



The Water Chronicles

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The rules have changed

If you thought the price of water was expensive today, hold on to your wallets, new legislation is changing the way we will be billed for water in the next two summers. Cities in the state of Minnesota had to submit a water management plan to the state of Minnesota by Dec. 31 of 2008. New changes to that legislation also add that a tier system must be in place to affect the price of water used for watering gardens and lawns and washing vehicles. Bulk rates will no longer exist and an increasing rate schedule is required as the gallons used go up. Each city has the ability to decide what its base charges and increase charges will be, but must fall in line with the states recommendations. Here is an example the state is providing to the cities.

Example:

- 0-6000 gallons = 2.50 per 1000 gallons
- 6000 - 12000 gallons = 3.15 per 1000 gallons
- 12000-24000 gallons = 4.00 per 1000 gallons
- Above 24000 gallons = 6.00 per 1000 gallons

These would represent regular usage rates. State is also suggesting the addition of a seasonal surcharge of one dollar per 1000 gallons to be added against any water used for outdoor watering. The water used for outdoor watering is determined by the amount of water used for the month of January. This amount is then used to deduct from actual water used each month from May 1 through October 1. This will determine the amount of water which is being used outside.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

The rules have changed.	Page 1
What can we do??	Page 2

Example of billing:

If your personal water usage for the month of January was 9000, and your July water bill is 38000 gallons this is what your bill may look like.

Personal use water at 9000 gallons would be charged at \$6.00 per 1000 gallons, which would come to 54.00

Recreational outdoor use water at 29000 gallons would be charged at \$6.00 per 1000 gallons plus a \$1.00 surcharge, which would come to \$203.00.

Your total bill for one month would be \$257.00. Remember these are only rates which are suggested by the state. Cities could charge more or less pending on the situation. We will only use the states suggested rates for our examples. If you apply the necessary water needed for a full season on 10000 sq. ft. of lawn, you will use nearly 92000 gallons of water. At an average rate of \$5.00 plus a \$1.00 surcharge, the cost of water would be \$552.00 for one season plus the additional charges on your personal water consumption which comes to an additional \$126.00. The total you would pay to water your lawn would be \$678.00. If you have a quarter acre lawn you can double that price to \$1356.00. In the past our water bills have never posed a significant threat to our financial budgets. I think they are going to begin to grab our attention now. Click here to view the [Water Conservation Bill](#). Read the Next Page for More →→→→

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Happy Writing
From the staff at UseYourWaterRight.com



What can we do??

For those of you who have had an audit done on your irrigation system, you have taken a crucial step in eliminating wasted water. For those of you who have not, the cost of an audit is very reasonable and will pay for itself in the first year, [Click here for pricing](#). An audit breaks each individual zone apart and determines the watering needs according to design, water output, and soil and shade conditions. This produces a new program to follow for the season. An audit will also produce design flaws and incorrect head placement. [Click here for more info](#). A prioritized plan will be laid out to improve the system in the future to save even more water. Onsite weather stations are now available for homes which will adjust the run times daily according to the weather. These clocks with a weather station will pay for themselves in 1-2 years.



Use Your Water Right is now partnered with Irrigation Management in order to handle the necessary changes which will need to be done. Irrigation management is a 21 year old company specialized in service, installation and remodeling of high quality irrigation systems in both the metro and out metro areas. Irrigation Management is licensed, insured and bonded in the state of Minnesota. All of the work

provided by Irrigation Management is warranted. I have had the privilege to work with this Family owned business for the past year and give them my stamp of approval. We will be working together to provide you the best service in the industry. For more information on Irrigation Management, go to www.irrigationmgt.com. We look forward to working with you this season.

Happy Watering

Chris