

# RATE CHANGE NOTIFICATION



ABOUT US

Clearlake Oaks County Water District is committed to providing safe, clean, and reliable water to the residents we serve. Our mission is to protect public health while responsibly managing and maintaining our water and wastewater systems for both current and future generations.

The District operates under the authority of the County Water District Act (California Water Code Section 30000, et seq.) and maintains approximately 38 miles of water pipeline and 21 miles of sewer pipeline. We proudly serve more than 2,100 water customers and 1,900 sewer customers throughout the Clearlake Oaks and Paradise Cove community.

## WHY ARE RATES CHANGING?

Since the completion of the District's 2020 rate study, the cost of providing water and wastewater services has increased significantly. During that study, rates were only increased by 2.5%, which has contributed to the District falling short of keeping pace with rising costs in subsequent years. At the time, certain expenses were not anticipated at today's levels, particularly due to inflation, evolving regulations, and increasing service demands. At the same time, while the base rate is increasing, the District has been able to lower overall water consumption, reflecting conservation efforts and more efficient use by customers.

The District is now facing higher costs related to ongoing state mandates, including cybersecurity requirements and the implementation of a Cross-Connection Control Program. In addition, increasingly stringent water quality standards at the state and federal level require more testing, monitoring, and treatment to ensure safe drinking water. Expenses for insurance, electricity, and treatment chemicals have also continued to rise. At the same time, the District must continue investing in repairing, replacing, and upgrading aging water and wastewater infrastructure to maintain reliable service.

Under Proposition 218, the District may only charge rates that recover the reasonable cost of providing service and cannot charge more than that amount. The proposed rate adjustments are based on a cost of service analysis and are designed to ensure that each customer pays their fair share of the actual cost to deliver water and wastewater services. In simple terms, as the cost to operate, maintain, and meet higher water quality standards increases, rates must be adjusted to keep the system running safely, comply with regulations, and continue providing reliable service to the community.

You are a resident, business owner, or property owner who receives water or wastewater services from the Clearlake Oaks County Water District (District). The rates for these services may change based on the findings of the District's most recent cost of service study conducted in accordance with Proposition 218.

## WHY AM I RECEIVING THIS NOTICE?

### Planned Improvements

The proposed rate adjustments will help fund important upgrades needed to keep our water and wastewater systems safe, reliable, and up to current standards. Planned improvements include a new High Valley storage tank and booster pump, upgrades to the Shady Lane booster pump, and repairs to several existing storage tanks. The District will also be upgrading SCADA (Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition) systems across the water, wastewater, and distribution systems to improve monitoring, efficiency, and response times.

Additional work includes replacing aging pipelines along Highway 20, improving lift stations and sewer lines, replacing sludge drying beds, and making electrical upgrades at the wastewater treatment plant, including new effluent pumps.

These projects address aging infrastructure, enhance system monitoring and reliability, and ensure the District continues to meet state and federal requirements. Investing in these improvements now helps prevent more costly repairs in the future and supports dependable service for our community.

# PROPOSED RATES

## Effective July 1, 2026 through July 1, 2030

PROPOSED WATER & CRP WATER BASE RATE TOTAL						
	Current	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030
<b>Residential</b>	\$52.66	\$69.00	\$72.67	\$76.02	\$79.52	\$83.19

PROPOSED SEWER & CRP SEWER BASE RATE TOTAL						
	Current	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030
<b>Residential</b>	\$76.45	\$93.09	\$110.18	\$115.17	\$119.71	\$124.44

PROPOSED NEW BASE RATE TOTALS FOR WATER & SEWER						
	Current	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030
<b>Residential</b>	\$129.11	\$162.09	\$182.85	\$191.19	\$199.23	\$207.63

PROPOSED WATER FUND RATES						
Meter Size	Current Rates	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030
*Residential 5/8"	\$35.20	\$50.39	\$53.13	\$55.50	\$57.98	\$60.57
1	\$110.20	\$125.97	\$132.83	\$138.76	\$144.95	\$151.42
1.5	\$220.29	\$251.95	\$265.67	\$277.52	\$289.90	\$302.83
2	\$352.35	\$403.12	\$425.07	\$444.03	\$463.84	\$484.53
3	\$660.68	\$806.23	\$850.14	\$888.06	\$927.68	\$969.06
4	\$1,101.16	\$1,259.74	\$1,328.34	\$1,387.60	\$1,449.49	\$1,514.16
**Rate/HCF	\$2.28	\$2.15	\$2.27	\$2.36	\$2.47	\$2.58

\*Residential meters ranging from 5/8" through 1" in size shall be charged at the 5/8" base rate, including instances where a 1" meter is required for fire suppression in new construction.

\*\*HCF = Hundred Cubic Feet. The usage rate is charged per HCF, with 1 HCF equal to 748 gallons.

