

CHAPTER 15
WATER and SEWER REGULATION and RATES

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Sec. 15.01 Water Rates and Water Utility Operating Rules

The Public Service Commission of Wisconsin (PSC) reviews all municipal requests for adjustment of water rates. The PSC is responsible for setting the finalized local water rates permitted, and also establishes rules for the municipality's water utility operation. The most recent Whiting water rates and utility operating rules were set by the PSC in their Docket Number 6530-WR-105, Step II, which was effective on September 17, 2025. This PSC docket information is hereby included by reference in Whiting Ordinance Section 15.01. A copy of the complete PSC Docket Number 6530-WR-105, Step II, is available for review at the Village of Whiting office. This document is also available on the Village's website by using the link below and selecting "Water Rates".

<https://villageofwhiting.org/utilities/>

Water Lateral Installation Charge for Subdivision Developers

See PSC CZ-1. In addition, subdivision developers shall be responsible, where the main extension has been approved by the utility, for the water service lateral installation costs from the main through the curb stop and box. When the cost of a utility main extension is to be collected through assessment by the municipality, the actual average water lateral installation costs from the main through the curb stop and box shall be included in the assessment of the appropriate properties. The initial water service lateral(s), not installed as part of a subdivision development or an assessable utility extension, will be installed from the main through the curb stop and box by the utility, for which the actual cost will be charged.

Billing: Same as PSC Schedule Mg-1

Sec. 15.02 General Sewer Service – Metered

CLASS. Available for sewage contributors discharging domestic strength sewage up to two hundred fifty milligrams per liter (250 mg/l) B.O.D. and Total Suspended Solids.

QUARTERLY SERVICE CHARGE:

5/8 - inch - water meter	\$64.16
3/4 - inch - water meter	\$64.16
1 - inch - water meter	\$112.88(*non-resident- \$112.88)
1 1/2 - inch - water meter	\$193.68(*non-resident- \$193.68)
2 - inch - water meter	\$291.11
3 - inch - water meter	\$516.87
4 - inch - water meter	\$840.07
6 - inch - water meter	\$1,648.04

PLUS, VOLUME CHARGE. For each one thousand (1,000 gallons) domestic strength sewage discharged to the sanitary system. \$13.52 per 1,000 gallons (non-resident- \$13.52 per 1,000 gallons).

CREDIT FOR WATER NOT DISCHARGED TO SEWER.

1. A sprinkling credit will be given to residential customers (up to and including 3 family units) during the second and third quarter billing. The second and third quarter sewer bills (summer quarters) shall be based on the average water consumption between the fourth quarter (previous year) and first quarter (current year) billing period, unless the average is greater than the summer quarters.
2. Residential buildings (with more than 3 units), commercial and industrial customers will be granted a deduction in sewer charges if a separate meter is installed for sprinkling purposes. The customer must at his own expense make the necessary changes in the water piping and install couplings so that a meter can be set. A charge shall be made for such meter according to PSC Schedule Am-1.
3. Billing: Same as PSC Schedule Mg-1.

Sec. 15.03 Commercial and Industrial Sewer Service – Metered

CLASS. When the sewage from any contributor does not exceed the strength limitations of two hundred fifty (250) mg/l for B.O.D. and two hundred fifty (250) mg/l for suspended solids, the sewer bill shall be calculated under (Sec. 15.14). Where the waste of any contributor exceeds the above strength, a periodic sampling shall be taken, and the sewage analyzed to determine the strength of said waste, which will be billed at the following rates:

QUARTERLY SERVICE CHARGE: Same as Sec. 15.03.

PLUS, VOLUME CHARGE:

Volume - \$13.13 per 1,000 gallons

Biological Oxygen Demand (B.O.D) or Total Suspended Solids (T.S.S.) 29.3¢ per lb. in excess of 250 mg/l

Billing: Same as PSC Schedule Mg-1.

Sec. 15.04 Plumbing

All plumbing associated with the underground and aboveground water supply piping shall comply with the requirements of Section 27.09 of this Code and the Wisconsin Administrative Code dealing with plumbing installations, whichever is more restrictive. No water shall be turned on for service in premises in which the plumbing does not comply with the provisions of Section 27.09, Plumbing Standards of this code. Water may be turned on for construction work in unfinished buildings, subject to the provisions of this chapter. Galvanized piping and fittings for water laterals are prohibited.

