



Advanced Engineering and Environmental Services, Inc.

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## 2010 AE2S Annual North Central Region Utility Rate Survey

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**INSTRUCTIONS:** Please complete the survey (7 pages) and fax, mail, or email as a PDF to:

**Fax:** 701-746-0370  
Attention: Sheryl Smith

**Mail:** Sheryl Smith  
AE2S  
2016 Washington Street South  
Grand Forks, ND 58201

**Email:** Sheryl.Smith@ae2s.com

**An electronic copy of this document, which can be completed and submitted online, is available at [www.ae2s.com](http://www.ae2s.com).**

*All survey participants will receive a complimentary copy of the utility rate survey report. AE2S reserves the right to limit the distribution of surveys to survey participants.*

**>>>Please complete and return by March 22, 2010<<<**

**City:** \_\_\_\_\_ **State:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Population:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Population Served by Utility:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Contact Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Title:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Contact Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

Please provide the following information for each person you would like to receive a copy of the rate survey report booklet:

Name	Title	Address	Zip



## Residential Wastewater Rate Information

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**Treatment System Type:**

- Mechanical
- Lagoon
- Outsourced

Outsource to: \_\_\_\_\_  
(system name)

**Billing is in:**

- 1,000 Gallons
- 100 cubic feet

**Effective Date of Rate:** \_\_\_\_\_  
(month / year)

**What type of Residential Wastewater Rate Structure(s) do you currently use?**

- Flat Fee (set \$\$ per month)
- Constant Block (set \$\$ per 1,000 gallons or CCF)
- Declining Block
- Inclining Block
- Seasonal, if so, choose:  summer or  winter
- Other, please specify: \_\_\_\_\_

**Did you increase your residential wastewater rates for 2010?**  No  Yes

**Do you anticipate your wastewater utility rates going up next year (2011)?**

- No  Yes, our projected percentage increase is: \_\_\_\_\_

Current Residential Wastewater Rate				
Base Rate: (Meter Charge)	\$	Includes _____ (choose one)		<input type="checkbox"/> gallons or <input type="checkbox"/> cubic feet
1st Increment	\$	Per		<input type="checkbox"/> gallons or <input type="checkbox"/> cubic feet
Next Increment	\$	Per		<input type="checkbox"/> gallons or <input type="checkbox"/> cubic feet
Next Increment	\$	Per		<input type="checkbox"/> gallons or <input type="checkbox"/> cubic feet
Other Charges*: _____	\$			

Residential Wastewater Rate Verification		
Based on 7,500 gallons or 10.03 CCF average water use, please calculate the monthly wastewater charge		
	7, 500 Gallons	10.03 CCF
Base Rate	\$	\$
1st Increment	\$	\$
Next Increment	\$	\$
Next Increment	\$	\$
Other Charges*: _____	\$	\$
<b>Total of fees listed above</b>	<b>= \$</b>	<b>= \$</b>

**If you charge for Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD),**

Above what concentration: \_\_\_\_\_ mg/l?  
What is the rate: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ /lb.?

**If you charge for Total Suspended Solids (TSS),**

Above what concentration: \_\_\_\_\_ mg/l?  
What is the rate: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ /lb.?

## Residential Stormwater Rate Information

Do you charge a separate fee for residential **stormwater**?

<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<p><b>What is the monthly average residential <b>stormwater</b> charge?</b> _____</p> <p><b>Please indicate how the stormwater charge is collected:</b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Included in monthly utility billing</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Collected with property taxes</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other (please explain)</p> <p>_____</p> <p><b>How is it calculated?</b> (flat fee per household, based on property size, type, etc.)</p> <p>_____</p>
<input type="checkbox"/> No	<p><b>If no, is your city considering implementing a <b>stormwater</b> fee?</b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes, Anticipated implementation date: _____</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No</p>

Did you increase your residential **stormwater** rates for 2010?  No  Yes

Do you anticipate your **stormwater** utility rates going up next year (2011)?

