

## 2024 Utility Rate Notice

Effective with usage beginning January 1, 2024, the water and sewer utility rates are as follows:

### Water



Service Fee/Quarter:	\$ 46.00
Tier 1 (0 - 9,000 gals)	\$ 2.36 / 1,000 gals
Tier 2 (9,001 - 36,000 gals)	\$ 7.05 / 1,000 gals
Tier 3 (Over 36,000 gals)	\$ 7.35 / 1,000 gals

### Sewer



Service Fee/Quarter:	\$ 55.00
Tier 1 (0 - 9,000 gals)	\$ 2.55 / 1,000 gals
Tier 2 (Over 9,000 gals)	\$ 8.35 / 1,000 gals

- + \$ 2.43 MN Service Connection Fee
- + \$ 11.00 Stormwater Utility Fee
- + \$ 0.75 Wellhead Protection Fee

Single-family homes or rented single-family homes will continue to be eligible for the sewer winter consumption averaging - where each quarter's sewer usage shall be based on and equal to the lesser of the current year's first quarter water usage, or the current quarter's water usage.

The new rates do not apply to the current bill, which is for usage during October, November and December of 2023. The new rates will be applicable on the bill issued in April, for usage during January, February and March 2024.

## 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.

## Vehicle Theft

During the months of November and December, the Waite Park Police Department generally receives more reports of items being taken from vehicles and vehicle theft.



- ◆ Always lock your vehicle and double check it is locked.
- ◆ Do not leave valuables inside your vehicle.
- ◆ Keep valuables with you, leave them at home/work, or lock them in a trunk when possible.
- ◆ If you see someone acting suspiciously near vehicles and/or checking door handles, report it to police immediately.
- ◆ Obtain a description or a photo of the suspicious person, if you can do so safely.
- ◆ Lock your vehicle if you start it to warm up, even in your own driveway.
- ◆ Record the serial numbers of property, especially electronics.

## Now Hiring

### Paid On-Response Firefighters

The Waite Park Fire Department is severely understaffed and are accepting applications for several Paid On-Response Firefighter positions.

No experience is necessary. All training will be provided.

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



## City Newsletter 1st Quarter 2024



(320)252-6822

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

## **Disconnect your hoses!!**

Winter's here, and it's not just the sidewalks that need extra attention. Those forgotten hoses lurking by your spigots could be harboring a watery nightmare: **frozen pipes!**

Here's the deal: water expands when it freezes, and trapped water in a hose can put pressure on your home's plumbing, leading to cracks, bursts, and a gushing flood. Talk about a chilly surprise!

### **Don't let frozen pipes drain your wallet!**

1. Shut off the water supply to those outdoor faucets.
2. Thaw the exterior faucet with a hair dryer or the lowest heat setting on a heat gun. Don't use warm water! It will refreeze and cause more issues!
3. Disconnect and drain those hoses!
4. Open the faucet to drain any water in the pipe.
5. Bleed the excess water from the line at the shutoff valve inside.

If you need more details, follow the steps on the website link below, or call your friendly plumber:

<https://peppershomeandgarden.com/forgot-disconnect-hose-winter/>



## **Snowbirds**

Are you a Snowbird heading south for the winter?

Please call City Hall at 252-6822 so we are not paying for garbage/recycling service that is not being used. We can suspend your garbage/recycling service while you're gone. It can be reinstated immediately upon your return—just let us know when you are back.

## **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 2024 are 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 Thursday, February 15, 2024. 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.

## **Don't Get Scammed!**

The goal of scammers is to get you panicked about a situation. They will tell you that you will lose health coverage, your bank account is being hacked, your credit card has been compromised, you are at risk of being arrested or someone you love has been arrested and needs money.

These scams can be presented in many ways either through a phone call, email, text message or a direct message.

### **Emails**

- will email out fake invoices to attempt to get you to click on a link or call questioning the invoice.
- Do not call the number on the invoice as this may be the phone number of the scammer.
- You can usually delete the email and they may send it again.
- Examples of emails could be an invoice for computer anti-virus software, warranties, etc
- Email from someone out of the country that has a lot of money and needs your help to get it

### **Phone Calls**

- Receive phone calls asking for personal information including your social security number, banking information, PIN number, etc.
- They may say it is in regards to some fraudulent charges on your account or to avoid your health insurance being cancelled, etc.

### **Text Messages**

- Messages about a package that can't be delivered to you and it is being held at a warehouse
- Notifications about unpaid bills for services you don't have.

### **Direct Messages / Dating Sites**

- If you are on a dating site you may have matched with someone and start talking to them through the app or text message
- The person may start to show interest, but then explain a difficult financial situation they or their loved one is in. This could be to guilt you into sending money or may lead to them asking for money.
- If you are in your late teens or early 20's they may try to convince you that you have been speaking with a minor and now you will be reported to the police. They may even go so far as to have someone posing as law enforcement call you. This usually ends in them needing money to "drop the charges"
- If you are going to meet someone you met online, meet in a public place and tell a friend who you are meeting and where you are meeting

### **Online Marketplaces**

- Be careful when meeting someone to purchase an item found online
- Waite Park offers a Safe Exchange Zone at the Public Works Facility. This marked location of the parking lot has video recording.