



# BOROUGH OF CARLISLE

*“Committed To Excellence in Community Service”*

## Water and Sewer Rate Increase

In order to provide quality water and sewer service to residents:

- Staff must be trained to meet regulatory standards
- Testing needs performed to meet compliance standards
- Chemicals and energy are needed to ensure water and wastewater is properly treated
- Maintenance must be regularly performed
- Major plant equipment needs replaced
- Infrastructure, i.e. pipes, valves, etc. must be maintained and replaced
- Insurance is needed to protect Borough assets

The items above require the Borough to regularly invest funds to meet all of the water and sewer systems needs. Additionally, costs for these items are increasing.

### Water Rates

For the 2015 budget, it was determined that, in order to keep up with inflation, the water rate would need to be increased by 12%, as rates had not been increased since 2009. Borough Council decided, however, that this inflationary adjustment occur over the next two budget years; 6% in 2015 and 6% in 2016. The new rates will be effective for billings beginning May 1, 2016. This year's increase will raise the water rate from \$4.73 per 100 cubic feet of water used to \$5.01 per 100 cubic feet. The average residential customer is estimated to have their water bill increase by approximately \$32 annually due to this rate adjustment.

### Sewer Rates

A long term capital improvement plan to rehabilitate the Borough's aging sewer system was developed in early 2015. The plan, estimated to cost between \$30 and \$50 million to implement, sets forth a long term repair, rehabilitation, and replacement project that will help the Borough ensure that its sewer collection system is ready to handle our needs well into the future. In order to implement year one of the capital plan, sewer rates were increased 6% in 2015. In order to implement year two, the Borough will again increase the rate by 6% (from \$6.13 per 100 cubic feet of water used to \$6.50 per 100 cubic feet) in 2016. The new rates will be effective for billings beginning May 1, 2016. The average residential customer is estimated to have the sewer bill increase by approximately \$40 annually due to this rate adjustment.

**These rates are effective for bills with 100% of the service period in 2016.  
Bills dated after May 1, 2016 will include the new water and sewer rates.**