

## 2018 Utility Rate Notice

Effective with usage beginning January 1, 2018, the water and sewer utility rates have increased as follows:

### Water Rate -



Increased from \$6.37 to **\$6.62** / 1,000 gals

The City of Waite Park has its own water treatment plant. The increase for the water rate is a result of additional operation and maintenance costs and debt service.

### Sewer Rate -



Increased from \$7.03 to **\$7.24** / 1,000 gals

The City of Waite Park contracts with the City of St. Cloud for the use of their sewer lines and wastewater treatment. The increase in the sewer rate is due to continued debt service on the expansion and rehabilitation of the St. Cloud Wastewater Treatment Facility and debt service on the sewer interceptor and lift station projects.

The increased rates will result in a minimum quarterly utility bill of:

\$124.74 Water & Sewer

+ \$ 1.59 MN Service Connection Fee

+ \$ 6.00 Stormwater Utility Fee

**\$132.33** Total Minimum Quarterly Bill

(A minimum bill includes up to 9,000 gals of usage)

The new rates do not apply to the current bill, which is for usage during October, November and December of 2017. The new rates will be applicable on the bill issued in April, for usage during January, February and March 2018.

## Prevention of Frozen Water and Sewer Service Lines

With the extremely cold temperatures we have been experiencing and thin snow cover, there is again a risk of frozen water or sewer lines. Due to these circumstances, you may want to monitor the temperature of your water. Let your water run for about five minutes and then take the temperature of the water with a meat thermometer. If it falls below 35 degrees, as a preventative measure, you



may choose to run your water. Instead of requiring you to call to notify us that you are running your water, we have decided to continue to use the winter consumption amount that was calculated last year during the months of Jan/Feb/Mar **2017**. This

will prevent sewer charges (for residential properties only) for the water used to avoid a frozen water or sewer line. If your consumption during Jan/Feb/Mar of the current year ends up being less than the same period last year, we will calculate your winter consumption amount based on the current year's consumption.

You will be charged for the cost of all the water that is consumed while running your water to prevent freezing pipes. We estimate an additional expense of approximately \$2.00 per day, if you run the water at one faucet at a 1/4" width (about the width of a pencil).

If there was a known risk of your lines freezing and we specifically requested that you run your water, additional adjustments will be applied to your bill.

Please contact Margie Wolf in Utility Billing at (320) 229-3683 with any questions or concerns, or email: [margie.wolf@ci.waitepark.mn.us](mailto:margie.wolf@ci.waitepark.mn.us)

## Now Hiring

### Paid On-Response Firefighters



The Waite Park Fire Department is currently accepting applications for four Paid On-Response Firefighter positions.

No experience is necessary. All training will be provided.

You must meet the following minimum qualifications:

- Must have a minimum of a High School Diploma or equivalency; and
- Must be 18 years of age or older; and
- Must have a valid MN Drivers License; and
- Must pass a physical exam / drug test; and
- Must reside in the City of Waite Park or be able to respond to the fire station within nine (9) minutes; and
- Must obtain/maintain Firefighter I/II & Hazmat Operations Certifications within one year of hire; and
- Must obtain and maintain First Responder Certification within two years of hire.

Applications are available online at [www.ci.waitepark.mn.us](http://www.ci.waitepark.mn.us) or at City Hall.

### Yard Waste Site

### Permit & Keycard Renewals

If you already have purchased a permit for the City Yard Waste Site and have a keycard, you may renew your card at city hall for \$5.00.

If you don't have a card for the yard waste site yet, you may purchase them at city hall for \$10.00.

When the site opens in the Spring, you will be ready to go! Watch for the opening date on our website, on channel 181, and on our Facebook and Twitter accounts.



## City Newsletter 1st Quarter 2018



(320)252-6822

[www.ci.waitepark.mn.us](http://www.ci.waitepark.mn.us)

## Animal License Renewal

All dogs and cats owned or harbored within the City of Waite Park must be licensed with the City.

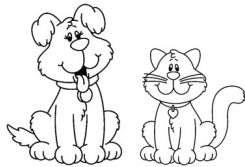
The new tags for Animal Licenses for the calendar year 2018 are now available at City Hall!

