



HOUSATONIC WATER WORKS COMPANY
SINCE 1897

Press Release

August 1, 2024

Massachusetts Department of Public Utilities Approves Rate Increase

Housatonic Water Works (HWW) announced a new rate increase effective August 1, 2024, following the approval by the Department of Public Utilities (DPU). This decision comes after HWW's initial application for a 112.7 percent overall revenue increase was filed with the DPU in June 2023.

The Office of the Attorney General and HWW proposed a settlement in April, which was included in the rate case. The settlement outlines a phased rate increase for HWW customers, culminating in an approximately 90 percent increase over the next five years.

Key components of the settlement include:

- Installation of a manganese greensand filter system.
- Interconnection with the Great Barrington Fire District.
- Construction of a new water storage tank.
- Replacement of aging water mains.



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Summary of New Water Rates:

Minimum charges with quantities of water allowed, without additional charge, will be made to each customer for each meter. Such charges and such allowances of water for each size meter are as follows:

Size of Pipe (in inches)	Monthly Allowance (in gallons)	Minimum Charge per Month
5/8 or 3/4	2,500	\$52.78
1	4,000	\$83.05
1 1/2	8,000	\$165.80
2	12,500	\$260.37
3	25,000	\$523.22
4	40,000	\$836.80
6	80,000	\$1,671.60

Volumetric Charges

The following rate shall apply to all water use in excess of the Monthly Allowance set forth above by meter size:

- Per 100 gallons per month, or any part thereof: \$1.247



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Fixture Rates

The following charges shall apply to all non-metered customers:

Fixture	Monthly Rate
First faucet installation	\$20.94
Each additional faucet installation	\$7.20
Bathtubs (one bathtub installation)	\$10.04
Each additional bathtub installation	\$7.20
Toilet (one toilet installation)	\$10.04
Each additional toilet installation	\$7.20
Use of hose (first outlet) per season	\$11.72

Fire Protection

Fire Protection Service	Monthly Charge
Public hydrants, producing a flow of 250 gallons or more per minute	\$73.75
Public hydrants, producing a flow of 150 gallons and less than 250 gallons per minute	\$59.33

James Mercer, Treasurer of Housatonic Water Works, stated: "We appreciate our customers' patience throughout this long and difficult process. We share your frustration and are eager to begin these improvements. It's good to see this chapter nearing its end, and we thank all our water customers for their continued support."

Finalized rate schedules and updated rules and regulations are available [here](#) and posted to housatonicwater.com.