater rates.

If our proposed rates are approved...

- Wastewater (sewer) rates will be reduced by 25%.
- Stormwater ERU (Equivalent Residential Units) rates will rise by \$4.26, from \$8.30 to \$12.56 per month.
- Catch basin fees will go down by 20%, from \$50.89 to \$40.59 per month.
- You'll see the new rates starting with your August bill.



The public is invited to a hearing on the proposed new rates at 6 pm on Monday, May 20<sup>th</sup> at Augusta City Center, Council Chambers. Please call us at **(207) 622-3701** with any questions.

## WHY ARE STORMWATER RATES RISING?

GREATER AUGUSTA UTILITY DISTRICT IS INVESTING TO MEET STRICTER REGULATIONS TO PROTECT THE KENNEBEC RIVER WATERSHED.

The increase in stormwater costs is primarily to fund new infrastructure that helps protect our rivers by reducing Combined Sewer Overflow, which mixes stormwater with highly polluted wastewater during heavy rain events. Our compliance efforts have made great progress, reducing sewer discharges to the Kennebec River by 90%, from 73 million gallons (MG) per year in 1989 to 7 MG per year in 2016.



The net change in your bill will depend on your mix of services used. For example, if the new rates are approved:

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- A single-family home using 100 cubic feet of water per month would pay a total of \$3 more per month for wastewater and stormwater combined.
- A commercial property with 125 ERUs and 25 catch basins, and a billable flow of 155 cubic feet per month will see a net rise of 3% or \$79.33 per month.

For more information, visit **GreaterAugustaUtilityDistrict.org/RateChange**, or call us at **(207) 622-3701** for help estimating your future bills.



12 Williams Street Augusta, ME 04330