

**Proposition 218 Notification  
Notice of Public Hearing  
Water Rate Adjustments**

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**Hearing Date and Time: Thursday June 28, 2018, at 6:30 P.M.  
Hearing Location: Washington Elementary School 15384 School St**

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This letter is to advise you that the Washington County Water District (WCWD) Board of Directors has adopted a five year water rate schedule adjustment for all residential and commercial customers. The rate schedule will be presented at a Public Hearing on June 28 at 6:30 P.M. at Washington Elementary School. You are receiving this notice in compliance with California Proposition 218 requirements that all impacted property owners are mailed notice of proposed rate changes at least 45 days prior to a public hearing.

If you have any questions in regard to this notice, please call WCWD at (530) 265-4720

**BASIS OF PROPOSED RATES**

WCWD is required by State law and board policy to collect revenues sufficient to fund current and future costs of operating, maintaining and administering the existing water system as well as to fund the capital improvements and infrastructure replacement program. These revenues allow WCWD to protect public health and safely and reliably provide safe drinking water to the community. By State law, WCWD may not collect more revenue than is necessary to recover the costs of providing services. The proposed rates were developed through a comprehensive Water Rate Study designed to meet all legal requirements and fairly and equitably recover the required revenue. The Water Rate Study was prepared by Rural Community Assistance Corporation (RCAC) and provides a detailed explanation of the projected inflationary impact on operating costs and is available for review by the public at WCWD Office, upstairs at the Fire House.

**WHY WASHINGTON COUNTY WATER DISTRICT WATER RATES MUST BE  
ADJUSTED**

Customer water rates are the primary source of revenue to operate the WCWD's water system. These rates generate the revenue to operate the systems and invest in necessary upgrades. To continue the WCWD's long tradition of providing reliable water services to our customers, rate increases are necessary to cover increasing operational costs and save for future system replacements and improvements. Water rates have not been adjusted in a number of years. Because WCWD has historically billed water usage on a flat rate basis, the rates have not been equitable to its customers. A customer using 1,000 gallons of water per month has paid the same

water bill as a customer using 50,000 gallons per month. Water meters were installed for each connection in 2015. Since that time, WCWD has been tracking usage by meter with the intention of charging for usage when all the meters had been installed. The approved rate adjustment will have no impact on the bill of those connections using less than 5,000 gallons per month. While WCWD works diligently to contain costs, lab testing, utility costs, insurance and contract services continue to increase annually. Reserve accounts must be funded for emergencies and replacement of short lived assets and long term replacements and improvements to the system. The proposed rate adjustment was recommended by RCAC after extensive analysis and alternate adjustment considerations.

**Proposition 218 Public Hearing Procedure**

All property owners and other interested persons are invited to attend the hearing and present written and/or oral comments. As an owner or customer of record of a parcel subject to the imposition of the proposed rate adjustments, you may submit a written protest against the proposed rate changes. If written protests against the proposed rate adjustment are presented by a majority of the owners of property that is subject to the rate change prior to the end of the hearing, the Board cannot implement the change. Only one written protest will be counted per identified parcel.

Written protests must include:

- Your signature and date
- Your name typed or printed under the signature
- The address of the property; and
- An affirmation that you are the owner of the property

Written protests will **not** be accepted by e-mail or fax. Verbal protests will **not** be counted. Written protests must be received (not postmarked) prior to the close of the public hearing. Written protests may be submitted to:

<b><u>Delivered in Person</u></b>	<b><u>Submitted by Mail</u></b>
FIRE HOUSE	WCWD
15406 WASHINGTON RD	PO BOX 34
WASHINGTON, CA 95986	WASHINGTON, CA 95986

**PROPOSED MONTHLY RATE SCHEDULE**

The rate schedule as adopted at a Regular Monthly Public Meeting on Mary 10th is set forth below. The first year water base rate will remain at \$50.00 per connection per month. 5,000 gallons per month are included in the base fee. Usage fees of \$0.00325 per gallon will be charged for all usage over 5,000 gallons per month. Subsequent years will require a 3% annual increase to both the base rate and usage fees to keep up with projected inflation.

**MONTHLY RATE SCHEDULES AS ADOPTED IN RESOLUTION NO. XX-XXX**

Year	Base Rate	Per Gallon Charge for 5,000 or Less Gallons per Month	Per Gallon Charge for Over 5,000 Gallons per Month
2018	\$ 50.00	\$ -	\$ 0.00325
2019	\$ 51.50	\$ -	\$ 0.00335
2020	\$ 53.05	\$ -	\$ 0.00345
2021	\$ 54.64	\$ -	\$ 0.00355
2022	\$ 56.28	\$ -	\$ 0.00366