

# Hardyston Township Municipal Utilities Authority

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November 2016

Dear HTMUA Customer:

The HTMUA professional and administrative staff annually and diligently prepares our budget well in advance of upcoming needed projects and contractual obligations. These are budgeted accordingly, allowing the HTMUA the ability to complete and maintain contracts without incurring debt to do so.

Over the last few years we have completed or scheduled many projects, including;

- Replaced backup generators, well and sewer pumps in Indian Fields and Crystal Springs.
- Replaced and upgraded the billing, meter reading software, and equipment to accommodate and remain cohesive with auditing standards, customer service and the integration to meter reading.
- Planning stages for the rehabilitation and painting of the water tower located in Crystal Springs.

In addition to these major projects we continually maintain the water and sewer system to State requirements and standards. Unfortunately, rising costs to maintain and continually upgrade our system has affected our rates. As you may have noticed, the sewer portion remains the most costly portion of your bill. The sewer portion of the system is processed through the Sussex County Municipal Utility Authority (SCMUA); the SCMUA cost is passed on to us, the HTMUA.

The HTMUA recognizes the economic impact felt by all households in our area. This is why we strive to maintain a healthy financial environment. Because of our diligent planning, our water and sewer rates have remained steady over the years. Our last rate change was 4 years ago in 2012. Despite the change, the HTMUA maintains the lowest water and sewer rate amongst surrounding townships that also provide such service.

On September 12, 2016 the HTMUA conducted a public hearing pursuant to N.J.S.A.40:14B-21 & 22 on its combined flat rate, consisting of water and sewer services. Effective December 1, 2016 the **new quarterly** residential water rate portion will decrease from \$69.50 to \$63.50 (\$6.00 decrease) and the sewer rate will increase from \$141.00 to \$159.50 (\$18.50 increase). Overall, this is a \$12.50 per quarter increase or \$50.00 annually.

*over please*



The chart below details the new rate;

HTMUA Quarterly Charge			
	Old Rate	New Rate*	\$ Increase/decrease
Water	\$69.50	<b>\$63.50</b>	\$ - 6.00
Sewer	\$141.00	<b>\$159.50</b>	\$18.50
Total Per Quarter	\$210.50	<b>\$223.00</b>	\$12.50

**\*Effective December 1<sup>st</sup>, and reflective in the quarterly bill mailed out the first week of March due first week of April.**

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us. Hours of operation are Monday thru Friday, 8:30 am – 4:30 pm. THE HTMUA Commissioners and staff wish you a safe and healthy holiday season.

Sincerely,

HARDYSTON TOWNSHIP  
MUNICIPAL UTILITY AUTHORITY