Cost is \$10.00 per license.

Current rabies vaccination records must be presented at the time of purchase.

License renewals are due no later than Wednesday, February 15, 2018. Penalties will be applied after this due date.

Each licensed cat or dog is required to wear the issued license tag on a collar. Please remember, it is unlawful for animals to be permitted to run at large.



## Vacation Notices

If you are going to be away from your home, especially for an extended period of time, you can notify the police department. We have an Extra Patrol Vacation Request form available on our website or at the police department. The online form can be printed or submitted online. If you print the form, please fill it out and drop it off at the police department.

We request that you submit the form at least two days before you leave.

## Parking Restrictions

No parking is allowed between the hours of 2:00 A.M. and 7:00 A.M. on any city street beginning November 1st to April 1st.



This allows the snowplows the ability to plow the entire street, curb to curb, without any obstacles.

Parking is never allowed in alleys or on boulevards.

Any vehicle parked illegally will be ticketed and/or towed.

## Sidewalk Snow Removal

Property owners are required to clear sidewalks of snow and ice by noon of each day. If the owner fails to do so, the City will remove the snow or ice and the owner will be charged for the service.

**It is unlawful to blow snow into a street or alley.**

## Adopt a Fire Hydrant

When clearing your sidewalks of snow, please take the time to clear the snow around any fire hydrant on your property or in your vicinity.

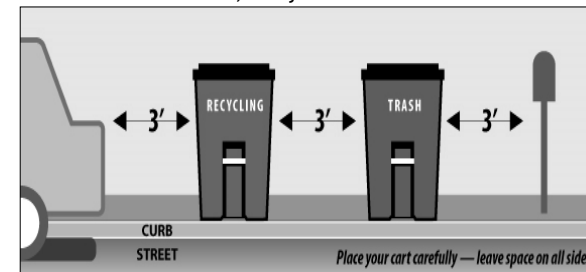
## Garbage & Recycling Cart Placement for Pickup

West Central Sanitation's trucks use a mechanical arm to pick up and empty your garbage and recycling carts.

It is necessary that you leave space of

**AT LEAST THREE FEET AROUND AND BETWEEN YOUR CARTS**

DO NOT BLOCK any travel lanes, including: streets, alleys and sidewalks.



Always place your carts with the handles and wheels facing towards your property with the lids opening towards the street.

All your garbage and recycling wastes must fit in the carts and the lids must close. Remember to recycle as much as you can!

### **IF THERE IS NO SIDEWALK:**

Place carts at the end of your driveway, but NOT ON THE STREET OR ALLEY.

### **BOULEVARD WITH GRASSY AREA BETWEEN SIDEWALK & CURB:**

Place carts on the grassy area, close to the curb. DO NOT PLACE YOUR CARTS ON THE SIDEWALK OR ON THE STREET.

### **SIDEWALK IS BORDERED BY THE CURB:**

Place carts on your property as close to the sidewalk as possible. DO NOT PLACE YOUR CARTS ON THE SIDEWALK OR ON THE STREET.

## Texting 911 for Help

Minnesotans can now text 911 for help if they are unable to talk to the dispatcher.

**If there is an emergency and you cannot call 911, take these steps:**

1. Enter the numbers 911 in the "To" field.
2. Text your exact address and type of emergency.
3. Send the message.
4. Use simple words, but do not include abbreviations, emoji's, pictures or slang.
5. Promptly answer questions and follow instructions.

### **Best Practices and Challenges**

Text-to-911 comes with challenges. For instance, emergency response may be lengthened due to the time it takes for a text to 911 to be typed and sent. Delivery of texts and speed of delivery are also not guaranteed. Here are several reminders to ensure the best service and response from dispatchers.

- Dispatchers prefer calls so they can get cues from background noise and voice inflections. If you text 911, dispatchers will ask if they can call you.
- Location is not as accurate with texting as it is with a call. Be sure to text your exact address.
- A text or data plan is required to use Text-to-911.
- Texts-to-911 will get a bounce back message if you are roaming.
- Texts-to-911 have a 160 character limit, can get out of order, or may not be received.
- There is no language translation service for Texts-to-911.

Do not text and drive!