



Press Release

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For Immediate Release

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North Huntingdon Township Municipal Authority Rate Increase

On November 12, 2012, the Western Westmoreland Municipal Authority (WWMA) took action to increase its rates by 25%, or \$5.00 per month per equivalent dwelling unit effective with January, 2013 service. WWMA states that the rate increase is due to the costs associated with a Consent Order & Agreement mandated by the PA Department of Environmental Protection requiring WWMA to eliminate all wet weather sanitary sewer overflows from its sewer system by November, 2017

Approximately 45% of the sewage generated in North Huntingdon is treated at the WWMA plant located on Route 993. WWMA is a joint authority that treats sewage from portions of North Huntingdon, Hempfield and Penn Townships, and all of the sewage from Manor, Irwin and North Irwin Boroughs.

The North Huntingdon Township Municipal Authority (NHTMA) owns and maintains the lines that collect and convey sewage to the WWMA plant for treatment. NHTMA also bills and collects from the individual customers. A portion of the revenue from each quarterly sewage bill from the customers served by the WWMA system is paid directly to WWMA for treatment. That portion will be increasing from the current \$61.05 per quarter to \$76.05 per quarter, or \$5.00 per month.

NHTMA cannot absorb these additional costs, estimated to be \$285,000 per year, and has taken action to increase its monthly rates for all customers by \$2.50 per month beginning with January, 2013 service. NHTMA residential rates will increase by \$2.50 to a total of \$46.80 per month (or \$140.40 per quarter) beginning with service for January, 2013. This increase will result in a resident paying an additional \$30 per year for sewage service, or a total of \$1.54 per day. Commercial customers will see a similar increase of \$2.50 per month for each 4,200 gallons of water used.

Residential customers will see the effect of the rate increase beginning with the bills that are sent out in February covering service for the three previous months, including January, the first month affected by the increase. Customers who have paid for a year in advance in order to receive the 5% yearly discount should contact NHTMA. Customers in this situation will receive the discount on the additional charges when they are paid in full.