



Twisp Utility Rates

2019

TWISP

Water and Sewer rates increase in January

by Andrew Denham

Water 8.0%

Twisp residents currently pay a base water rate for 5,984 gallons/month during winter months and 8,976 gallons/month during summer months. When the base water allotment is exceeded, an overage charge is assessed.

The first phase of four water main improvement projects was completed in 2018. The total project is estimated to cost \$2,592,000 and is being funded by USDA with a grant/loan (42%, 58% respectively). These projects are necessary to improve the delivery, dependability and fire flow of the most deficient portion of the Town's aging water system. Investing in reliable fire flow has become a high priority for the Town over the past few years. Undersized 80-year-old water mains only provide 20% of the necessary fire flow in some areas of town.

The majority of the rate increase for water in 2019 is needed to fund the USDA loan of these projects.

The 2019 residential base water rate will be **\$52.88/month** plus tax, an increase of \$3.92/month

REMINDER* Winterize your pipes to prevent freeze ups. During very cold weather, think about running a small amount of water if necessary.

Sewer 1.75%

The Town is currently seeking funding for our sanitary sewer system and wastewater treatment plant improvements. These projects will take place over the next several years and are necessary to improve capacity and reliability at the WWTP and repair damaged sewers. Recent video inspection of the Town's 10 miles of sewer revealed extensive damage. A proactive approach is critical to prevent sewer backups and overflows that cause serious health concerns and potential action by Department of Ecology. As always, we work diligently to develop funding strategies that maximize grant contributions and minimize rate impacts.

The Public Works mission is to provide Twisp residents with excellent, reliable and affordable services in a proactive and professional manor.

The 2019 residential base sewer rate will be **\$56.39/month** plus tax, an increase of \$0.97/month.

The total utility increase for 2019 is \$4.89/month for Water and Sewer, which brings the 2019 utility base rate to **\$109.27 plus tax. \$119.11 with tax.**



Water system improvements

August 2018 Down Town Improvement Project, phase one of three water system improvements.



Second Ave sidewalk

September 2018 roadway reconstruct and sidewalk construction.