

Town of Southeast

Brewster, New York 10509

Supervisor

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Brewster Heights Residents

Brewster Heights Water and Sewer Districts

Brewster, NY 10509

There have been some inquiries by residents about water and sewer rates, which has prompted this information flyer. This flyer will provide you with the facts about your billing. Each year, we mail to each resident of the Brewster Heights Water/Sewer District an annual letter outlining important details that every resident should know about their billing and operations of the facilities. Please make sure you review the information when it is received.

Review of Rate Structure:

The water and sewer rates are calculated from two major categories. The Capital Cost, which are payments for Municipality Bonds, and the Operations and Maintenance (O&M) of the facilities.

Bonds are similar to a loan. These funds are needed when major expenses are incurred for either of the plants, such as construction or repairs and replacements of major pieces of equipment. Bond payments are long term, usually lasting 20 years.

O&M consists of expenses for electric, water purchase (from DEP, East Branch Reservoir), repair and replacement of small equipment, chemicals for treatment and processing, staff to perform daily work, including testing and monitoring of the facilities, and maintenance, such as lawn mowing and snow plowing as a few examples. It also includes work performed to the water distribution and sewer collection systems. There are numerous other items that are included. O&M expenses are short term but are frequented on daily, weekly, monthly, quarterly and annual events. These expenses usually never go down.

As the plants and infrastructure age, the O&M expenses will usually increase when there is no or little capital improvements made. It is similar to the purchase of a new automobile. In the initial three to four years, there are loan payments with little operation and maintenance costs, usually only gas, oil change and possibly new tires. As the automobile becomes older and the loan is paid off, there is no loan payment; but the repair expenses increase, such as transmission and

engine work. The expenses for gas, oil changes and new tires does not go away even though you may experience new large expenses with engine, transmission and/or repair/replacement of the exhaust system.

We worked very hard to maintain the rates over the past several years, as you can see on the attached chart. In order to do this, we had to put several non-critical maintenance items on hold until the two Water District Bonds and two Sewer District Bonds were paid off this year.

Rate History:

We will be reducing the quarterly rate in 2016. Then after a full year of cost analysis and budget review are completed, it is anticipated that the rates will be reduced again in 2017. How much? We will not know until a complete financial review is completed by September 2016.

The new 2016 rate will be lower than the rates in 2008 and should be reduced further in the following year. Once the 2017 rates are determined, we anticipate they should hold for several years, unless there are any unforeseen circumstances that have significant financial impact to the budgets.

For the past two years, your water and sewer plants have ended with negative balances. We did not raise the rates in those years because we knew several bonds would be paid off this year, and there would be the opportunity to balance out the deficits in the 2016 calendar budget.

As a reminder, your Special District revenues are used only for the operation of your district. Any surplus funds are kept in your district's account as a fund balance. None of your funds leave the district and no Town funds are used for the district. It operates independent of any other Town financial responsibilities. All of the benefits and expenses are exclusively for the residents who are included within the district.

Attached is a rate sheet that outlines the past ten years and next year.

Please do not hesitate to contact the Special Districts Office at 845-279-8206 or e-mail my office at specialdistricts@southeast-ny.gov if you have any questions or would like to discuss any details.

Regards,

Levon Bedrosian
Special Districts Administrator

Town of Southeast
Special District Office
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Brewster, NY 10509



Brewster Heights

Billing Year	WATER					SEWER					Combined Rate	% over prior year
	O&M	Capital Debt	Quarterly WATER RATES	% over prior year		O&M	Capital Debt	Quarterly SEWER RATES	% over prior year			
2016	\$ 215.57	\$ 54.43	\$ 270.00	-12.90%		\$ 159.66	\$ 12.34	\$ 172.00	-6.01%	\$ 442.00	-10.34%	
2015	\$ 143.02	\$ 166.98	\$ 310.00	0.00%		\$ 124.85	\$ 58.15	\$ 183.00	0.00%	\$ 493.00	0.00%	
2014	\$ 143.02	\$ 166.98	\$ 310.00	2.48%		\$ 124.85	\$ 58.15	\$ 183.00	0.00%	\$ 493.00	1.54%	
2013	\$ 152.96	\$ 149.54	\$ 302.50	0.00%		\$ 131.73	\$ 51.27	\$ 183.00	0.00%	\$ 485.50	0.00%	
2012	\$ 152.96	\$ 149.54	\$ 302.50	0.00%		\$ 131.73	\$ 51.27	\$ 183.00	0.00%	\$ 485.50	0.00%	
2011	\$ 140.63	\$ 161.87	\$ 302.50	0.00%		\$ 131.73	\$ 51.27	\$ 183.00	0.00%	\$ 485.50	0.00%	
2010	\$ 140.63	\$ 161.87	\$ 302.50	0.00%		\$ 131.73	\$ 51.27	\$ 183.00	4.83%	\$ 485.50	1.77%	
2009	\$ 140.63	\$ 161.87	\$ 302.50	5.70%		\$ 120.33	\$ 54.24	\$ 174.57	2.09%	\$ 477.07	4.35%	
2008	\$ 123.84	\$ 162.36	\$ 286.20	0.00%		\$ 103.55	\$ 67.45	\$ 171.00	0.00%	\$ 457.20	0.00%	
2007	\$ 119.00	\$ 147.23	\$ 266.23	0.00%		\$ 94.90	\$ 69.53	\$ 164.43	0.00%	\$ 430.66	0.00%	
2006	\$ 111.38	\$ 146.62	\$ 258.00	0.00%		\$ 108.95	\$ 48.70	\$ 157.65	0.00%	\$ 415.65	0.00%	
2005	\$ 106.73	\$ 146.27	\$ 253.00	0.00%		\$ 108.65	\$ 49.00	\$ 157.65	0.00%	\$ 410.65	0.00%	