



**RICHMOND
UTILITIES
DISTRICT**
EST. 1961

P.O. Box 189, Richmond, ME 04357
Ph: 207-737-4721 **Fax:** 207-737-2427
Email: office@richmondutilities.org
Website: richmondutilities.org
**Office Hours: Monday-Friday
9am - 3:30pm**

October 20, 2026

**Richmond Utilities District
Notice of Proposed Water Rate Increase**

Dear Customer,

The Richmond Utilities District (RUD) will be filing a revised water rate schedule with the Maine Public Utilities Commission (PUC), with a proposed effective date of **January 1, 2027**. This filing is being made pursuant to the provisions of 35-A M.R.S.A. §6104. The docket number assigned to this filing is 2026-00292.

As part of the rate review process, RUD will hold a **Public Notice of Proposed Rate Change Hearing** on:

November 10, 2026, at 4:30 p.m.
Richmond Wastewater Treatment Plant
16 Water Street, Richmond, Maine

This hearing will provide customers with information about the proposed rate adjustment and give interested customers an opportunity to ask questions or provide comments.

You may inspect data relating to the present and proposed rates at the Richmond Utilities District office located at 331 Front Street, Richmond, Maine, before the hearing. If you have any questions or desire additional information, you may contact the Richmond Utilities District at (207) 737-4721. You have the right to an open and fair hearing and the right to further hearings before the Commission. The Public Advocate is available for assistance to you in this matter upon request. The Public Utilities Commission may be contacted at (207) 287-3831, 18 State House Station, Augusta, Maine, 04333, or the Public Advocate at (207) 624-3687, 112 State House Station, Augusta, Maine, 04333.

Customers can petition the commission to investigate the proposed rate change. The petition must include a statement that signatures on petitions filed pursuant to subsection 7 are invalid unless accompanied by the printed names and addresses of the signers. The utility will, upon request, provide customers with petition forms that include space for signatures and the printed names and addresses of the signers. Copies of all notices must be sent to the commission and the Public Advocate at least 14 days prior to the hearings.”

The water rates for Richmond Utilities District effective on July 1, 2013, pursuant to PUC Docket No. 2013-00258, this was the last significant (6104) rate case. Since that time, the RUD has implemented annual 1.5% adjustments under Section 6104-B, including increases effective July 1, 2025, and July 1, 2026. However, the District has not conducted a full rate case under Section 6104 in over thirteen years.

Over the past thirteen years, the costs of operating and maintaining the water system have increased substantially. Expenses related to personnel, electricity, chemicals, equipment maintenance, regulatory compliance, insurance, contracted services, and capital improvements have continued to rise. In addition, RUD must ensure adequate revenues to maintain safe, reliable drinking water service and support current infrastructure needs.



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To address these rising costs and maintain the water system's long-term financial sustainability, the Richmond Utilities District proposes an overall 42% increase in water rates. The proposed increase will apply to both the minimum (base) charges and usage charges in excess of the minimum allowance and is proposed to take effect on **January 1, 2027**.

As a result of this proposed rate adjustment, the following rates will apply:

Description	Item	Unit per	Current Rate	Unit	Proposed Rate (42% increase)
0 to	7,000	gallons per quarter	54.50	Min. per quarter	77.39
For the next	38,000	gallons per quarter	4.85	per 1,000 gallons	6.89
For the next	90,000	gallons per quarter	3.29	per 1,000 gallons	4.68
For the next	90,000	gallons per quarter	2.58	per 1,000 gallons	3.67
In excess of	225,000	gallons per quarter	2.09	per 1,000 gallons	2.97

For a total increase of \$ 42,575 per year at a 42% increase.

Meter Size	Quarterly Allowance (Gallons)	Current Charge	Proposed Charge (1.5% increase)
5/8"	7,000	\$54.50	\$77.39
3/4"	16,000	\$98.21	\$139.46
1"	27,000	\$151.66	\$215.36
1-1/2"	54,000	\$268.69	\$381.54
2"	90,000	\$387.09	\$549.67

The Richmond Utilities District appreciates the continued support of its customers and encourages all interested parties to attend the public hearing or submit comments regarding the proposed rate change. If you have any questions or desire additional information, you may contact the Richmond Utilities District at (207) 737-4721, PO Box 189, Richmond, ME 04357.

Sincerely,

Nathan Bodge
Richmond Utilities District Board Chairman
Richmond, Maine