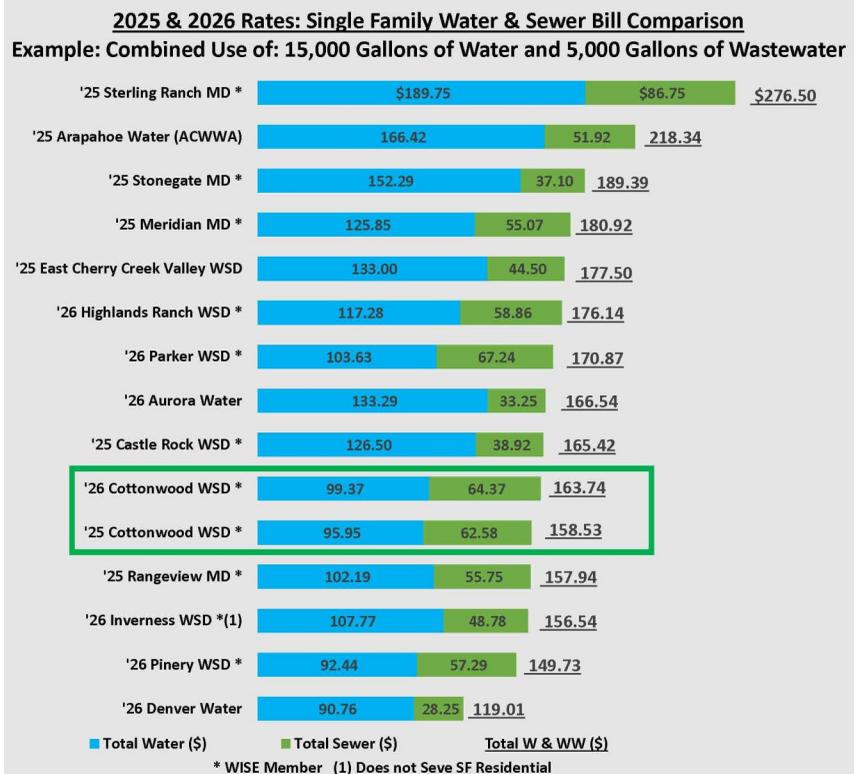




## New Water Rates for 2026

The Cottonwood Water and Sanitation District Board of Directors approved new water and wastewater rates at the November meeting, effective January 1, 2026. The average in rate crease is 3.13%, helping offset rising wholesale water costs from the WISE Authority. WISE water, combined with our Cherry Creek supplies treated at the Joint Water Purification Plant, enables the District to meet more than 80% of its demand with renewable supplies.

Through efficient system operations and strong regional partnerships, our service fees remain highly competitive among water providers in the Denver South region. The District's rate structure is designed to support both fixed and variable operating costs while encouraging conservation by our rate payers. This chart highlights how Cottonwood's 2026 rates compare with neighboring providers, many of which have not yet adopted their 2026 rates.



**Table 1**

### Water Use Fees

Tier:	2025 Water Service Fee Per 1,000 Gallons	2026 Water Service Fee Per 1,000 Gallons	Percentage of Yr to Yr Increase
<b>Conserving:</b> Use up to 100% of Allocation	\$4.86	\$5.05	4.00%
<b>Excessive:</b> Use exceeds the Conserving tier, up to 150%	\$9.72	\$10.11	
<b>Abusive:</b> Use exceeds the Excessive tier	\$14.57	\$15.15	

### Wastewater Use Fees

2025 Sewer Service Fee Per 1,000 Gallons	2026 Sewer Service Fee Per 1,000 Gallons	Percentage of Year to Year Increase
\$9.38	\$9.66	3.00%

