

## Proposed Water Rate Changes St. Louis & St. Charles Counties



Missouri American Water has filed a rate increase request with the Missouri Public Service Commission (PSC) because our costs to provide reliable, quality water service have increased. Our ongoing investments in water system improvements, plus increases in operating costs, are the drivers behind the rate request.

If the Public Service Commission approves Missouri American Water's full rate request, the average St. Louis County residential water bill (for 7,500 gallons of water per month) will increase by about \$18.00 per **quarter** (or \$6.00 per month).

In St. Charles County, the average residential water bill (for 7,000 gallons per month) would increase by about \$8.23 per month. Your actual water bill may be higher or lower, depending on the amount of water your household uses.

**Customers will still be receiving a gallon of water delivered to their homes for less than a penny per gallon.**

### Proposed Residential Rates

St. Louis County residential customers are billed once every quarter. Your water bill has several components. The two major elements on your water bill are the fixed and water usage charges.

St. Louis County Fixed Customer Charge (fixed <b>quarterly</b> charge for water service)		St. Louis County Water Usage Charge (The unit cost per thousand gallons used)		Public Fire Charge (average fixed charge)	
Current	Proposed	Current	Proposed	Current	Proposed
\$14.14	\$30.90	\$3.19 per thousand gallons	\$3.68 per thousand gallons	\$6.63	0

St. Charles County residential customers are billed once every month. The two major elements on your water bill are fixed and water usage charges.

St. Charles County Fixed Customer Charge (fixed <b>monthly</b> charge for water service)		St. Charles County Water Usage Charge (The unit cost per thousand gallons used)		Public Fire Charge (average fixed charge)	
Current	Proposed	Current	Proposed	Current	Proposed
\$9.65	\$16.80	\$3.19 per thousand gallons	\$3.68 per thousand gallons	\$2.36	0

**Note:** Your water bill may also include taxes levied by local communities.

## Water Facts

- **Investing in Infrastructure.** From May 1, 2010 to December 31, 2011, Missouri American Water will have invested approximately \$88.3 million in improvements to St. Louis and St. Charles Counties' water systems, including:
  - Relocating and upgrading thousands of feet of water mains to accommodate roadway improvements including the Route 141 and Page Avenue projects. Water mains were upgraded on Sappington and Claytron Road in St. Louis County and Thoele, Guttermuth and Ehlmann Roads in St. Charles County for similar public works projects.
  - Improvements at the four water treatment plants – including replacing pumps, valves, filters and electrical equipment to enhance service reliability.
  - Replacing fire hydrants and water meters across the system.
  
- **Rate Case Process.** As part of the rate filing, the company is requesting a consolidated rate structure. Under consolidated rates, all customers in the same rate class pay the same rate for the same service – a common practice among electric and natural gas utilities. The proposed increase represents an overall increase of 24 percent for the St. Louis and Charles County districts. The rate request will be thoroughly reviewed by the PSC – a process that includes public hearings and opportunities for customers to comment by mail or online.
  
- **Water Quality.** As a member of the Partnership for Safe Water, St. Louis County's four water treatment plants have received the Partnership's five-year Director's Award for water quality performance that surpasses EPA standards. The Partnership is a voluntary program sponsored by the U.S. EPA, the American Water Works Association and other water organizations. Fewer than one percent of all water utilities in the U.S. have been awarded this honor.