



March 21, 2024

Attn: Gull Lake Sewer & Water Authority Customers
Re: Sewer Rate Increase
(Effective for bills rendered as of 3/31/2024)

Dear Authority Customer,

The Authority appreciates everyone's understanding as we made the commitments to boost our operating funds and work on capital improvement projects with the significant rate increase last year. These commitments continue in our 2024/25 fiscal year with a modest rate increase of \$2 per month, equivalent to 3.6%. This rate increase is reflective of the increase in the cost of living at 3.2% plus 0.4% to continue to add capital funds for repairs and replacements, recognize the 7.5% increase in sewer treatment charges, and continue preventive maintenance projects.

The Authority is notifying our customers that the sewer rate **will increase from \$55 / month per REU to \$57 / month per REU.**

Some of the changes we have implemented over the past couple of years include:

- The purchase of a state-of-the-art vactor truck essential for preventive maintenance on the sewer lines.
- The addition of field staff to assist in the day-to-day operation and management of the system, as well as support for emergencies and planned projects.
- Improved payment methods that not only offer more payment options, but also provide residence with the ability to maintain auto payments and review past invoices online.
- The purchase of 1 generator to replace an older, unreliable generator and to add support to lift stations in the event of power outages which prevent sewer backups in your homes and businesses.

The staff continues to offer 24/7 response to sewer emergencies and a commitment to offer the best customer service.

Respectfully,

John Crumb, Executive Director
Gull Lake Sewer & Water Authority