**Table 2**

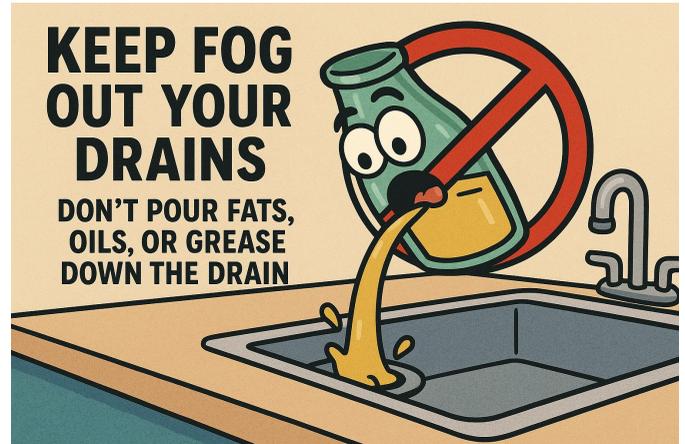
### Water & Wastewater Base Fees

	2025		2026		Percentage of Yr to Yr Increase	
	Water	Sewer	Water	Sewer	Water	Sewer
<b>Base Fee</b>	\$23.05	\$15.68	\$23.74	\$16.07	3.00%	2.50%

## Keep Your Drains Happy for the Holidays

Keep your drains running smoothly this holiday season. With all the extra cooking and kitchen activity, it's easy for pipes to get overwhelmed. Blocked drains can quickly turn into headaches you'd rather avoid. To steer clear of any sewer mishaps, keep these tips in mind:

- ◆ **Fats, oils and grease, known as FOG, should never be poured down the drain.** That includes meat fats, cooking oil, butter, margarine, sauces, soups, dairy products and even baked goods!
- ◆ **Place leftover grease in containers with lids and throw them away on trash pick-up day.**
- ◆ **Wipe greasy dishes and pans with a paper towel before washing.**



## Have Vacation Plans During the Holidays?

Before you leave for vacation this winter... Please protect your home from frozen pipes! Here is some advise from the District's Operations Team:

- ◆ Shut off your main water supply to prevent water from flowing into pipes while you're away.
- ◆ Drain indoor and outdoor plumbing lines, including irrigation systems and hose bibs.
- ◆ Set your thermostat no lower than 55° F to keep indoor temperatures warm enough to prevent freezing.
- ◆ Open cabinet doors under sinks to allow warm air to reach pipes.
- ◆ Insulate exposed pipes in unheated areas such as basements, crawlspaces, garages, and exterior walls.
- ◆ Check and secure your water heater, and consider setting it to vacation mode.
- ◆ Have a trusted neighbor or caretaker check your home regularly during extreme cold snaps.
- ◆ Seal drafty areas, especially near plumbing, to prevent cold air from collecting around pipes.
- ◆ Consider using the EyeOnWater App to access your meter from anywhere and set it for smart leak-detection to receive alerts and early warnings in the event of a water leak that could affect negatively your water bill.

Please remember that water breaks caused by frozen pipes can lead to significant property damage and expensive repairs. Taking preventive steps before you head on vacation helps keep your home safe all winter long!



# Cottonwood

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## Water & Sanitation District

### Upcoming Monthly Public Board Meetings :

- ◆ Dec. 2025: Thursday, December 18, 2025, starting at 6:30 pm— Sandreed Circle, Parker.CO
  - ◆ Jan. 2026: Thursday, January 15<sup>1</sup>, 2025, starting at 6:30 pm—8051 S Jordan Rd, Englewood. CO
  - ◆ Feb. 2026: Thursday, February 19<sup>1</sup>, 2025, starting at 6:30 pm— Sandreed Circle, Parker.CO
- \* 2026 Board Meeting dates to be confirmed during the December 18, 2025 Public Meeting.

The Public is Invited to Attend!

### District Contact Information

Office: 58 Inverness Drive East. Englewood, CO. 80112

Office Hours: 8:00 am—5:00 pm | 303-792-9509 | email: [www.cottonwoodwater@mulhernmre.com](mailto:www.cottonwoodwater@mulhernmre.com)

After-Hours Water & Wastewater Emergencies, PLEASE CALL 303-426-3167

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