



P.O. Box 568
Estes Park, CO 80517
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Board meetings are held the third Wednesday of each month at 2:00 pm. Visitors are always welcome. Agendas are posted in advance at the UTSD Administration Building, 2196 Mall Road, Estes Park.

The Upper Thompson Sanitation District is a governmental enterprise corporation funded primarily through user rates and plant investment fees (PIFs imposed on new customers who connect to our collection system). The District does not impose a mil levy. Effective January 1, 2009, the Upper Thompson Sanitation District's base user rate will be adjusted to \$295.00 per year per Single Family Equivalent (SFE) and metered customer minimum monthly charge will increase to \$5.25 per month. Additionally, the District's plant investment fee (PIF) will be adjusted to \$7,700.00 per SFE.

Why is the Rate Increase Necessary?

In 2009, the Upper Thompson Sanitation District will need to increase revenue to ensure its continued high level of wastewater treatment and implementation of its 10-year Capital Improvement Plan (CIP). The CIP was developed in close association and after detailed review of the District by the engineering firm of Richard P. Arber Associates. Capital improvement projects that the District's rates will fund, include:

- ◆ Replacement and rehabilitation of aging infrastructure, such as the recent collection system pipeline slip lining projects that allow the District to rehabilitate and reuse existing sewer collection system pipes rather than replace them. The District currently maintains over 90-miles of collection system piping.
- ◆ Replacement of the aging influent screens at the two influent pump stations that will reduce required maintenance on remaining treatment equipment and provide operational staff safety.
- ◆ Replacement of the original clarifier and equalization basin mechanisms that have reached the end of their useful life. Replacement will provide increased water quality through removal of solids from the wastewater. This equipment was originally installed in 1976.
- ◆ Repair and replacement of aging concrete structures and basins originally installed in 1976.
- ◆ Installation of a septage/vault waste receiving station to allow the District's plant to continue to be a discharge location for locally generated high strength septage/vault waste.
- ◆ Implementation of electrical improvements to bring the existing electrical system up to date with current code requirements and eliminate the potential for electrical and equipment failures. Electrical improvements include replacement of the Fish Creek Lift Station emergency generator and Wastewater Treatment Facility emergency generator. This equipment was originally installed in 1976.
- ◆ Implementation of control improvements to provide equipment automation, energy conservation, and increased operator control.
- ◆ Enclosing the outside clarifier to allow for increased plant capacity and operational flexibility (winter operation).
- ◆ Maintain cash reserves to cover unforeseen costs, upcoming regulatory requirements and other emergencies.

CONTACTS

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Chairman

Ron Kuhns
Treasurer

Chris Eshelman

Larry Pettyjohn

Mike Kearney

Future Rates

The costs for collection and treatment of wastewater are rising as a result of tightening regulations, and increasing power, fuel, and equipment replacement costs. Each year, the District will re-evaluate the rate study prepared by Arber Associates and rates will be adjusted. We will continue to review our rates annually and adjust them accordingly to meet the costs, while also ensuring our rates are fair and as low as efficient wastewater treatment service will allow.

What Can I Flush?

Wastewater from your toilet, shower, washing machine or dishwasher, leaves your home through pipes that connect to the District's sewer system. Some materials that are flushed and poured down the drain may damage the District's sewer pipes and treatment plant. Putting the wrong things down the drain can damage the sewer system, cause sewer backups in your home, and may be harmful to the environment. Users are responsible for what they flush or pour down drains.

How Can I Help Save the District and Myself Money?

The only thing you should ever flush down a toilet is human waste (urine and feces) and toilet paper. Below is a list of items that should never enter the sewer system through the toilet, sink and drain because they may block pipes, cause mechanical problems at pump stations and treatment plants, and pollute the environment.

- ◆ Unused medications (put original containers in a plastic, zip-lock bag and throw the bag in the trash)
- ◆ Tampons
- ◆ Cotton balls and swabs
- ◆ Mini or maxi pads
- ◆ Condoms
- ◆ Cleaning wipes of any kind
- ◆ Grease, including meat, lard, oil, shortening, butter, margarine, sauces, dairy products (pour grease into steel cans, let it harden and throw in the trash)
- ◆ Enzymes including products that dissolve grease
- ◆ Disposable diapers
- ◆ Bandages and bandage wrappings
- ◆ Facial tissue
- ◆ Oil products including fuel
- ◆ Food scraps (catch food scraps and other solids with a strainer in the sink drain, and empty the strainer into the trash)



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