



## NOTICE TO CUSTOMERS

### Proposed Rate Structure Changes and Adjustments

Public hearing scheduled for August 16, 2010 at 6:00pm  
in the City Commission Chambers, City Hall

The Utilities Department has proposed a two year plan of 4% annual water, sewer and irrigation rate revenue adjustments in order to provide adequate revenue to meet the Utility's cost requirements for Fiscal Years 2011 and 2012. On August 16th the City of Sarasota will hold a public hearing to discuss the proposed rate increase. Listed below are a few of the notable changes included in the proposed rates.

- The number of residential inclining blocks for water service will go from three to five and the rates will be adjusted for consumption to provide an incentive for water conservation.
- Service availability charges for both water and sewer service will be adjusted to provide a fair and equitable distribution of costs for all customers. This adjusted charge will be applied to every utility customer connected to the system.
- The uniform water rate for all non-residential customers will be adjusted.
- Rates for irrigation accounts will be adjusted and remain at three tiers.
- Sewer service will now be billed based on two tiers starting at 1-4,000 gallons and then 4,001 gallons and above.
- Miscellaneous service charges will be adjusted to ensure the recipient of a specific service bears the costs associated with providing that service.

During the August 16th public hearings the Solid Waste Division will also be proposing a change in service. Beginning September 1, 2010, the City will be changing from two times per week collection to one time per week collection for residential garbage. With this change residential customers will see a \$3.00 reduction in their monthly solid waste bill along with an expanding recycling program that will now include the collection of plastics with a number 3,4,5,6 and 7 in addition to the number 1 and 2 plastics currently collected. Look for additional information regarding collection days and the new recycling program throughout the month of August.

The changes proposed to the Water and Sewer rates in conjunction with the Solid Waste rate rollback will mean a decrease in the average residential customer's water bill. Customers who use between 2,000 to 8,000 gallons of water which make up 72% of all residential customers will see a combined decrease on average of \$3.05 in their bill. For example, a resident who uses 4,000 gallons of water will see a decrease of 4.5% from what they are currently paying today.

In an effort to help residents determine how the proposed rate structure changes will affect their water bill, the City has created a payment calculator. The following link: [www.sarasotagov.com/rwrc.htm](http://www.sarasotagov.com/rwrc.htm) includes a table requiring the input of gallons. This payment calculator will allow City residents to manage their water consumption.

*Questions regarding this notice please call 955-2325 ext. 6329*

*Si tiene alguna pregunta concerniente a este aviso, por favor llámenos al 955-2325.*

*Asistencia en español esta disponible de Lunes a Viernes de 8 a.m. a 4 p.m.*

**City of Sarasota Utilities Department**

1750 12th Street, Sarasota, FL 34236