



**Town of Wasaga Beach
Notice of Public Meeting
Proposed New Water/Sewer Rates**

The Town is proposing to move to a metered water billing system from the current flat rate system in the New Year for all users of the municipal water system.

Under a metered water billing system users of system pay for what they use. Under the current system, users pay a flat rate no matter how much water they use. One of the main reasons to implement a metered water billing system is to promote water conservation.

Under new Provincial Legislation water and sewer rates must pay for the cost of providing the service. Municipal taxes can no longer be used to support the cost of providing water and treating sewage. In order to determine the full cost (operating, capital and future capital) of operating the system, the Town commissioned a study. The study was received by Council in November and now will be presented to the public. The study is recommending that the proposed new water rate be \$0.42 m³ and the sewage rate be \$0.69 m³. For a typical family of four this will translate to an annual water rate of \$611.70, including the fixed rate (see below for details on the fixed rate). The current annual flat rate is \$401.76.

A number of property owners have seasonal homes and have the water turned off for the winter. As part of the proposed new rates it is proposed that a new fixed rate be introduced that would be paid 12 months of the year. The base fixed rate for residential properties is proposed to be \$26.00 per month in total. This fixed rate pays for the water and sewage treatment plant and the pipes in the ground that are in use whether the property owner uses any water or not. Any usage costs are on top of the fixed rate.

For detailed information regarding the water metering program and the proposed new water/sewage rates, you are encouraged to attend a Public Meeting scheduled for **Tuesday, January 13, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers at the Townhall, 10 Lewis Street.**

Questions may be directed to the Treasury Department at the Townhall at (705) 429-3844 or e-mail treasury1@wasagabeach.com.

George Vadeboncoeur, CAO/Acting Clerk