

Sewer Rate Changes

Effective January 1, 2026, the St. Thomas Sanitary Sewer and Storm Drainage Sewer Service Rates will be adjusted as follows:

Residential

	2025	2026
Sanitary Sewer Rate (\$/m ³)	\$2.84	\$2.99
Storm Sewer Rate (\$/month)	\$13.03	\$13.42
Special Sewer Rate (\$/month)	\$38.76*	\$39.93*

*Rate used for lands not connected to municipal sanitary sewer

Commercial and Institutional

	2025	2026
Sanitary Sewer Rate (\$/m ³)	\$1.20	\$1.38
Storm Sewer Rate (\$/month)	\$13.03	\$13.42
Special Sewer Rate (\$/ha/month)	\$179.50*	\$184.89*

* Rate used for land areas greater than 1800 m²

Industrial

	2025	2026
Sanitary Sewer Rate (\$/m ³)	\$2.31	\$2.38
Storm Sewer Rate (\$/ha/month)	\$179.50	\$184.89

The 2026 rates are based on the recommendations of the 2022 Wastewater and Stormwater Rate Study. The rate revenue funds the operating and capital needs of the sanitary sewage and storm drainage systems. This increase will be reflected on the Entegrus Powerlines Inc. utility bill effective January 1, 2026. The volume of sewage collected is based on the volume of water used.



2026 NOTICE WATER AND SEWER RATE CHANGES

Environmental Services Department

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Effective January 1, 2026, the St. Thomas Water Distribution System consumption rate will increase to \$2.2776/m³.
(1m³ = 220 imp. gallons = 1000 litres)

The water charges applied to your utility bill support the operating activities and capital needs to operate and maintain a safe, reliable and sustainable water supply for residents and businesses.

How are rates determined?

The City of St. Thomas Water Distribution System is supplied with drinking water from two sources; the Elgin Area Primary Water Supply System (~70%), and the St. Thomas Area Secondary Water Supply System (~30%).

The Elgin Area Primary and St. Thomas Area Secondary Water Supply System advise the City of the rates they are going to charge for the use of their infrastructure, which is then added to the rates determined by the City of St. Thomas Rate Studies. The rate studies take into account the costs to operate and maintain the drinking water systems, including the development of reserves, to be used for system renewal and replacement projects.

The 2026 rate increases are a result of:

- 1) The Elgin Area Primary Water Supply System has advised of an increase from \$1.0337/m³ to \$1.0699/m³, for the bulk supply of treated water.
- 2) The St. Thomas Area Secondary Water Supply System has advised of an increase from \$0.6609/m³ to \$0.6824/m³, for the bulk supply of secondary system water.
- 3) The City of St. Thomas approved an increase of the water rate from \$0.9848/m³ to \$1.0030/m³, for the operating and capital costs of maintaining the distribution system.

Water Rate Changes

WATER SUPPLY CHARGES ON YOUR UTILITY BILL CONSISTS OF TWO PARTS:

The Monthly Base Charge is the fixed cost portion of the cost of the water supply. The charge applied is determined by the size of the property's water meter. This fixed charge was maintained at 2025 rates for all meter sizes as shown in the table below:

Water Monthly Base Rates		
Water Meter Size	2025	2026
5/8"	\$17.75	\$17.75
3/4"	\$25.02	\$25.02
1"	\$35.31	\$35.31
1½"	\$56.46	\$56.46
2"	\$91.86	\$91.86
3"	\$148.65	\$148.65
4"	\$293.15	\$293.15
6"	\$507.75	\$507.75

The Water Consumption Charge is calculated by multiplying your metered usage (consumption in m³) by the Water Consumption Rate.

The 2026 Water Consumption Rates for St. Thomas Water Distribution System customers are as follows:

Water Consumption Rates		
	2025	2026
Water Consumption Rate	\$2.2168	\$2.2776
Large Food Processors (after first 850m ³)	\$1.6626	\$1.7082