# **DURHAM REGION**

# WATER SUPPLY & SANITARY SEWERAGE USER RATES - Budget & Service Highlights





Water & Sewer Costs Are Not Paid by Property Tax



All Customers are Metered



User Pay System

## **Total Water Supply Budget**

# 2016 Gross Water Supply Budget \$112.8 million

The majority of funding for the water supply budget comes from user revenue. The balance comes from growth-related Development Charge revenue, reserves, fees & service charges.

The Average Water and Sewer Residential Bill Increase is \$3.60/month

(\$43/year) (Based on average water use of 235 m³/year)



Water Supply \$1.90/month (\$23/year)

## **Total Sanitary Sewerage Budget**

# 2016 Gross Sanitary Sewer Budget \$180.9 million

The majority of funding for the sanitary sewer budget comes from user revenue. The balance comes from growth-related Development Charge revenue, reserves, fees & service charges, developer contributions and debenture financing.





(\$20/year)



## **Highlights** •

### **Water Supply Operating Budget**

**Gross Budget: \$63.4 million** 

**97%** (\$61.4 million) funded from user revenue for the water supply system operations, including water supply plants, water storage facilities and water pumping stations. These funds also provide for the maintenance of water meters, fire hydrants and watermains.



Operations 30%



Engineering & Staff Support 11%



Facilities & Depots 19%



Water Connections, Valves & Hydrants, and Meters 17%



Other 23%

## **Water Supply Capital Budget**

**Gross budget: \$49.4 million** 

**69%** (\$34.3 million) funded from user revenue **31%** (\$15.1 million) comes from Development Charge revenue and reserves

Major Water Supply Capital Projects:

- Replacement of polybutylene service connections, \$14.5 million
- Replacement of deficient watermains, \$9.8 million; and water meters, \$3.1 million
- New feedermains to service future development, \$9.3 million
- Upgrades to the Bowmanville Water Supply Plant, \$2.7 million

## Highlights

### **Sanitary Sewer Operating Budget**

**Gross Budget: \$67.4 million** 

**92%** (\$61.9 million) funded from user revenue for the sanitary sewerage system operations, including the maintenance and repair of sanitary sewage pumping stations, water pollution control plants and sanitary sewers.



Plant Operations & Pumping Stations 50%



Engineering & Staff Support



Facilities & Depots 14%



Sewer Connections, Cleaning, Repairs & Maintenance Holes



20%

# Sanitary Sewerage Capital Budget (including debt) Gross Budget: \$113.5 million

**29%** (\$32.8 million) funded from user revenue **71%** (\$80.7 million) comes from Development Charge revenue, reserves, developer contributions and debenture financing

Major Sanitary Sewerage Capital Projects:

- Replacement of deficient sanitary sewers, \$5.4 million
- New trunk sewer and pumping station to service West Whitby, \$40.0 million
- New Courtice Trunk Sanitary Sewer to service Oshawa and Clarington, \$26.1 million
- New trunk sewers to service future development, \$4.8 million
- Upgrades to the Harmony Creek Water Pollution Control Plant,
   \$3.4 million



The Region's water and sanitary sewer budgets and user rates are reviewed annually and approved by Regional Council in December, prior to a January 1st implementation of approved user rates. Providing safe water supply and reliable sanitary sewage services is the top priority when it comes to managing Durham's assets. By continuing to participate in water efficiency programs, residents can help extend the life of water and sanitary sewerage systems and ensure effective operations.

# The Water and Sanitary Sewer Bill consists of two main components:

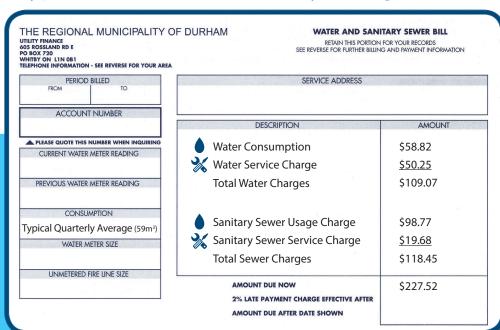


**User Rate Charges which vary** with consumption



Service Charges which include fire protection capacity and meter maintenance in the water system and maintenance of service connections to customers' premises in the sanitary sewer system.

## Typical Residential Quarterly Billing (59 m<sup>3</sup> used)



All Water Supply and Sanitary Sewerage customers, residential and non-residential, are metered. This means that your bill is calculated on actual water usage, as recorded on the meter. Bills are comprised of charges based on user consumption and fixed service charges (e.g. fire protection capacity in the system).

### **Read The Meter**



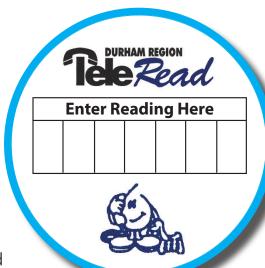
READ the water meter



WRITE the reading on your meter card



the number indicated on your card



Durham Region's Water Meter Reading Program asks customers to read the water meters for 3 of the 4 billings in a year. Prior to sending out a bill, a Customer Meter Reading Card is mailed to you and asks that you read and report the meter reading by calling the automated TeleRead system. We base your consumption on the reading that you report.

