

Information from the **Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District**

Final phase of rate increase effective January 1

2005-2006 RATE SCHEDULE *per MCF*

	Cleveland		Suburbs	
	REGULAR	HOMESTEAD	REGULAR	HOMESTEAD
2005	\$26.20	\$17.70	\$30.95	\$20.80
2006	\$28.10	\$18.95	\$32.60	\$21.90

An MCF is 1,000 cubic feet of water

The final phase of the Sewer District's four-year rate increase was effective January 1, raising rates by an average of \$1.47 per 1,000 cubic feet of water consumed.

Current rates for 2006 are listed in the table above. **REGULAR** refers to the non-discounted rate; **HOMESTEAD** is for customers eligible for our Homestead rate-saving program (see details on reverse).

Why are rates on the rise?

Federal mandates by the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) have required the Sewer District to invest more than \$625 million between 2002 and 2006 in combined sewer overflow (CSO) control. The result will be reduced bacteria and

fewer overflows of stormwater and sewage to the environment. However, while the EPA requires that the District complete this work, there is no federal funding available.

Your rates are working for clean water.

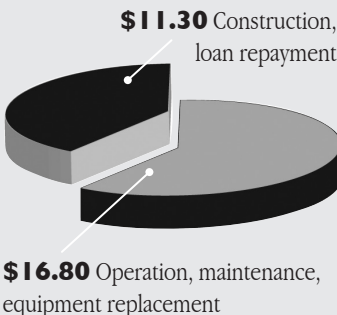
We have proposed a 30-year CSO construction schedule with an estimated cost of \$1.6 billion in order to meet those mandates.

In addition, we plan to invest another \$1.6 billion to maintain and improve our current system and treatment plants.

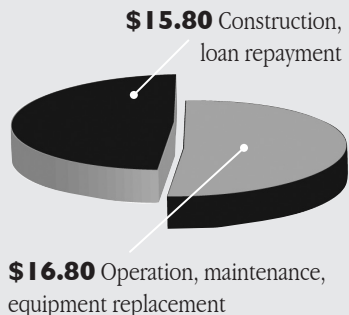
Although increases are unavoidable, we will continue to work to keep your rates down while continuing to fulfill our many obligations.

RATE BASICS: How your money is invested

Cleveland: \$28.10 per MCF



Suburbs: \$32.60 per MCF



For more on our rate saving programs, please see reverse. ▶



Two ways to save: Rate saving programs

SUMMER RESIDENTIAL SPRINKLING USER CHARGE PROGRAM

Under this program, summer bills are based on average winter water consumption, unless actual summer water consumption is lower. Owners who occupy a one-, two- or three-family home may qualify. The program is in effect May 1 through September 30. *Deadline for application is April 30.* Residents of Berea, Cleveland Heights, North Royalton and Strongsville should contact their billing agent at the number at the bottom of this page.

HOMESTEAD RATE PROGRAM

This reduced rate is available to customers 65 and older, or to anyone under 65 who is totally disabled. Applicants' household income must not exceed \$26,200, and they must own the property in which they live.

3 simple things to think about when you pay your sewer bill

You're assuring clean water for a Greater Cleveland.

Our water resources are often underappreciated. Our work improves the region's water quality, protects the health of citizens across northeast Ohio, and improves the economic vitality of our city and suburbs. It adds up to an improved quality of life for people like you, one sewer bill at a time.

You're paying less than 1¢ to treat a gallon of wastewater.

Your sewer rate is calculated by MCF, or 1,000 cubic feet of water, which is equivalent

to 7,480 gallons. Divide your sewer rate by 7,480 gallons and you'll see you're actually paying between .25¢ and .43¢ to treat that gallon before we clean and release it into the lake and Cuyahoga River.

You're improving the quality of Lake Erie.

Lake Erie's and the Cuyahoga River's water quality has improved steadily since we began our work in 1972. During that time, ratepayers have invested more than \$2 billion in system improvements, construction, rehabilitation, and combined sewer overflow control.

Billing questions? Who you call depends on where you live. See below for the billing agent in your area.

BEREA

WATER DEPARTMENT
(440) 891-3308

CLEVELAND HEIGHTS

WATER DEPARTMENT
(216) 291-5995

STRONGSVILLE

(440) 238-5720

CLEVELAND/SUBURBS

DEPARTMENT OF
PUBLIC UTILITIES
(216) 664-3130

NORTH ROYALTON

(440) 582-6234

For all other inquires:

Customer Service
(216) 881-8247