



RIVERBEND RIVERBANK WATER IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT
461 SW Hebb Park Road
West Linn, OR 97068-9403

P.O. Box 1155
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November 1, 2022

To All Riverbend Riverbank Water Improvement District Customers:

Please be advised that as of January 1st, 2023, RRWD monthly water fees will increase from \$55.00 per month to \$75.00 per month. Your board of directors voted unanimously to implement the change for several important reasons:

1. Increased costs for virtually all facets of our operation

From electricity to replacement pumps; to the electronics used to monitor operations; to the cost of labor; to the cost of replacing broken or deteriorated water lines; to the cost of diesel fuel for the auxiliary generator; to insurance coverage; our costs have increased significantly since the last general price increase in 2015.

2. Aging equipment in the pumphouse and water distribution lines

Equipment has always been replaced on an “as needed” basis, after reviewing several options, but the costs have skyrocketed over time. We recently replaced the two primary distribution pumps in the pumphouse and may also need to replace the pumps in the well field in the near future as well. We have also had to rebuild the chlorine pump this past year but were able to accomplish this internally.

3. Building district reserves for future contingencies

RRWD’s current financial reserves currently stand at just under \$90,000 and have been slowly building over time. The board is concerned that with much of the distribution lines already past the original service life, a major disaster could leave RRWD unable to supply water. Our insurance will cover the pumphouse and reservoir, but not the underground distribution lines as they are under county roads and residents’ properties. The cost for a total replacement would likely be close to \$2 million. Currently, line replacements have been completed on a “break-fix” basis, but the board feels that building reserves now will be the best route to ensuring preparedness for the future as opposed to any large one-time assessments.

We realize that there is never a good time to implement a rate increase and have studied our new rates versus the City of West Linn, Wilsonville, Lake Oswego, and Sherwood. Our price is still lower than surrounding areas.

Thank you for your support.

Jack Chernus
President
Riverbend Riverbank Water Improvement District