

Winter Sewer Rate 2024

Great news for gardeners and residents who like a green lawn! The Foley City Council has approved the **Winter Sewer Rate** for residential properties beginning in the **summer of 2024**.

In the past, the city has always calculated sewer charges based on water usage. This can increase costs considerably in the summer months for residents who participate in summer activities such as watering lawns and gardens. The new Winter Sewer rate will allow residents to enjoy these summer activities without seeing a spike in their summer sewer charges. The city hopes this change will be more **budget friendly** to residents during the summer months.



Here's how the new Winter Sewer Rate will work:

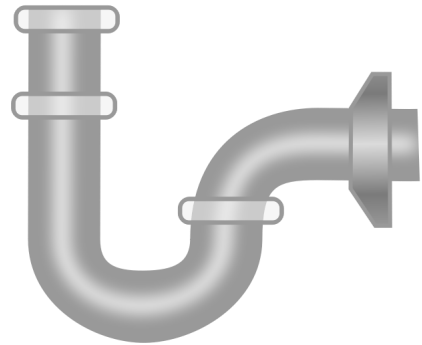
- Residents will be locked into a sewer rate for the months of **May, June, July, and August** based on their **January usage** shown on their February bill .
 - If your water usage goes up during those peak summer months, **you will not pay sewer charges on the additional gallons**, but rather for the same number of gallons used in January.
 - The Winter Sewer Rate does not apply to the water portion of the bill. Minimum usage rates apply.



Cost of Implementation

The new Winter Sewer Rate does come with cost considerations. The city still has an obligation to meet the capital and operating costs of the sewer system, including monthly fees to the City of St. Cloud and annual debt.

- The sewer rate will need to increase by approximately **\$5 - \$8 per account per month** to absorb the change and implement the Winter Sewer Rate.
- **Lowering the minimum water usage** from 2,500 to 2,000 gallons will also help to offset the cost.
- **Minimum water users** (households using 2,000 gallons a month or less) will see a drop in their monthly bill from \$65.81 to \$64.41. The gap between the water they actually use and what they pay for will shrink. The council requested consideration for the low-income, low water/ sewer usage households when adjusting to a Winter Sewer Rate.
- In 2024, all residents will see a **\$1.00 Storm Sewer Fee** added to their monthly bill.



Why the change?

Many residents have voiced frustration over the cost of keeping their gardens and yards nice during the summer months. The City Council sincerely hopes all residents will benefit from the Winter Sewer Rate as it will help to **minimize spikes in summer sewer charges**.

Questions? Please call us!

Foley City Hall: 320-968-7260



New Monthly Minimum

2,000 gallons

Water \$13.80

Sewer \$48.80

Storm Sewer Fee \$1.00

MN Test Fee \$.81

Total: \$64.41