

FY2026 Water & Sewer Rates Announcement

On April 16, 2025 the Natick Select Board voted on the fiscal year 2026 water and sewer rates. These new rates will be in effect for the June 2025 billing and going forward.

This year's rate revisions focused on two items: the fixed costs of the water and sewer budgets and usage rates. The decision was made to increase the Readiness To Serve (RTS) Fee. This quarterly fee was increased by \$15.00 for water only customers, \$25 for combined water & sewer customers, \$15 for irrigation customers, and \$10 for sewer only customers. In addition to the RTS Fee increase, usage rates were increased by 5%. These adjustments will increase the fixed portion of revenue and will help with the stabilization of the rates while funding the fiscal year 2026 water and sewer operating budget.

The RTS fee is a portion of the fixed costs to operate the Water and Sewer system before any water used or sewer is collected. Fixed Costs are not impacted by the amount of water we supply or the amount of wastewater we collect. The RTS fee is charged for each Equivalent Dwelling Unit (EDU). An EDU is one single-family residential household. For water & sewer billing purposes, the EDU is the number of single-family residential units associated with a single domestic water meter. For example, if a 10 unit apartment building has one water meter, the water & sewer account will have 10 EDUs.

The Select Board further approved 5% adjustments of two additional fees. First, the backflow testing fee was adjusted from \$75 per test to \$78.75 per test. Second, the annual fire line charge was adjusted from \$200 per inch diameter to \$210 per inch diameter.

We have provided more information about the new rates and fees on the Natick website at www.natickma.gov/1917/Water-Rates. If you have any additional questions with regards to billing please contact the Collector's Office at collector@natickma.org or 508-647-6425 for other questions please contact the Water Division at water@natickma.org or 508-647-6557.