

Administrative

2017 Billing Rates: THERE IS NO RATE INCREASE FOR YOUR 2017 SEWER BILL!

Billing Definitions:

Fixed User Charge – Represents expenses that are “fixed” to the District, and would be incurred regardless of the amount of flow (i.e. bond payments, electricity, insurances).

Operating & Maintenance – Represents the variable costs to the District to operate and maintain the sewer system.

Commercial Kitchen Waste – Restaurant surcharge of \$.015 per cubic foot of usage for stronger waste discharge.

Office Hours: Monday – Friday, 8 am – 2 pm. Please call before coming over.

Payments: Please make checks payable to: Ogunquit Sewer District and put your account number on the check. Payments may also be made on our website with a VISA, MasterCard (1.5015% fee) or E-Check (\$.75 fee). www.ogunquitsewerdistrict.org

Moving or selling your home? Please let us know so we can update our records.

Seasonal Properties: As our annual billing is based on your prior year’s water usage, it is important that you turn in your water readings to KKWWD on a timely basis. If we do not have your final water usage at the end of the year, we must estimate your usage, which could result in an inaccurate sewer bill.

High Water Usage: If you notice higher than normal water usage during the year, please call the KKWWD right away to try to correct the problem. Even something as simple as a dripping faucet or running toilet can cause a significant increase in your sewer bill.

Irrigation System Water Metering: As of 2015, gallon meter readings are no longer accepted. If you install a cubic foot water meter for your irrigation system, you may receive a credit on your sewer bill. Meters are available for purchase at the Sewer District Office. If you purchase a meter elsewhere, please call the District to provide us with your meter information. Meter users should set a reminder for Nov 1st of each year to turn in your meter reading, as readings are not accepted after November 30th! A copy of our **Private Meter Policy** is available on our website.

Swimming Pools/Hot Tubs: If you need to fill a swimming pool or hot tub, you may borrow a water meter from the Sewer District to measure the water, and receive a credit on your sewer bill.

2016 Projects

Route 1 Drainage Project: This 18 month project was completed in December 2016 by the State of Maine. The Sewer District had the opportunity to take care of some much needed sewer upgrades at the same time. Some of the line replacements that were done during this project were to upgrade sewer mains on Kingfield Ave., Route #1 sewer main from Kingfield Ave. to Gibbs Gas Station, Rt. #1 from Hoyts Ln. to Glen Ave. and 400 feet of sewer main on Beach Street. In addition, the district also replaced 13 manholes and upgraded 60 manhole frames and covers.

Station 1 Upgrade:

Pumping station #1 located at the Footbridge Parking lot was last upgraded in 1982 and receives sewage from the entire town of Ogunquit. The station was upgraded this past spring by installing three submersible pumps inside our old station’s dry well and elevating all of the electrical gear which is now above the proposed FEMA flood elevation. We also installed power lines under the Ogunquit River to power the station and utilize emergency power from the generator located at the Treatment Facility. The total cost of this project was \$1.2 Million.

Shore Road Sewer Line Replacement:

The sewer line in Shore Road from Main Street to Israel Head Road was approximately 100 years old and consisted of brick manholes and clay tile sewer mains and was in need of replacement. In some areas, an increase in pipe size was needed to accommodate our future needs. This work was done in conjunction with KKW Water District, who were also doing their water main upgrade. The total cost of the District's project was \$707,000 and was completed under budget. The work was done by R.J. Grondin & Sons from October through December of 2016 and they will be back in the spring to install manhole frames and finish paving.

2017 Projects

We received an additional easement area at our pumping station #5 located on Rt. #1 next to the Josias River. This will allow the district to install a stationary generator at this location. Thank you to James & Deborah Wood for granting us this easement for much needed automation for an emergency back-up power source.

We will also be upgrading 300 feet of sewer main on Shore Road and 425 feet on Wharf Lane along with some work on Stearns Road as part of our continued aging infrastructure rehab program.

We will continue to work through the logistics of upgrading critical equipment in the Treatment plant (last upgraded in 1993) which have reached their mechanical and electrical life expectancy of 20-25 years.

Future Projects

Climate Adaptation & Sea Level Rise:

As many of you have noticed, weather patterns seem to have intensified over the past several years, not only in our country but around the globe. Record heatwaves and drought conditions are more wide spread, storm systems including winds & precipitation are more intense, and tornados in Maine are becoming more frequent. The Ogunquit Sewer District ("the District") has been working these past 5 years on potential issues associated with climate change and sea level rise. Our first study was completed in 2012, which gave us an overall guideline for planning, implementation and time frame for when the Waste Water Treatment Facility (WWTF) would likely become at risk of inundation during a 100 year storm event. This is estimated to theoretically occur sometime after year 2050.

Our latest study completed in 2014, reviewed the District's options for relocating the WWTF and the cost associated with these options. One option was to regionalize with Wells Sanitary District and abandon our current plant. Although this solution appeared to save the District money, we would be dependent on Wells Sanitary to set the rates for treating and disposing of Ogunquit's waste water. The District would need to install a pumping system and forced mains to redirect our flows to the Wells WWTF. We would also be responsible for all associated costs to upgrade the Wells facility to be able to handle our flows. We would also need to continue maintaining our collection system ie: gravity mains, manholes, forced mains and 13 pumping stations. When compared to relocating and building a new plant, there was a savings only for the first twenty years. After that, the cost to Ogunquit's sewer rate payers would be more expensive than running our own WWTF. In addition, there is only a 2 foot elevation difference between the Wells and Ogunquit facilities. Wells WWTF will have similar challenges with sea level rise and may be faced with relocation in the future as well.

The Board of Trustees has diligently reviewed the options and alternatives for this challenging work. They have selected what they believe to be the best course of action to maintain a reliable and cost effective operation presently and make the eventual relocation of our WWTF financially manageable.

The District believes the best option would be to relocate the WWTF in the town of Ogunquit. The timing of this relocation is dependent on how fast the sea level will rise. Our sea level rise study indicates that our current location may be at risk sometime after the year 2050. We need to begin the process for preparing to relocate the WWTF. The purchase of a suitable location will take place in the next year or two while land is currently available. Over the course of the next few years, we will need to begin raising money from our rate payers for the purchase of land and then begin setting aside money to help offset the cost of relocating the WWTF, currently estimated at 30 million dollars. Meanwhile we need to start protecting several other District owned pump stations that will be affected by storm surges long before the WWTF is at risk. In order to keep a reliable operating WWTF, the District will also need to upgrade mechanical and electrical equipment that has reached its useful life. We will continue to update you as we move forward.