

ORANGE COUNTY PLANNING & INSPECTIONS DEPARTMENT

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131 W. Margaret Ln.
P. O. Box 8181
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July 12, 2012

Dear Efland Sewer Customer,

On July 1, 2012, the monthly sewer rate structure and the sewer rate per 1,000 gallons was changed. This new rate structure matches the rate structure the City of Mebane uses. Before last year's budget cycle, the County agreed to use the City of Mebane's out of town sewer rates as a benchmark for the Efland Sewer rates. It was difficult to match the rates up last year because the rate structures of the Efland system and the Mebane system were different. Since the rate structures are now the same, it will be easier to align the rates of the two systems going forward.

The new rate structure will no longer charge a base charge. Instead, all customers will be charged for at least 2,000 gallons of sewer usage every month. If you use less than 2,000 gallons in a month, you will still be charged as though you had used 2,000 gallons. If you use more than 2,000 gallons, you will be charged for the amount you actually use. This 2,000 gallon minimum charge replaces the base charge and provides a certain minimum amount of revenue to the sewer system regardless of sewer usage. This base revenue helps cover the cost of utilities and repair and maintenance for the sewer system because these costs are generally the same regardless of how much sewer flows through the sewer lines.

The charge per 1,000 gallons each month is now \$13.20. The chart below compares the bill with the current rate to the bill for the previous rate at different levels of use. Even though \$13.20 is more than customers were paying last year per 1,000 gallons, the bills are very close to what they were last year for most customers. This is because the base charge which was part of last year's rates is no longer being charged to customers. Please note that the minimum bill is now \$26.40, even if you use less than 2,000 gallons.

Typical Sewer Bill Comparison

Monthly Usage (gallons)	Monthly sewer bill with previous rates	Monthly sewer bill with new rates (7/2012)
2000	\$34.40	\$26.40 (minimum)
4000	\$56.12	\$52.80
6000	\$77.84	\$79.20

If you have any questions please call me at (919) 245-2583.

Sincerely,

R. Kevin Lindley, PE
Efland Sewer System Operator