

City of Van Buren Average Residential Municipal Utilities Bill Summary			
AVERAGE CITY RESIDENTIAL CHARGES at 4,000 GALLONS WATER ONLY (Larger residential, commercial, industrial, and wholesale customer class charges will vary based on size of meter and amount of water used)	AVERAGE BILL January 2025	Consumer Price Index INCREASE January 2026	AVERAGE BILL January 2026
Water volume charge (4,000 gallons)	\$30.80	\$0.84	\$31.64
Fixed Charge (Base)	\$6.80	\$0.26	\$7.06
Arkansas Drinking Water Fee	\$0.40	\$0.00	\$0.40
Sales Tax	<u>\$3.48</u>	\$0.10	<u>\$3.58</u>
TOTAL WATER	\$41.48	\$1.20	\$42.68
AVERAGE CITY RESIDENTIAL CHARGES at 4,000 GALLONS SEWER ONLY (Larger residential, commercial, industrial, and wholesale customer class charges will vary based on size of meter and amount of sewer used)			
Sewer volume charge (4,000 gallons)	\$27.60	\$0.84	\$28.44
Fixed Charge (Base)	\$3.50	\$0.13	\$3.63
TOTAL SEWER	\$31.10	\$0.97	\$32.07
Residential Sanitation	\$17.94		\$18.50
Sanitation Sales Tax	\$1.66		\$1.71
TOTAL SANITATION	\$19.60		\$19.60
RESIDENTIAL WATER -SEWER-SANITATION AT 4,000 GALLONS	\$92.18	\$2.17	\$94.35
AVG COST WATER -SEWER-SANITATION/day	\$3.03		\$3.10
PERCENT INCREASE TO TOTAL WATER -SEWER-SANITATION BILL		2.36%	

Van Buren Ordinance(s) No. 06-2024 and No. 07-2024 establishing water and sewer rates ordain that, water and sewer rates may be adjusted annually based on increased Revenue Requirement percentages calculated by using the U.S. Consumer Price Index for Water, Sewer, and Trash Collection Services (CPI-WST) as published by the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis increase ; provided that the City of Van Buren Municipal Utilities Commission, at its discretion, may adjust the increase to a lower percentage than the CPI-WST.

The CPI-WST increase for the previous twelve (12) month period; is 4.83%, the City of Van Buren Municipal Utilities Commission, after review, has adjusted the water and sewer rates for services billed on or after January 1, 2026 by adjusting the projected Revenue Requirement by 3.00%.

The City of Van Buren Municipal Utilities realizes that any increases in cost of services are challenging to all of Van Buren's Residents and Businesses. Like rising costs of services such as fuel, electricity, natural gas, communications, groceries, and general items; the cost of providing public water, sewer, and sanitation services has increased across the state and the nation as well.

After the approved rate increases - the cost of Water, Sewer, and Sanitation (garbage collection) services to the average Van Buren household will be around \$3.10 per day, which is less than a cup of coffee at an average drive-thru.

The City of Van Buren does not receive any state or federal funding to supplement the cost of providing Water, Sewer, or Sanitation Services. Federal and state funding for the Arkansas Low Income Household Water Assistance Program (LIHWAP) was discontinued in 2024.