No  Yes, our projected percentage increase is: \_\_\_\_\_

## Landfill Tipping Fee Information

Please indicate the type of landfill:

- City Owned, City Landfill
- City Owned, Regional Landfill
- County Owned Landfill
- Landfill Owned by Other Entity, please indicate which entity: \_\_\_\_\_

Landfill Charges:		
	Resident	Non-Resident
Minimum Charge	\$	\$
Solid Waste Fee (per ton)	\$	\$
Inert Material (per ton)	\$	\$
Appliances	\$	\$
Furniture	\$	\$
Refrigerated Appliances	\$	\$

Landfill Restrictions (Please indicate any classes of items not accepted):

\_\_\_\_\_

## Residential Solid Waste Information

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**Solid Waste Collection:**

- Public Operation (City)
- Private Contractor

**Containers are provided:**

- Yes
- No
- Bags are provided

**Please list container sizes and applicable fee:**

Container Size	Basic Monthly Fee	Fee for Additional Bags or Containers
	\$	\$
	\$	\$
	\$	\$
	\$	\$
	\$	\$

**Additional Services:**

Please indicate if additional services are provided in the residential garbage rate or are available for an additional fee, and indicate what that fee is:

	Included in Basic Garbage Rate	Additional Fee (Indicate Fee)
Yard Waste Pickup		\$
Brush Collection		\$
Appliance Pick-Up		\$
Refrigerated Appliance Pick-Up		\$
Tires		\$
Christmas Trees		\$
Leaves		\$

## Recycling Program Information

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**Is there a recycling service offered in your community?**

- Yes, City-owned**
- Yes, Privately Owned**
  - Recycle drop-off location in community
  - Residential pick-up
    - Are containers provided?
      - Yes
      - No
    - Are there specific container requirements?
      - Yes, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_
      - \_\_\_\_\_
    - No

- No, there is no recycling service offered**

## Affordability Questions – for Calculation of Operating Ratios

Individual utility results will not be reported and will be kept confidential.

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What was your total 2009 Water Utility operating revenue? \_\_\_\_\_

What was your total 2009 Water Utility operating expense, excluding depreciation and debt service? \_\_\_\_\_

What was your total 2009 Water Utility depreciation and debt service expense? \_\_\_\_\_

What is the required debt service coverage ratio for the Water Utility? \_\_\_\_\_

In 2009, did water revenues  increase or  decrease from the previous year (2008)?

To what factors can the change be attributed? (check all that apply)

- Drought
- Above average precipitation
- Rate increase
- Growth
- Other, please specify: \_\_\_\_\_

What was your total 2009 Wastewater Utility operating revenue? \_\_\_\_\_

What was your total 2009 Wastewater Utility operating expense, excluding depreciation and debt service? \_\_\_\_\_

What was your total 2009 Wastewater Utility depreciation and debt service expense?  
\_\_\_\_\_

What is the required debt service coverage ratio for the Wastewater Utility? \_\_\_\_\_

## Financial Questions – for Calculation of Financial Ratios

Individual utility results will not be reported and will be kept confidential.

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Number of residential - water accounts: \_\_\_\_\_ wastewater accounts: \_\_\_\_\_

Estimated 2009 gallons per capita per day (gpcd): \_\_\_\_\_

Has the gpcd changed in recent years?  No  Yes,  increased or  decreased

To what factors can the change be attributed? (check all that apply)

- Drought
- Above average precipitation
- Rate increase
- Non-price conservation strategies
- Conservation rate structure
- Other, please specify: \_\_\_\_\_

Is the volumetric water rate the same for residential and commercial users?

No     Yes

If no, what is the commercial volumetric water rate for commercial users? \_\_\_\_\_

What percent of total City budget is spent on operation of the water utility? \_\_\_\_\_

What percent of total City budget is spent on operation of the wastewater utility? \_\_\_\_\_

### Street Light Utility Questions

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Do you have a Street Light Utility charge included with the utility bill?    No     Yes

If yes, how is the rate determined? \_\_\_\_\_

If yes, what is the average amount charged per residential account per billing cycle?

\_\_\_\_\_

If yes, what is the average amount charged per commercial account per billing cycle?

\_\_\_\_\_

### Conservation Questions

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What type of Non-Price Conservation Strategies has your utility implemented?

(check all that apply)

- Leak detection and repair program
- Sale/distribution of low-flow showerheads
- Toilet exchange rebates
- Washing machine exchange rebates
- Paid staff to support water conservation efforts
- Consumer education programs
- Technical assistance to help consumers detect leaks
- Metering of all billed and unbilled water use
- Periodic water audits to identify water loss
- Bulk sales of reclaimed water
- Other, please specify: \_\_\_\_\_

If you have a conservation rate structure, when was it implemented? \_\_\_\_\_  
(month/year)

***Thank you for participating in this year's survey!***