

UNDERSTANDING YOUR UTILITY BILL

May 1, 2025

Your utility bill is made up of charges related to metered use of water in addition to several “flat” charges (flat charges stay the same each billing cycle) that relate to services provided and are charged to you based on the water service type, meter/pipe size and impact.

SERVICE ADDRESS	RATE CLASS			
[REDACTED]	Residential			
BARCODE - ACCOUNT NUMBER	PREVIOUS BALANCE	CURRENT CHARGES	TOTAL DUE	DUE DATE
[REDACTED]	\$ 0	\$239.44	\$ 239.44	4/24/2025
THERE IS A \$30 FEE ON ALL RETURNED PAYMENTS ACCOUNTS ARE SUBJECT TO A 1% PENALTY PER MONTH IF PAYMENT IS NOT RECEIVED BY THE DUE DATE				

SERVICE PERIOD	METER NUMBER	TYPE	CURRENT READ AND DATE	PREVIOUS READ AND DATE	DAYS	USAGE IN CCF	READ TYPE
12/15/2024 - 3/15/2025	[REDACTED]	WA	120 3/13/25	107 12/12/24	91	13	ACTUAL
DESCRIPTION			CONSUMPTION	RATE	CHARGES		
1	Fire Protection - Residential \$133,000 to 199,999		1.00	15.05	\$15.05		
2	Sanitation						
	from 12/15/24 to 1/1/25		1.00	41.91	\$7.83		
	from 1/1/25 to 3/15/25		1.00	43.20	\$35.13		
3	Storm Water - Residential						
	from 12/15/24 to 1/1/25		1.00	38.15	\$7.13		
	from 1/1/25 to 3/15/25		1.00	40.90	\$33.26		
4	Water Base - Residential		1.00	16.34	\$16.34		
	Water Flow - Residential 0-15 CCF		13.00	2.28	\$29.64		
5	Waste Water Base - Residential						
	from 12/15/24 to 1/1/25		1.00	46.10	\$8.61		
	from 1/1/25 to 3/15/25		1.00	54.90	\$44.65		
6	Waste Water Flow - Residential						
	from 12/15/24 to 1/1/25		13.00	2.38	\$5.78		
	from 1/1/25 to 3/15/25		13.00	2.55	\$26.96		
7	Main Replacement - Residential		1.00	9.06	\$9.06		

***Pink highlights above explain “usage-based” or metered charges.

The Janesville Water Utility is governed by the Public Service Commission and establishes rates and monitors our water utilities’ financial sufficiency. Water Rates on your bill are applied for and set by the Public Service Commission (PSC). The PSC only controls Water rates: Fire Protection, Water Base, Water Flow and Main Replacement. Applications for any fee increase to the PSC can be done in either a Simplified Rate Case (SRC) or a Conventional Rate Case (CRC). The SRC is a simple way for the municipal utility to meet specific criteria to provide for an inflationary type increase that helps maintain revenue continuity. The CRC usually involves larger increases, is more labor intensive, requires a public hearing and takes longer to review. Rates last increased on January 1, 2025.

Below are all definitions and details about each charge in the order it appears on your bill to help you better understand how fees are charged and what they pay for.

Usage in CCF – CCF is a measurement of water use and stands for centum cubic feet. Centum is the roman numeral for 100, so CCF = 100 Cubic Feet. 1 CCF (or 1 unit of water) is the equivalent of 748 gallons. The average American household uses 90-130 gallons per day, per person in the household. The average quarterly usage in Janesville

is 12-17 units per quarter (depending on household size). ***It's important for you to find your homes usage trends to spot high usage months (like in the summer when we water plants, gardens, or yards and fill pools, etc.) or detect leaks (like running toilets, dripping faucets, outdoor hose leaks, etc.).***

The numbers below relate to the line item on the bill on page 1 and explain each in detail.

- 1. Fire Protection** – On your street are fire hydrants that the City Fire Department can hook into to get high pressure water to fight house fires. The rate structure for Public Fire Protection charges is based on the assessed value of the improvements on a parcel of land and not on the property's total assessed valuation. This charge is for the ability to deliver a large quantity of water quickly to the location of a fire. It includes the cost of water pumping, reservoirs, mains and fire hydrants.

