



# City of Cambridge

## FINANCE DEPARTMENT

LOUIS DePASQUALE  
Assistant City Manager/Finance

May 5, 2009

Dear Water/Sewer Customer:

The FY2010 water/sewer rates have been approved by the City administration and City Council. The water rates will increase by 2.7% and the sewer rates will increase by 7.9%. While the total FY10 Water Budget reflects a budget decrease of 3.4% from FY09 Projected and the total Sewer Budget reflects a 2.3% increase from FY09 Projected, which includes a 7.6% increase in the MWRA assessment, the impact of lower consumption, and therefore lower revenues, is driving the combined rate increase of 6.2%.

The following block rates will commence with the water/sewer usage as of April 1, 2009, and you will see the changes in bills issued as of July 1, 2009.

	Annual Consumption	FY09 Water Rate	FY10 Proposed Water Rate	FY09 Sewer Rate	FY10 Proposed Sewer Rate
<b>Block 1</b>	0 – 40 CcF	\$2.90	\$2.98	\$6.75	\$7.28
<b>Block 2</b>	41 – 400 CcF	\$3.11	\$3.19	\$7.15	\$7.71
<b>Block 3</b>	401 – 2,000 CcF	\$3.30	\$3.39	\$7.67	\$8.28
<b>Block 4</b>	2,001 – 10,000 CcF	\$3.51	\$3.60	\$8.27	\$8.92
<b>Block 5</b>	Over 10,000 CcF	\$3.80	\$3.90	\$8.79	\$9.48

All rates are per CcF. CcF is an abbreviation of 100 cubic feet. One CcF is approximately 750 gallons.

The following table represents the estimated average change to residential water/sewer bills.

Residential Type	FY09	FY10 Projected	Annual Variance	% Change
Single Family	\$680	\$722	\$42	6.2%
Two Family	\$900	\$956	\$56	6.2%
Three Family	\$1,360	\$1,444	\$84	6.2%

### Senior Discount Program

The City offers a 15% discount, not to exceed \$90, to residents 65 years of age or older who own and occupy their one, two or three family homes. *An application form is on the reverse side of this notice.* Any resident who was granted a Clause 41C elderly exemption on FY2009 real estate taxes will receive a 30% discount, not to exceed \$180 per year. The City automatically grants this discount where applicable.

If you have any questions, please contact the Finance Department at 617 349-4220, or e-mail us at [treasurer@cambridgema.gov](mailto:treasurer@cambridgema.gov).

Sincerely,

Louis DePasquale  
Assistant City Manager/Fiscal

## **SENIOR DISCOUNT WATER/SEWER PROGRAM**

Because of the impact the water and sewer rate increases may have on senior citizens, the City offers a Senior Discount Water/Sewer Program. All residents aged 65 years of age or older who own and occupy their one, two or three family home are eligible for a 15% discount on water/sewer charges, not to exceed \$90 per year. To qualify, you must be 65 years of age or older on July 1, 2009. Please complete the application form below if you qualify for this program and have not applied previously. If you are currently receiving the discount, you will continue to receive it.

Any resident who was granted a Clause 41C elderly exemption on FY2009 real estate taxes will receive a 30% discount, not to exceed \$180 per year. The City automatically grants this discount where applicable; therefore, you do not need to apply for it.

If you have any questions regarding the Senior Citizen Water/Sewer Program, please contact the Finance Department at 617 349-4220. If you have any questions regarding the qualifications for the real estate tax exemption under clause 41C, please contact the Assessor's Office at 617 349-4343.

### **SENIOR DISCOUNT WATER/SEWER APPLICATION FORM**

**If you own and occupy your one, two, or three-family home and will be 65 or older by July 1, 2009, please complete and return by June 15, 2009 to:**

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#### **City of Cambridge - Finance Department**

795 Massachusetts Avenue  
Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139

#### **15% Senior Discount Water/Sewer Program**

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE # \_\_\_\_\_

NAME OF RECORD OWNER \_\_\_\_\_

NAME OF APPLICANT \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

DATE OF BIRTH \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_