Sec. 15.05 Well Abandonment

1. Purpose. To protect public health, safety and welfare and to prevent contamination of groundwater by assuring that unused, unsafe or noncomplying wells or wells which may act as conduits for contamination of groundwater or wells which may be illegally cross connected to the municipal water system, are properly maintained or abandoned.
2. Applicability. This Ordinance applies to all wells located on premises served by the Village of Whiting's municipal water system. Utility customers outside the jurisdiction of the municipal system may be required under contract agreement or utility rule to adopt and enforce equivalent ordinances within their jurisdictions for purpose stated above.
3. Definitions.
 - a. "Municipal water system" means a community water system owned by a city, village, county, town, town sanitary district, utility district, public inland lake and rehabilitation district, municipal water district or a federal, state, county, or municipal owned institution for congregate care or correction, or a privately owned water utility serving the foregoing.
 - b. "Non-complying" means a well or pump installation which does not comply with s. NR 812.42, Wisconsin Administrative Code, Standards for Existing Installations, and which has not been granted a variance pursuant to s. NR 812.43, Wisconsin Administrative Code.
 - c. "Pump Installation" means the pump and related equipment used for withdrawing water from a well, including the discharge piping, the underground connections, pitless adapters, pressure tanks, pits, sampling faucets and well seals or caps.
 - d. "Unsafe" well or pump installation means one which produces water which is bacteriologically contaminated or contaminated with substances which exceed the drinking water standards of CHS. NR 140 or 809, Wisconsin Administrative Code, or for which a Health Advisory has been issued by the Department of Natural Resources.
 - e. "Unused" well or pump installation means one which is not used or does not have a functional pumping system.
 - f. "Well," means a drill hole or other excavation or opening deeper than it is wide that extends more than 10 feet below the ground surface constructed for the purpose of obtaining groundwater.
 - g. "Well Abandonment" means the proper filling and sealing of a well according to the provisions of s. NR 812.26, Wisconsin Administrative Code.
4. ABANDONMENT REQUIRED. All wells on premises served by the municipal water system shall be properly abandoned in accordance with "Abandonment Procedures" of this ordinance by December 31st,

1991, or not later than 6 months from the date of connection to the municipal water system, unless a valid well operation permit has been issued to the well owner by the Village of Whiting under terms of the "Well Operation Permit" section of this ordinance.

5. WELL OPERATION PERMIT. Owners of wells on premises served by the municipal water system wishing to retain their wells for any use shall make application for a well operation permit for each well no later than 6 months after connection to the municipal water system. The Village of Whiting shall grant a permit to a well owner to operate a well for a period not to exceed 5 years providing all conditions below are met. A well operation permit may be renewed by submitting an application verifying that the conditions of this section are met. The Village of Whiting or its agents, may conduct inspections and water quality tests or require inspections and water quality tests to be conducted at the applicant's expense to obtain or verify information necessary for consideration of a permit application or renewal. Permit applications and renewals shall be made on forms provided by the Clerk.

The following conditions must be met for issuance or renewal of a well operation permit:

- a) The well and pump installation shall meet the Standards for Existing Installations described in s. NR 812.42, Wisconsin Administrative Code. The well and pump system shall be evaluated by a licensed well driller or pump installer and certified on the Wisconsin Well and Pressure System Inspection Form 3300-221 to comply with Ch. NR 812 subch. IV, prior to issuing the initial permit and no less than every 10 years afterwards.
- b) The well and pump shall have a history of producing safe water evidenced by at least 1 coliform bacteria sample. In areas where the Department of Natural Resources has determined that groundwater aquifers are contaminated with substances other than bacteria, additional chemical tests may be required to document the safety of the water.
- c) There shall be no cross-connections between the well's pump installation or distribution piping and the municipal water system.
- d) PERMIT FEE See Sec. 34.06 Well Permit Fees from Chapter 15, Section 15.06.5.d).
- e) The water from the private well shall not discharge into a drain leading directly to a public sewer utility unless properly metered and authorized by the sewer utility.
- f) The private well shall have a functional pumping system.
- g) The proposed use of the private well shall be justified as reasonable in addition to water provided by the municipal water system.

6. ABANDONMENT PROCEDURES.

- a. All wells abandoned under the jurisdiction of this ordinance shall be done according to the procedures and methods of s. NR 812.26, Wisconsin Administrative Code. All debris, pumps, piping, unsealed liners and any other obstructions which may interfere with sealing operations shall be removed prior to abandonment.
- b. The owner of the well, or the owner's agent, shall notify the Clerk at least 48 hours in advance of any well abandonment activities. The abandonment of the well may be observed or verified by personnel of the municipal system.
- c. An abandonment report form, supplied by the Department of Natural Resources, shall be submitted to the Clerk and the Department of Natural Resources within 30 days of the completion of the well abandonment. The form must be completed by the licensed well driller, pump installer, or certified operator performing the abandonment.

7. PENALTIES. See Sec. 34.07 Well Abandonment Ordinance Violation Penalty from Chapter 15, Section 15.06.7.