

## Water Conservation Now Means Lower Wastewater Rates Year-Round

It's now time for WCID 17 to remind customers to conserve household water use again for upcoming winter averaging. Your water meter measures your monthly water use, but there is no meter on your wastewater line. Winter averaging provides WCID 17 a measure that represents the wastewater volume discharged. WCID 17 averages household water usage each year during the billing cycle that begins mid-November 2018 and goes through the meter readings ending with the mid-February 2019 reading. These months are the basis for determining the amount you are billed for monthly wastewater service beginning in October 2019, just as last year's winter averaging went into effect with October's billing. This period of time is used since water usage during these winter months is generally only inside household use, and it's a good measure of the volume sent to the wastewater system.

WCID 17 began the new fiscal year of 2019 on October 1, 2018. WCID 17 customers will notice a change in their wastewater monthly fee beginning with the invoice mailed out October 24, 2018. This change reflects the winter averaging of household water usage from the billing cycle that began mid-December 2017 and lasted through the meter readings of mid-February 2018.

For those customers that did not have usage during this period, the wastewater average will be set at a default wastewater average, which is 8,000 gallons per month for residential customers. A customer must have at least 60 consecutive billing days of water usage for a calculated wastewater average.

Minimizing your water usage during these months can lower your wastewater costs every month of Fiscal Year 2020. Remember, some ways to conserve water are to irrigate minimally through the winter months, wash only full loads in the dishwasher and washing machine, take shorter showers and fix leaky toilets and faucets.

Conserve water over the winter and save money all year.

November 2018 posting