

Water and Light News



EAST GRAND FORKS WATER AND LIGHT

January 2015

Electric, Water and Sewage Rates for 2015

The Water and Light Commission approved the new water and electric rates for 2015 at their December 4th meeting. The sewage rates are set by the City Council.



Electric Rates Per KWH

Res General.....9.889¢/kwh
 Res Elect Heat..9.476¢/kwh
 Off Peak.....7.195¢/kwh
 Small Comm....8.019¢/kwh
 Large Comm....Call Business
 Office 773-1163

Electric Fixed Charges

Res General.....\$7.75/mth
 Res Elect Heat...\$7.75/mth
 Off Peak.....\$5.75/mth
 Small Comm.....\$9.75/mth
 Large Comm....Call Business
 Office 773-1163



Water-Residential Rates

1st 4000 gals...\$6.20/1000
 Excess.....\$7.95/1000

Water-Apartment Bldg Rate

1st 4000 gals per unit-
 \$6.20/1000
 Excess.....\$7.95/1000

Water-Commercial Rate

1st 36000 gals-\$6.20/1000
 Excess.....\$7.95/1000

Water Fixed Charges

5/8"Meter.....\$8.50/mth
 3/4"Meter.....\$8.50/mth
 1" Meter.....\$13.66/mth
 1½"Meter.....\$27.32/mth
 2" Meter.....\$43.71/mth
 3" Meter.....\$81.96/mth
 4" Meter.....\$135.09/mth
 6" Meter.....\$273.21/mth



Sewage Meter Capacity Fee

5/8"Meter.....\$17.00/mth
 3/4"Meter.....\$17.00/mth
 1" Meter.....\$27.39/mth
 1½"Meter.....\$34.05/mth
 2" Meter.....\$54.50/mth
 3" Meter.....\$102.24/mth
 4" Meter.....\$169.99/mth
 6" Meter.....\$340.77/mth

Residential Sewage

You are charged 65% of your water charge plus a meter capacity fee (above).

Commercial Sewage

You are charged 95% of your water charge plus a meter capacity fee (above).

Multi-Unit Sewage

Each unit is charged a \$17.00 flat rate per month.

Need Help Paying A Bill?

WE COULD ALL USE A LITTLE HELP FROM TIME TO TIME. THERE ARE SEVERAL OPTIONS FOR THOSE HAVING TROUBLE MAKING ENDS MEET. THE FOLLOWING AGENCIES MAY BE ABLE TO ASSIST WITH PAYMENT OF UTILITY BILLS:

TRI-VALLEY OPPORTUNITY COUNCIL—LOW INCOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM:
 (866) 264-3729

POLK COUNTY SOCIAL SERVICES:
 (218) 773-2431

SALVATION ARMY—HEATSHARE:
 (701) 775-2597

ST. JOSEPH SOCIAL CARE
 (701)795-8614

Why is my bill higher in the winter?

In our region, November through March is typically when customers use the most electricity due to cold weather. Here are other factors that cause energy use to increase:

- Shorter days and longer nights mean more time in doors. That



typically means more lights, TVs, appliances and video games in use.

- Heating systems run more. Even if you have a gas furnace, your electric use increases because electricity powers the blower motor in the furnace.
- Block heaters use between 500 to 1,500 watts depending on

the vehicle.



- Portable space heaters can dramatically increase your monthly bill, see next page for information on space heaters.

Snowbirds



If you are planning to leave your home for an extended period of time this winter, remember to call the Water and Light to make billing arrangements while you are away. Water and Light offers automatic payments by checking or savings withdrawal. We also accept VISA and Mastercard by phone or online.

600 Demers Ave
East Grand Forks, MN 56721

Phone: 218-773-1163
Fax: 218-773-6127
www.waterandlight.info

We're On The Web:
www.waterandlight.info

Recipe—Satisfying Soup

Beer Cheese Soup

1/2 cup butter or margarine
1/2 cup diced onion
1/2 cup diced carrots
1/2 cup diced celery
1 cup flour
6 cups chicken broth
1-1/2 lbs Velveeta, sliced
1 jar diced pimento
12 oz. beer

Melt butter in large soup pot. Add vegetables and cook until tender, but before onion begins to brown. Add flour and stir until fully absorbed. Slowly add broth, stirring after each addition. Bring to boil; simmer for 20 minutes. Add Velveeta and stir until completely melted. Add pimento and beer. Stir continuously until heated throughout. Serve with popcorn.



Space Heater Safety



Many people turn to space heaters as a convenient source of warmth in winter months. However, space heaters can be dangerous if not used properly. East Grand Forks Water and Light offers these tips for using your electric space heater safely:

- Keep heater at least 3 feet from flammable items such as curtains, furniture or bedspreads.
- Select a space heater with a guard around the heating element
- Read and follow the manufacturer's operating instructions.

- Keep children and pets away from space heaters.
- Never leave a space heater unattended. Always unplug the heater when it is not in use.
- Never go to sleep with a space heater still operating.
- Never use or store flammable liquids near space heaters.
- Do not use a heater in a bathroom. Parts of the heater could be damaged by a high-moisture area.
- Keep heaters away from water to prevent electrocution
- Do not use an extension

cord or power strip with a space heater.

- Do not use the heater to dry clothes.
- Be sure the heater's plug fits snugly in an outlet. If the unit's cord and plug feel hot, unplug the heater and have a qualified repair person check for problems.
- Inspect cord periodically. Do not use a heater with a damaged cord.
- Do not attempt to repair a broken heater yourself. It should be checked and repaired by a qualified appliance service center.



What does it cost to operate a space heater?

Each space heater is labeled with the wattage of the unit, which is approximately 1,500 watts. The cost to operate a 1,500 watt heater continuously for one hour, for example, is

- $1,500 \text{ watts} / 1,000 \text{ watts per kilowatt} \times 9.889\text{¢ per kWh (EGF Water and Light current energy rate)} = 14.8 \text{ cents per hour of use.}$
- If used 10 hours per day for 30 days, electric space heating can add **\$44.40** to your electric bill in one month and can amount to more if operated longer.