

## 2018 Water & Wastewater/Stormwater Rates

City Council has approved a combined 4.50% increase to the water and wastewater/storm rates. The following rates based on metered water consumption are **effective January 1, 2018**:

VARIABLE CHARGES		RATE TABLE FOR FIXED DAILY CHARGES *		
Water Consumption Charge per cubic metre	\$ 1.49	Meter Size	Water Rate	Wastewater/Storm Rate
Wastewater/Storm Treatment Charge per cubic metre	\$ 1.61	15 mm	\$ 0.34	\$ 0.36
Above charges based on metered water usage.		16 mm	\$ 0.34	\$ 0.36
* Fixed charges are progressive based on the size of the property's service and corresponding meter. Your meter size is shown under the Meter Type column within the <i>Your Usage For This Period</i> section located at the bottom of your bill.		20 mm	\$ 0.34	\$ 0.36
		25 mm	\$ 0.85	\$ 0.90
		38 mm	\$ 1.70	\$ 1.80
		50 mm	\$ 2.72	\$ 2.88
		75 mm	\$ 5.44	\$ 5.76
		100 mm	\$ 8.50	\$ 9.00
		150 mm	\$ 17.00	\$ 18.00
		200 mm	\$ 27.20	\$ 28.80
		250 mm	\$ 39.10	\$ 41.40
		300 mm	\$ 57.80	\$ 61.20

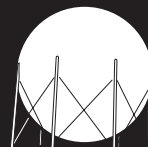
### How do we compare to other municipalities?

The following chart provides 2017 fixed charges restated on monthly basis for comparison purposes with other Ontario municipalities - note that Hamilton's variable rates are lower than the comparators below.

Meter Size (mm)	Fixed Monthly Water Charge Comparison (2017 Rates)								
	Hamilton	Guelph	Cambridge	West Lincoln	Barrie	Halton	London	Durham	Haldimand
15 & 16	\$10.34	\$7.80	\$9.13	\$11.37	\$12.46	\$12.95	\$14.89	\$17.57	\$21.78
20	\$10.34	\$7.80	\$9.13	\$11.37	\$12.46	\$12.95	\$14.89	\$17.57	\$21.78
25	\$25.85	\$10.50	\$23.00	\$28.42	\$31.15	\$38.24	\$37.23	\$35.70	\$21.78
38	\$51.71	\$27.30	\$45.92	\$56.83	\$62.30	\$62.93	\$74.48	\$75.99	\$123.05
50	\$82.73	\$59.70	\$73.49	\$90.93	\$99.68	\$137.58	\$119.17	\$164.12	\$267.44
75	\$165.47	\$126.30	\$160.84	\$181.87	\$218.05	\$245.08	\$260.65	\$288.49	\$470.63
100	\$258.54	\$217.80	\$276.47	\$284.17	\$373.82	\$419.18	\$446.84	\$573.65	\$936.03
150	\$517.08	\$408.30	\$578.32	\$568.34	\$778.77	\$1,064.96	\$1,042.65	\$1,066.15	\$1,741.16
200	\$827.33	\$711.30	\$756.27	\$909.34	\$996.82	\$1,711.01	\$1,787.37	\$1,817.56	\$2,974.03
250	\$1,189.29	\$1,174.20	\$1,096.41	N/A	\$1,432.94	\$2,137.90	\$2,234.34	\$2,957.68	N/A

### Why do rates keep increasing?

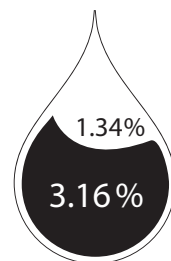
Water and wastewater budgets contain fixed costs that do not change in direct proportion to water consumption. The cost to distribute, collect and treat municipal water and wastewater throughout the City remains relatively constant, regardless of the volume actually consumed by all residents. The largest portion of your bill is used for capital renewal and expansion of the City's overall water/wastewater/storm infrastructure that has a replacement value of \$10.1 billion. Aging City infrastructure becomes more costly to operate, maintain and replace with nearly 20% of the City's water and sewer mains being more than 80 years old.



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### The 2018 combined 4.50% rate increase will be used to support:

- Operating and maintenance costs to keep our drinking water safe (1.34%)
- Investment in treatment plants, pipelines systems and stormwater management (3.16%)



### Fixed Charges

A fixed charge is based on the size of the water meter installed in your home reflecting the demand your property's water service places on the City system. This charge applies even if you haven't used any water in a given billing period as there is a cost to provide capacity to your property. Most of the City's water system costs are fixed and do not vary with the volume of treated water provided to customers. Fixed costs include meter reading, billing, customer service, meter repair, capital debt financing costs and the provision of the public fire protection system.

### Consumption Charges

The cost of water used based on a charge per cubic metre (m<sup>3</sup>).

### Treatment Charges

Charges are based on your water consumption and cover the cost of wastewater collection and stormwater management of the water that flows off your property into the storm system. Charges are based on your per cubic metre water use.

### How can I save water costs all year long?

**Reduce** – look for ways to reduce the amount of water you use in your home. It's surprising just how much water we waste:

- In the bathroom, don't leave the tap running while brushing your teeth or shaving. Install low flow shower heads & toilets and take shorter showers.
- In the kitchen, avoid excessive running of the tap while preparing food.
- In the laundry room, only do a washing when there's a full load.
- Outside, use a rain barrel for garden watering. Limit lawn watering and car washing.

**Repair** – Don't put off fixing that leak in your home; repair it immediately. Even a silent toilet leak can waste 5,000 litres or more per month. Put a few drops of food colouring in your toilet tank. If it seeps into the toilet bowl after 15 minutes, you have a leak. Most leaks can be fixed easily with inexpensive parts.

**Retrofit** – Many fixtures in the home, such as toilets and shower heads, can be adapted or replaced with more water efficient alternatives that use much less water.

### Toilets are NOT Trash Cans

By keeping harmful items out of your toilet, you help the sewer systems run more effectively. The following items can clog pipes, cause sewer backups or tangle into massive knots that damage sewage pumps and should never be flushed down your toilet:

- |  |                |                |           |
|--|----------------|----------------|-----------|
| • Wipes (including the "Flushable" kind) | • Paper Towels | • Kitty Litter | • Diapers |
| • Feminine Hygiene Products              | • Dental Floss | • Condoms      | • Hair    |

Help prevent sewer issues at your home and in the City system by only flushing human waste and toilet paper down your toilet!