

January 20, 2026

Subject: Notice of Water and Sewer Bylaw Changes Effective January 1, 2026

Dear Maple Ridge Residents and Businesses:

City Council has approved updates to the Waterworks and Sewer Rate Bylaws (Maple Ridge Fees and Charges Bylaw No. 8084-2025) to better align with Metro Vancouver's fee structure and support fair, transparent billing. These changes take effect on January 1, 2026.

What's Changing

1. Seasonal water rates for metered accounts:

- To reflect regional demand patterns, metered water accounts will move to seasonal rates:
 - Low season: January 1–April 30 and October 1–December 31
 - High season: May 1–September 30
- Seasonal fee charge structure encourages water conservation during dry periods, while maintaining lower rates during cooler, wetter months.

2. Lower fixed water base rate:

- The fixed “base” portion of the water bill will decrease.
- A larger share of your bill will be based on how much water you use, giving you more control over your total costs through conservation.

3. Consumption-based sewer fees for non-residential or mixed classed properties:

- Non-residential (commercial, industrial, and institutional) properties with metered water will transition to a sewer fee based on measured water consumption.
- All properties or stratas that have any property/unit that is not residential class will be moved from flat rate sewer to the new sewer rate on the quarterly meter bill.
- This approach improves equity by aligning sewer charges with actual usage.

What to expect on your quarterly metered utility bill in 2026

- Metered water accounts will show seasonal rates applied to consumption that occurs within each season.
- The fixed water base rate will be lower than in prior years.

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- Non-residential and properties/stratas with mixed use classes, their metered water accounts will see a sewer charge calculated from metered water use. The sewer flat fee will be removed from the Tax notice.

What you may need to do

- Consider water-saving practices to manage your bill under the more consumption-based structure.
- Ensure your water meter is remotely accessible so consumption can be accurately recorded for water and sewer billing.
- Businesses – if you are currently using water for purposes that do not enter the sanitary sewer system, contact us.

Why we're making these changes

- Alignment with Metro Vancouver's regional structure promotes consistency across the region.
- A lower base rate and greater emphasis on consumption improves fairness and supports conservation.
- Consumption-based sewer fees better reflect system use.

Learn more and get support

- Full bylaw and rate schedules will be available on the City's website ahead of the 2026 billing cycle.
- For questions or to discuss your account, please contact Revenue Services waterbill@mapleridge.ca or call 604-467-7316.

Thank you for your attention to these important updates. We appreciate your partnership in using our water and sewer systems responsibly and sustainably.

Sincerely,

City of Maple Ridge
Revenue Services