



CITY OF PORT WASHINGTON | DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS | WATER TREATMENT DIVISION
Dan Fisher, Water Superintendent

Utility Bill Explained

- A bi-monthly Utility Bill consists of both Sewer & Water base and usage charges. **It is not just a water bill.**
 - Base charges include:
 - Sewer Base – \$41.04
 - Water Base – Based on meter size. Most common is 5/8” or 3/4” - \$18.00.
 - Public Fire – Based on meter size. Most common is 5/8” or 3/4” - \$25.50.
 - Variable charges include:
 - Water usage fee – \$5.77 per 100 cubic feet (**100 cubic feet = 748 gallons**).
 - Sewer fee – \$3.68 per 100 cubic feet of water usage.
- Water meters are read bi-monthly to determine usage.
 - The current read is subtracted from the previous read. Example:
 - 5/1/2024 – 6/30/2024 water meter usage read = 540
 - 7/1/2024 – 8/31/2024 water meter usage read = 549
 - $549 - 540 = 9$ units (**1 unit = 100 cubic feet**).
 - $9 \text{ units} * 748 \text{ gallons} = 6,732 \text{ gallons}$
 - $9 \text{ units} * \$5.77 \text{ (water usage fee)} = \51.93
 - $9 \text{ units} * \$3.68 \text{ (sewer usage fee, based on water usage)} = \33.12
- An example of a utility bill with 9 units or 6,732 gallons used:

○ Water Base	= \$18.00 (Fixed)
○ Water Usage	= \$51.93 ($\$5.77 * 9$ units)
○ Sewer Base	= \$41.04 (Fixed)
○ Sewer Usage	= \$33.12 ($\$3.68 * 9$ units)
○ <u>Public Fire</u>	= <u>\$25.50 (Fixed)</u>
▪ Total	= \$169.59
- Utility bills will only fluctuate from the amount of water that is used in each two month period.

Explanation of Charges

Water Charges: Set by the Public Service Commission (PSC) of Wisconsin.

Water Base Fee: A Fixed charge based on the size of the water meter. It pays for installation, repair, maintenance, and reading of water meters, billing, and customer service.

Water Usage Fee: A variable charge based on the amount of water used and pays for operation and maintenance of water treatment and pumping facilities.

Sewer Base Fee: A Fixed charge based on a connection to the sanitary sewer system. It pays for the cost of installation of sanitary infrastructure.

Sewer Fee: A variable charge based on the amount of water used and pays for operation and maintenance of wastewater treatment facilities.