The value of the improvements on your property can be determined by reviewing your most recent property tax bill. <http://taxsearch.co.rock.wi.us/disclaimer.php>

RESIDENTIAL		MULTIFAMILY RESIDENTIAL/NON-RESIDENTIAL	
Improvement Value	Qrtly Chg	Improvement Value	Qrtly Chg
\$0 to 14,999	\$0.82	House Equivalent	\$7.31
15,000 to 40,999	\$3.12	\$0 to 114,999	\$8.12
41,000 to 65,999	\$5.21	115,000 to 234,999	\$14.92
66,000 to 91,999	\$7.31	235,000 to 714,999	\$34.31
92,000 to 132,999	\$10.30	715,000 to 2,349,999	\$107.41
133,000 to 199,999	\$15.05	2,350,000 to 7,139,999	\$326.70
200,000 to 264,000	\$21.63	7,140,000 to 17,849,999	\$1,117.32
265,000 and over	\$32.81	17,850,000 to 41,599,999	\$2,571.76
		41,600,000 and over	\$6,201.18

- 2. Sanitation** – On your regular trash day(s), you place your trash container and/or recycling carts at the curb by 7 a.m. and the City of Janesville picks it up, delivers it to the facility and processes it. Trash and recycling fees include trash collection and disposal, collection and processing of recyclable materials, fall and spring curbside collection of bagged yard waste and bundled brush and the operation of the yard waste drop-off and compost site. Residents and participating businesses are charged a collection fee of \$154.23 per year (or \$38.56 per billing cycle).
- 3. Stormwater** - Stormwater is rainwater plus anything the rain carries along with it. As rainwater runs across different surfaces, it can pick up various types of pollutants including sediment from exposed soil. oil and grease from driveways and roads. The ERU method (also known as the Equivalent Service Unit (ESU) method) is the charge found on your bill under stormwater. It bills an amount proportional to the impervious area on a parcel, regardless of the parcel's total area. 1 ERU=3,200sq ft. and 1 ERU costs \$37.45/qtr.

4. **Water Base and Wastewater Base** – These fees are fixed quarterly service charges on your bill that is charged to properties based on the meter size in your home (pipe diameter) and is a uniform rate charged to all residents.

FIXED QUARTERLY SERVICE CHARGE			
Meter Size (Inches)	Water	Wastewater	Water Main Replacement
5/8	\$16.34	\$54.90	\$9.06
3/4	\$21.03	\$59.90	\$13.53
1	\$27.17	\$69.90	\$22.59
1-1/2	\$46.85	\$94.70	\$45.18
2	\$65.58	\$124.60	\$72.25
3	\$101.39	\$194.10	\$135.43
4	\$156.15	\$293.60	\$225.69
6	\$268.58	\$542.20	\$451.38
8	\$402.87	\$840.60	\$722.25
10	\$574.63	\$1,238.30	\$1,083.26
12	\$755.77	\$1,891.49	\$1,444.39

5. **Water Flow** – This fee reflects the actual consumption of water on your property as reported by your water meter. This is the clean water coming into the home/property. (see **Usage in CCF** on page 1.)
6. **Wastewater Flow** – This fee reflects the water that goes down the drains and toilets on your property and is the equivalent of the water in.

VOLUME CHARGES (per 100 cubic feet)		
Residential Water		Wastewater
First 15 ccf	\$2.28	\$2.55
Next 25 ccf	\$2.99	
Over 40 ccf	\$3.85	
Multifamily Residential Non-Residential Water		Wastewater
First 100 ccf	\$2.75	\$2.55
Next 1,900 ccf	\$2.50	
Over 2,000 ccf	\$2.38	

The first 15 ccf is one rate, the next 25 ccf is a higher rate and over 40 ccf is the highest rate. Higher volume users will pay more and encourage the self-governing of our water resources.

7. **Main Replacement** – this is the newest fee on the bill and is the City’s effort to reduce borrowing of funds to maintain the utility and move to a pay as we go platform. Not borrowing to pay for maintenance increases the City’s credit rating and saves the taxpayer interest and penalty. This is a uniform rate charged to all accounts.