

WATER/SEWER RATE INCREASE EXPLANATION

Recent increases to the water and sewer rates are the result of a study done by HDR Engineering. Sandpoint City Council voted to adopt rates that:

1. Encourage water conservation
2. Pay for reconstruction of the Lake Water Treatment Plant
3. Pay for regulatory requirements to improve Pend Oreille River water quality.

To encourage water conservation the City Council adopted different usage categories:

Minimum usage was reduced from 6000 to 3000 gallons per month to promote conservation in the home as well as with irrigation.

A bond election to fund reconstruction of the Lake Plant was passed in November. This resulted in a 15% increase in water rates.

Sewer rates were increased 20% to pay for regulatory requirements to improve water quality in the Pend Oreille River.