



# City of Cambridge

## FINANCE DEPARTMENT

LOUIS DePASQUALE

Assistant City Manager/Finance

*Great News! No Water/Sewer Rate Increase for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Consecutive Year!!!*

April 30, 2012

Dear Water/Sewer Customer:

The City administration and City Council continue to recognize the importance of mitigating the effects of water and sewer increases both for FY13 and in future years when possible. Therefore, I am pleased to announce, for the second consecutive year, the approved FY13 water and sewer rate increase of 0.0%. This accomplishment is due to our planning process which includes conservatively estimating our water and sewer revenues and controlling expenditure growth, including debt issuance. The City's also benefited by lower than projected debt costs due to the favorable market conditions at the time of the February 2012 bond sale and a 0% interest loan from Massachusetts Water Pollution Abatement Trust (MWPAT). Also, the MWRA sewer assessment decreased by 2.3% in FY13 rather than projected increase of 2.6%. It should be noted that the water and sewer increases of 0.0% in FY08, FY12, and FY13 are rare occurrences and demonstrate our commitment to keep rates low by controlling expenditures, while still investing in our infrastructure.

The following block rates will commence with the water/sewer usage as of April 1, 2012, and you will see the changes in bills issued as of July 1, 2012.

	Annual Consumption	FY12 Water Rate	FY13 Water Rate	FY12 Sewer Rate	FY13 Sewer Rate
<b>Block 1</b>	0 – 40 CcF	\$3.02	\$3.02	\$7.86	\$7.86
<b>Block 2</b>	41 – 400 CcF	\$3.24	\$3.24	\$8.32	\$8.32
<b>Block 3</b>	401 – 2,000 CcF	\$3.44	\$3.44	\$8.93	\$8.93
<b>Block 4</b>	2,001 – 10,000 CcF	\$3.65	\$3.65	\$9.62	\$9.62
<b>Block 5</b>	Over 10,000 CcF	\$3.96	\$3.96	\$10.23	\$10.23

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

### 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 FY2012 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 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, 2012. **If you are currently receiving the discount, you will continue to receive it, you need NOT reapply.** To begin receiving the discount, complete the application form below if you qualify for this program. Any resident who was granted a Clause 41C elderly exemption on FY12 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 Discount 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, 2012, please complete and return by June 15, 2012 to:**

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### City of Cambridge - Finance Department

795 Massachusetts Avenue  
Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139

### 15% Senior Discount Water/Sewer Program

PARCEL ID \_\_\_\_\_ ACCOUNT NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

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

SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_