If your reading is not received, your bill will be estimated based on your past consumption pattern.

While this estimate is based on your previous actual usage, it is important that you submit the actual meter reading in order to make sure the correct amounts are billed.

## **Water Meter Replacement**

- Residential water meters are replaced every 20 years (approx.)
- If the meter needs to be replaced, you will be notified by the Region or through the Region's contractor Neptune Technology Group
  - The replacement has no installation charge to residents

REGION OF DURHAM WATER SUPPLY SANITARY SEWERAGE FACTS

# **Facts**

- 170,000 Customers
- 8 local municipalities
- More than 2,400
   kilometres of water
   mains and 2,000
   kilometres of sanitary
   sewers in large urban
   areas in southern
   Durham Region and
   small urban areas in
   northern Durham
   Region
- Water and Sewer
   Assets are valued at
   \$8.2 billion
- Majority of Durham Region's Water and Sewer infrastructure is in Very Good or Good condition
- All infrastructure needs are addressed annually in current business plans and budgets



Water Bottle \$2

A typical 500 millilitre bottle of water costs, on average, \$2 from a vending machine. Municipal water from a tap in Durham Region is delivered at only a fraction of that price: less than one cent per litre.



## **Average Household Water Usage**

An average household in Durham uses approximately 235 cubic metres (235,000 litres) of water a year.







Showers & Baths 35%



Laundry 25%



Drinking & Cooking 5%

# The Region of Durham Water and Sanitary Sewer Systems

The water meter is normally located in the basement of homes.

For some homes: Remote reading devices are mounted on the outside wall and are connected to the meter by a wire.

The Region also uses radio frequency remotes which are mounted near the meter.

In both cases, the remote reading device allows a Meter Reader to obtain a reading from outside the home.











# **REGION OF DURHAM**

# **Save Water SAVE MONEY**

# If you have a continual leak...

1 millimetre in size can waste almost

440 M<sup>3</sup>

(96,800 gal) or around

\$1,100 per year 3 millimetres in size can waste almost

4,000 M<sup>3</sup>

(880,000 gal) or around

\$10,000

per year

5 millimetres in size can waste almost

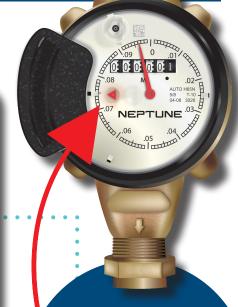
11,000 M<sup>3</sup>

(2,420,000 gal) or around

\$29,000

per year

A faulty toilet is the most common culprit of undetected leaks and can cause water and sanitary sewer bills in excess of \$1,000. Visit **www.durham.ca/waterbilling** to find tips on how to identify potential plumbing problems.



Check the leak detector (low flow indicator) on the meter. It should not be turning when no water is being used.

# **Watch for Leaks**

You may not be able to hear a water leak



**Leaky Taps** be sure to replace worn washers



#### **Outside Taps**

turn them off completely after use and if you are going to be away for an extended period of time, turn off the taps from inside your home



**Underground Leaks** in lawn sprinkler system.

in lawn sprinkler system Check for excessive wet areas of your lawn

# **Water & Sanitary Sewer Customer Services**



Extension of Payment Date Program For Seniors 60+



Pre-Authorized Payment Program



Special Water Meter Reading Assistance Program



Durham Region staff & representatives always:

- carry Photo ID
- will show you their ID

Protect yourself from unauthorized sales people



Inquiries related to meter reading, billing and collection of water and sewer services: Utility Finance 605 Rossland Road East, PO Box 720, Whitby, ON L1N 6A3 Phone: 905-666-6211 or 1-800-465-6611 • Email: waterbilling@durham.ca



Inquiries related to water shut-offs, leaky water mains, fire hydrants, water meters, manhole covers, basement flooding or blocked sewer connections contact your local Works Department depot:

#### **Ajax Depot**

2020 Salem Rd. Ajax, ON L1S 4S7 Phone: 905-683-1471 Fax: 905-686-9840

#### **Scugog Depot**

Regional Rd. #21 & #23 Port Perry, ON L9L 1B5 Phone: 905-985-7170 Fax: 905-985-4581

#### Oshawa/Whitby Depot

825 Conlin Rd. Whitby, ON L1N 6A3 Phone: 905-655-3344 Fax: 905-655-4067

#### **Orono Depot**

Regional Rd. #4 & #17 Orono, ON L0B 1M0 Phone: 905-983-5116 Fax: 905-983-9071

#### **Sunderland Depot**

Regional Rd. #10 Sunderland, ON LOC 1H0 Phone: 705-357-3140 Fax: 705-357-1460

If this information is required in an accessible format, or you require additional Regional information, please contact the Region of Durham Finance Department at: 905-668-7711 or 1-800-372-1102