



Advanced Engineering and Environmental Services, Inc.

2010 AE2S Annual North Central Region Utility Rate Survey

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.

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 Water Rate Information

Water Source:

- Surface Water
 Ground Water
 Both Surface Water and Ground Water
 Purchased, from: _____
(system name)

Billing is in:

- 1,000 Gallons
 100 cubic feet

Frequency of Billing:

- Bi-monthly
 Monthly
 Quarterly
 Other: _____

Effective Date of Rate: _____
(month/year)

Does your plant incorporate:

- lime softening?** No Yes
membrane softening? No Yes

Did you increase your residential water rates for 2010? No Yes

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

- No Yes, our projected percentage increase is: _____

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

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

Current Residential Water Rates				
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
Additional Fees				
State Test Fee				
Other*: _____				

Residential Water Rate Verification		
Based on 7,500 gallons or 10.03 CCF average use, please calculate the monthly water charge.		
	7, 500 Gallons	10.03 CCF
Base Rate (Meter Charge)	\$	\$
1st Increment	\$	\$
Next Increment	\$	\$
Next Increment	\$	\$
Additional Fees	\$	\$
State Test Fee	\$	\$
Other*: _____	\$	\$
Total of fees listed above	= \$	= \$

**Note: Please include "other" water related charges only; not mosquito control, snow removal, stormwater, etc.*

This utility rate survey is based on 7,500 gallons per user average monthly residential water usage. What is the actual monthly average residential water use per user for your community: Metered Water Use Per User _____ (choose one) gallons or cubic feet

Residential Wastewater Rate Information

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*: _____	\$	\$
Total of fees listed above	= \$	= \$

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>What is the monthly average residential stormwater charge? _____</p> <p>Please indicate how the stormwater charge is collected:</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>How is it calculated? (flat fee per household, based on property size, type, etc.)</p> <p>_____</p>
<input type="checkbox"/> No	<p>If no, is your city considering implementing a stormwater fee?</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

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

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.

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.

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

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

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!