



## WELCOME SPRING WITH LANDSCAPING & GARDENING

The photo above was taken by Kim Frazier, Photography Chair of the Perrysburg Country Garden Club. The club hosted a meeting at The District in March and discussed water conservation efforts while beautifying the region.

Volume IX | Issue V

### WINTER AVERAGING

If you notice a change in your sewer charge on your bill this month, it's because May is the first month we begin a new cycle of winter averaging. Winter averaging is a billing method developed to give you the best possible break on sewer billing costs.

If you are eligible, this method takes the water consumption used in the winter quarter as the basis for billing sewer charges throughout the year. You will not be paying additional sewer charges for warm weather purposes such as watering lawns, washing cars, landscaping, gardening, or filling pools.

Water meter reads from February, March and April are averaged. The average of these three reads is used to bill sewer charges through the following April. The new winter average amount will be billed with the May bill each year.

If the actual water usage is less than the winter average usage, then the actual usage will be billed. If the winter average usage is lower than the actual usage, then winter average usage will be billed.

Eligible customers are automatically put on winter averaging. The eligibility requirements are:

- Residence must be an owner-occupied, single-family dwelling. Rental units are not eligible for winter averaging.

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**Responsible for every drop.**

### RATE STUDY

The District has been delivering reliable water service since 1994, thanks to hundreds of miles of pipe and dedicated people working around the clock.

As The District has expanded over the past two decades, we have gradually absorbed a variety of rate structures and funding models to avoid disruptions in customer service or billing. Over time, this has resulted in a confusing mix of billing processes for our customers.

The District is now conducting a rate study to modernize and simplify the rate structure and to ensure we keep rates fair, equitable, and tied to the demand customers place on our water system. *Continued on page 2*

### POOL FILLING TIPS

The average home owner uses about 6,000 gallons of water per month. The average pool is somewhere between 15,000-30,000 gallons. That means your water bill could more than double when you fill or replace the water in your pool from a hose. Winter averaging may be already in place, so filling should not impact your sewer bill. Before you fill, we recommend you check your hose and spigot for leaks, as this could add costs. There are options, such as hiring a professional water hauler. If you have questions about how filling your pool will impact your bill, contact us.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

**District Board of Trustees Meetings** are held the second and fourth Thursday of every month at 7:30 a.m. Board meetings are open to the public.

**THE DISTRICT OFFICES WILL BE CLOSED MONDAY, MAY 27 TO OBSERVE MEMORIAL DAY.**



Above: The bulk water station at The District facility on SR 582 is open for the season. Licensed haulers can contact 419-354-9090 for an access card.

#### Mission

Our goal is to be the premier water and wastewater provider in Northwestern Ohio. We are committed to sound financial management, responsible environmental stewardship, responsive public service, superior customer service, and responsible economic growth. We strive to field a skilled, respectful, and cooperative workforce dedicated to the highest professional and ethical standards; we support them with appropriate training and technology.

# CONSTRUCTION CORNER

## CURRENT PROJECTS

### LAKE TOWNSHIP – WATERLINE & SEWER INSTALLATION

Through September, watch for shoulder restrictions and construction traffic along Tracy Road from SR 795 to Keller Road for sewer installation. Project complete: September. Project investment: \$520,000.

### NORTHWOOD/ROSSFORD - LEAD SERVICE LINE REPLACEMENT

Through June, crews will be replacing lead service lines throughout western Northwood. Additionally, lane restrictions are possible in Rossford for restoration. Project investment: \$900,000.

For more information, go to

[nwwsd.org/lead](http://nwwsd.org/lead).

### PERRYSBURG TOWNSHIP - SANITARY SEWER REPAIR

Through May, intermittent lane restrictions are possible throughout Perrysburg Township for sewer repair. Project investment \$998,000.

### ROSSFORD - SEWER REPLACEMENT

Through June, watch for shoulder restrictions and construction crews on roads north of Eagle Point Road for sewer lining. Project complete: June. Project investment: \$767,000.

For updates on all construction projects, visit:

[nwwsd.org](http://nwwsd.org)



Above Photo: Concrete restoration work in Rossford to wrap up the lead service line replacement project. We appreciate everyone's patience during construction.

# WINTER AVERAGING

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- At least one of the three monthly reads must be an actual read (if the estimates are due to a meter reporting problem). An account with a zero read in any of the 3 months will not be eligible for winter averaging.
- A customer must have a winter average usage above 150 cf during the February, March, and April calculation period to be eligible for winter averaging.
- Residents with a second sprinkling meter are not eligible for winter averaging.
- A new customer must have an entire month's usage in February, March, and April in order to be eligible for winter averaging.
- New construction residential customers may be eligible for a class average winter average of 6,000 gallons (800 Cubic Feet) due to irrigation of new lawns during the summer months.

Most eligible customers are put on winter averaging automatically. If you ask to be removed from this billing method, you will be billed based on 100% of the water consumed each quarter.

It may be beneficial for you to decline the winter average option if you have high winter water consumption or low usage in the warmer weather.

You will remain on this 100% billing unless you submit a written request asking to be placed back on the winter average billing.

# RATE STUDY UPDATE

*Continued from page 1*

We are reviewing our cost to provide water service per customer class (residential, multi-family, industrial, etc.) to assess whether the revenue coming from those customer classes aligns with the costs to serve them.

As we continue to work on the study, we will provide more information online, through social media and in our upcoming newsletters. If you have questions, please go to [www.nwwsd.org/rates](http://www.nwwsd.org/rates).



# CONTACT THE DISTRICT

**VISIT :** 12560 Middleton Pike,

Bowling Green, Ohio

**MAIL:** P.O. Box 348,

Bowling Green, Ohio 43402.

**HOURS:** Weekdays

8:00am to 5:00pm

**PHONE:** 877.354.9090

**EMERGENCY/AFTER HOURS**

**PHONE:** 419.354.9001

**Web:** [nwwsd.org](http://nwwsd.org)



[district@nwwsd.org](mailto:district@nwwsd.org)



Northwestern Water and  
Sewer District



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