

*Your Water News Resource*

**Cottonwood**  
Water & Sanitation District

### Next Meeting of the Board

Thursday, Jan. 18, 2024 @ 6:30pm  
at the Joint Water Purification Plant  
8051 S Jordan Rd, Englewood, CO

**The Public is Invited to Attend**

## New Remittance Address

**We have moved!** If you use your bank to pay with bill pay, please update the remittance address with your bank to avoid any service interruption:

**58 Inverness Drive East Suite 100  
Englewood, CO 80112**

## 2024 Transparency Notice

Each year the District publishes a Transparency Notice that lists important information for you, our customer, to know. It includes meeting dates and times, meeting locations, website address and board member information.

You can also find the notice, as well as answers to frequently asked questions and other District information on our website at [www.cottonwoodwater.org](http://www.cottonwoodwater.org).

## Understand Your Winter Average

You may have noticed an item on your Cottonwood Water & Sanitation bill that says "winter average." Your winter average is determined from an average of water consumption records from December–March. The purpose of this calculation is to identify indoor use averages that can be applied year round, especially during the summer when irrigation is occurring.

**This average is calculated each March to be used for the next 12 months.** It's imperative that you keep an eye out for leaks, running toilets, and dripping faucets during these months to make certain your winter average stays low to keep your fees at a minimum for the rest of the year.

To see your water usage data and set up leak detection for your home, we highly recommend using the EyeOnWater app. This app is free for you to use and will help you understand your water use trends. To sign up, use the link on our website at [www.cottonwoodwater.org](http://www.cottonwoodwater.org) or use this QR Code:



# Terms and Fees Explained

When you receive your monthly water bill, you may notice that there are several fees associated with service within the Cottonwood Water and Sanitation District. But what do these fees mean, and what does the money cover?

**Water/Sewer Base Rates:** Base fee for water for everyone in the district. This is even applied to accounts where no one has turned on the water. These fees cover the costs of meter reading, operational costs, billing, repairs, customer service, and maintenance.

**Water Usage:** Fees paid based on actual water consumption. Using more than your monthly allocation means that you will be billed at a higher amount per 1,000 gallons used. Allocations are increased during the summer months to allow for irrigation. These rates are tiered depending on usage. Please see "2023 Residential Charges and Allocations" under the Reports/Forms section of our website for more details on the tiers and associated fees.

**Allocation:** The amount of water you are allowed per month, based on lot size, number of occupants, and your winter average. You can find your allocation by using our allocation calculator at: [www.cottonwoodwater.org](http://www.cottonwoodwater.org)

**Winter Average:** Determined from the previous winter's water consumption records (Dec-Mar). This calculation is used to identify indoor use averages that can be applied year-round, especially during the summer when outdoor watering is occurring. The average is recalculated each March to be used for the next 12 months.

**Sanitary Sewer:** The total of your sewer base rate plus a monthly usage charge based on your winter average. This fee helps to cover the maintenance personnel and equipment used to service the sewer lines and other operating costs.


**Stormwater:** Many customers in our district pay a base fee for stormwater. Through an intergovernmental partnership, all collected stormwater fees by the district are transferred to the Town of Parker. The Town of Parker is responsible for the maintenance, repair, and upgrades of the infrastructure associated with stormwater management. For more information, visit the Town of Parker website at: <https://www.parkeronline.org/329/Stormwater-Utility>

**Late Fees:** Past due account balances are assessed at 3% late fee to cover the administrative costs of late notices and managing failed payments.

**Involuntary Disconnect Fee:** This \$50 fee is added to accounts that are past due to the point they are disconnected. This is due along with the full balance in order to reconnect service.

**Understanding your water bill is the first step to changing your water use in the future. The more you understand, the more you can conserve water and save money!**

## Clearing the Snow



After the snow falls, avoid using salt to aid in clearing your driveways and sidewalks, as it can have a negative impact on the ecosystems of our gardens, creeks, and streams. Instead, shovel the snow as soon as it stops falling to avoid ice. A broom works great to clear light snow. Toss cleared snow onto your yard so your lawn and trees can benefit from the snow as it melts. Use a scraper or ice chopper for thick patches of ice and snow instead of salt. Your lawn will thank you!

Happy  
New Year



**Cottonwood**  
**Water & Sanitation District**

58 Inverness Drive East #100  
Englewood, CO 80112

During normal business hours call:  
303-792-9509

After-Hours Water Emergencies:  
303-426-3167

Visit Our Website:

[www.cottonwoodwater.org](http://www.cottonwoodwater.org)