

320 6th Avenue
PO Box 468
Ouray, Colorado 81427



970.325.7211
Fax 970.325.7212
www.cityofouray.com

Dear Water and Sewer User:

In response to your questions regarding your water and sewer charges, the following explains the basis of the current City ordinance (City Code 9-11).

Ouray is fortunate to own a supply of water that is clean and relatively abundant. It requires very little treatment, which therefore, results in one of the **lowest** water user charges in the State.

The City's costs to maintain the water delivery system and waste water treatment system are thus the major expenses to be apportioned fairly among its users (i.e. your bill). For a variety of legitimate reasons, primarily cost, the City has chosen not to employ meters in this apportioning. Rather, after extensive research by an independent committee of citizens, an average household usage was established (EQR). Thus each household is charged 1.0 EQR for its use of the system. As it is primarily the expenses of the system that need to be recouped from its users, no allowance has been provided for those part-time residents.

For those making greater demands upon the system and using the system for commercial benefit, multiples of the basic charge (EQR) are used. Appropriate measurements such as beds, tables, square footage, etc. are used in determining this multiple, again after significant research by the independent committee of citizens whose recommendations are embodied in the City's ordinance.

While no system is perfect, the City has strived to make this method of meting out its costs to users as fair and economical as possible.

Should you have any further questions, they should be directed to your respective representative on Council.

Yours truly,

The City Council