During their August 2 meeting, following a comprehensive rate study, the Forsyth County Board of Commissioners adopted a resolution increasing county water and sewer usage rates.

The study identified that it has been:

- **12 years** since the county’s water base rate and the first tier per thousand gallon rate was increased
- **22 years** since the per thousand gallon sewer rate was raised

In order to keep in line with rising costs and inflation, an annual increase plan will be implemented to avoid large future increases for both rates. Rate increases are also need to fund increased Repair and Replacement cost due to an aging system. New and increasing environmental regulations are also affecting our cost to operate. The next yearly increase will occur with bills dated on or after January 1, 2020, and every January 1 through 2028.

### Water Rate Increase

Water base fees and the overall average water cost across all rate tiers will rise by 3.5% and consumption charges (per thousand gallons) will also increase as noted below. Irrigation Tiers are higher by legal requirement and to encourage water conservation.

The base rates below apply to residential, irrigation, commercial and reuse accounts. The rates for hydrant also increased and can be found on the Forsyth County website.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Meter Size</th>
<th>5/8”</th>
<th>1”</th>
<th>1 1/2”</th>
<th>2”</th>
<th>3”</th>
<th>4”</th>
<th>5”</th>
<th>6”</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2018 Fixed Charge</td>
<td>$12.42</td>
<td>$15.53</td>
<td>$20.70</td>
<td>$31.05</td>
<td>$93.15</td>
<td>$129.38</td>
<td>$258.75</td>
<td>$465.75</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**New consumption rates: (per thousand gallons)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Customer Class</th>
<th>Tier 1</th>
<th>Tier 2</th>
<th>Tier 3</th>
<th>Tier 4</th>
<th>Tier 5</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Residential</td>
<td>$3.50</td>
<td>$4.73</td>
<td>$6.63</td>
<td>$9.41</td>
<td>$13.65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Irrigation</td>
<td>7.00</td>
<td>10.50</td>
<td>14.00</td>
<td>17.50</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commercial</td>
<td>3.85</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hydrant</td>
<td>4.73</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reuse</td>
<td>2.33</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**A Rate Calculator is available on the Water & Sewer Rate page of the Forsyth County Water Department’s web site. For more information on your water & sewer bill and the new rate resolution, visit www.forsythco.com.**
How to Save Money on Your Water Bill

How We Use Water
On average, a typical consumer uses approximately 70 gallons of water per day at their residence. A three person household would use 210 gallons per day – an average of 6,300 gallons per month. This is how we use water in metro Atlanta:

Water Use in Single-Family Homes

- Showers: 13%
- Baths: 5%
- Toilets: 15%
- Outdoor: 20%
- Laundry: 14%
- Dishwasher: 6%
- Other: 13%
- Faucet: 14%
- Other: 13%

How can you conserve water and reduce your monthly water bill? Here are some tips:

- **Check and repair leaks** inside and outside the home. An unchecked leak can waste over a hundred gallons of water per month.
- **Shorten showers and turn off water** when shaving or brushing teeth.
- **Fill dishwashers and washing machines**, making sure there is a full load every time.
- **Replace older toilets and shower heads** with high efficiency models. If your home was built before 1993, you may qualify for a toilet rebate.
- **Remember that “Toilets are Not Trashcans.”** Every flush can use 5-7 gallons of water. Throw tissues, wipes, insects and other trash into a wastebasket.
- **Choose efficient appliances.** Look for EPA WaterSense and ENERGY STAR labeled products when shopping for new appliances and fixtures.
- **Follow the Georgia Water Stewardship Act**, Outdoor Water Use Schedule and only water your lawn between 4 p.m. and 10 a.m.

For more water conservation tips, visit www.northgeorgiawater.org.