

Municipal Water and Sewer Department Bennet, Nebraska



The following procedures apply to all customers of the Bennet Municipal Water and Sewer Department.

RESIDENTIAL OR COMMERCIAL WATER RATES: Resident and Commercial water customers are charged a flat monthly minimum of \$28.50 for -0- water use and charged separately for their water used at \$5.60/1,000 gallons.

SEWER RATES: Resident and Commercial sewer customers are charged a flat base rate of \$24.00 monthly, plus a usage rate of \$6.00 per 1,000 gallons of water used. Resident customer usage rates are calculated each year from the average gallons of water consumed in January, February, and March. The sewer average will be charged until April of the following year when new sewer use rates are established. New residents are charged according to the community average after the 3-month calculations. The 2023 charge for new accounts is 3,344 gallons be month. Commercial customer's sewer usage is calculated each month.

NON-RESIDENT WATER RATE: (All premises served outside the corporate limits)
Water: Monthly Minimum base rate with zero water used of \$34.50, plus \$5.60/1,000 Gallons of water.

Sewer Note: *Sewer service is not generally provided for non-residents.*

BULK RATE: (those who occasionally purchase water by permit) Refundable deposit of \$500.00 for use of a city-owned water meter. Upon return of the meter, the deposit will be returned to the recipient. Additionally, \$48.00 is due for the first 1,000 gallons of water, plus \$5.00 per additional 1,000 gallons of water used.

RADIO READ ANTENNAE: The monthly meter reads are done each month by the Utility Maintenance staff. They use a handheld device that automatically connects with the radio antennae on each meter. The meter pit is usually within 5 ft of the edge of the road along the front of the property line. Please be aware of the antennae when mowing or driving over the lawn. If this is broken due to negligence on the part of the property owner, an additional charge of \$240.26 will be added to next month's utility invoice. This is what is similar to what will be seen on the edge of your property:



The following charges and rates apply to existing services. For additional fees associated with connection of a new utility service, refer to the “Water/Sewer Installation Application”:

Water meters will be read between the 26th and the 28th of each month. A utility bill will be generated, on or about the first of each month, for each customer receiving water services from the City of Bennet.

Water and sewer usage will be charged by separate monthly minimums, based on -0- usage, plus the applicable rate per 1,000 gallons of water used, or any portion thereof.

Change of account/name is a \$25.00 (nonrefundable) transfer fee.

\$25.00 fee for any voluntary service disconnection.

\$100.00 fee for reconnection of preexisting services.

An additional charge of \$100.00 for a service inspection of any residence disconnected for a period of 6 months or more. Further charges may be assessed for material or parts deemed necessary by the Utility Superintendent.

No deposit will be required of new utility customers, regardless of their status as property owners or tenants. All accounts remain the eventual responsibility of the property owners. Invoices are issued on the first of the month and are due and payable upon receipt. A late fee of 10% will be assessed to all utility accounts not paid in full by the 15th day of each month. A late fee invoice/disconnect notice will be sent to all account holders with notice of disconnection on the seven business days after date on invoice.

MULTI-PREMISES: In the instance of a multi-resident or business structure such as an apartment, duplex, and multi-office rentals, where more than one customer unit is supplied through the same meter; the owner of the premises will be billed for all water consumed, one minimum of \$28.50, plus \$10.00 a month per additional customer unit. Only one bill will be computed for each meter.

GARBAGE: Garbage fees are automatically billed with the water/sewer utilities monthly at a rate of \$23.00 per month per premise unless proof of a commercial refuse company is provided.

EFT/ACH: Utility customers have the option to pay their account automatically every month via automatic bank transfer directly from their checking account. Please contact the city office for more information on this convenience.

ONLINE/IN OFFICE PAYMENT OPTIONS: Utility customers can pay their utility invoices online via the City’s website: cityofbennet.com, in the City Office using one of three options, credit card, debit card or e-check.

DISPUTED CHARGES: To dispute charges or usage, please contact the city office. Steps can be taken to check and correct billing errors. In the event you disagree with a decision of the Utility Superintendent or City Clerk concerning your water bill, you have the right to appeal to the City Board of Trustees. A request for an appeal must be submitted in writing to the City Clerk’s office.