PROPOSED CRP-WATER FUND RATES						
Meter Size	Current Rates	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030
Residential 5/8"	\$17.46	\$18.61	\$19.54	\$20.52	\$21.54	\$22.62
1	\$38.36	\$46.53	\$48.86	\$51.30	\$53.87	\$56.56
1.5	\$72.65	\$93.05	\$97.70	\$102.59	\$107.72	\$113.11
2	\$115.51	\$148.88	\$156.33	\$164.15	\$172.36	\$180.98
3	\$214.42	\$297.75	\$312.64	\$328.28	\$344.71	\$361.95
4	\$355.88	\$465.23	\$488.50	\$512.94	\$538.60	\$565.54

# PROPOSED RATES

Effective July 1, 2026 through July 1, 2030

PROPOSED SEWER FUND RATES/ EDU						
	Current	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030
<b>Residential</b>	\$51.78	\$73.85	\$77.31	\$80.96	\$84.33	\$87.86

  

PROPOSED CRP-SEWER FUND RATES/ CUSTOMER UNIT							
Customer Type	Unit	Current	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030
<b>Residential</b>		\$24.67	\$19.24	\$32.87	\$34.20	\$35.38	\$36.58
<b>School</b>	Per Student	\$2.17	\$2.79	\$3.23	\$3.38	\$3.51	\$3.65
<b>RV/Campsite</b>	Per Space	\$22.11	\$27.27	\$32.62	\$34.10	\$35.43	\$36.83
<b>Hotel/Motel</b>	Per Building	\$34.04	\$42.77	\$50.41	\$52.70	\$54.78	\$56.95
<b>Laundromat</b>	Per Machine	\$45.56	\$57.72	\$67.59	\$70.66	\$73.46	\$76.39
<b>Church</b>	Per Building	\$68.75	\$87.84	\$102.17	\$106.83	\$111.07	\$115.50
<b>Service/Gas Station</b>	Per Restroom	\$45.56	\$57.72	\$67.59	\$70.66	\$73.46	\$76.39
<b>Beauty/Barber Shop</b>	Per Building	\$89.00	\$117.44	\$133.16	\$139.28	\$144.87	\$150.72
<b>Restaurant</b>	Per Building	\$102.05	\$131.08	\$151.83	\$158.75	\$165.07	\$171.67
<b>Restaurant w/Bar 1</b>	Per Building	\$170.90	\$220.49	\$254.50	\$266.12	\$276.72	\$287.80
<b>Restaurant w/Bar 2</b>	Per Building	\$170.90	\$220.49	\$254.50	\$266.12	\$276.72	\$287.80
<b>Bar</b>	Per Building	\$98.89	\$126.99	\$147.12	\$153.83	\$159.95	\$166.34
<b>Service Club</b>	Per Building	\$68.78	\$87.88	\$102.22	\$106.87	\$111.12	\$115.55
<b>Service Club w/Kitchen/Food Service 1</b>	Per Building	\$94.91	\$122.19	\$141.27	\$147.72	\$153.60	\$159.75
<b>Service Club w/Kitchen/Food Service 2</b>	Per Building	\$94.91	\$122.19	\$141.27	\$147.72	\$153.60	\$159.75
<b>Commercial Office Space</b>	Per Building	\$68.78	\$87.88	\$102.22	\$106.87	\$111.12	\$115.55
<b>Community Beach</b>	Per Restroom	\$68.78	\$87.88	\$102.22	\$106.87	\$111.12	\$115.55

*Accomplishments since the previous rate study*



A new 205,000-gallon bolted steel tank was constructed on Harvey Boulevard, adding critical storage capacity and strengthening water system performance for the West End.



The old redwood Cerrito Tank was replaced with a new 100,000-gallon bolted steel tank, helping improve water storage and reliability for the surrounding area.

# Accomplishments since the previous rate study



The purchase of a new crane truck supports the removal and installation of lift station and booster pumps, improving overall maintenance capabilities. A new water truck was also added to reclaim flushed water, which is now reused in holding tanks for fire suppression, road watering, and system repairs. Additionally, the acquisition of an additional Vac-Con truck allows water and sewer repairs to be performed simultaneously, increasing operational efficiency and reducing response times.

We installed a new, upgraded pump at Lift Station 9, located near Anchor Village and Keys Boulevard, helping ensure consistent wastewater service and better handling of system demands in the area.



Our new drive-by meters make meter reading faster, more accurate, and more efficient. They provide detailed hourly water use data and have helped reduce water loss—while cutting meter reading time from six staff over two days to just two staff in about four hours.



## PUBLIC HEARING & PROTEST INFORMATION

**Deadline to Submit Protest: June 18, 2026 – 10:00 a.m.**

**Protest Public Hearing and Rate Adoption: June 18, 2026 – 10:00 a.m.**

Any recorded owner of a parcel upon which water or wastewater service rates are proposed for imposition, or any tenant directly responsible for payment of those rates (i.e., a customer of record), may submit a written protest to the proposed rate increases. Only one protest will be counted per identified parcel.

Every written protest must include ALL of the following information:

1. A statement indicating opposition to the proposed rate increases for water or wastewater services
2. Name of the recorded owner or customer of record submitting the protest
3. Assessor's parcel number or service address
4. Original signature of the recorded owner or customer of record submitting the protest

Written protests may be submitted ONLY by:

- Mail to the District:
- Hand delivery to the District

**Clearlake Oaks County Water District  
Attn: Secretary to the Board of Directors  
12952 E. Highway 20 / P.O. Box 709  
Clearlake Oaks, CA 95423**

*All written protests must be received prior to the start of the protest public hearing.*

The Board of Directors will consider all timely submitted written protests and hear public comments at the public hearing. Oral comments alone do not qualify as formal protests unless accompanied by a written protest. Protests submitted via email or other electronic means will not be accepted.

At the conclusion of the public hearing, protests will be counted and validated. Members of the public may observe the tabulation of protests. All protests must be submitted prior to the start of the public hearing. If a majority protest exists, the proposed rate increases shall not be imposed. If a majority protest does not exist, the Board may adopt the proposed rate increases, which will take effect on a specified date.