



## City of East Moline, Illinois

# Water, Sewer and Stormwater Utility Improvements & Rate Adjustments Effective February 1, 2025

Dear Utility Customer,

The City of East Moline is writing to inform you that, effective **February 1, 2025**, there will be an adjustment to water, sewer, and stormwater utility rates. Throughout 2024, the City worked with industry experts to assess our water and sewer systems, many of which are over 70 years old and nearing the end of their useful life. The assessment identified high-priority repairs and upgrades essential for maintaining reliable systems, preventing costly emergencies, and complying with federal and state regulations.

These critical improvements, which must be completed within the next 10 years, come with significant costs. Without a rate increase, the City would face major challenges in addressing aging infrastructure and complying with regulations, potentially leading to service interruptions, expensive emergency repairs, and fines.

**HIGH PRIORITY PROJECTS:** Over the next 5-10 years, the City plans to undertake the following projects:

1. **Lead Service Line Replacement:** Replacing approximately 2,000 lead lines as required by federal mandates.
2. **Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrades:** Meeting state requirements to reduce phosphorus levels by 2030.
3. **Water Treatment Plant Repairs:** Replacing or repairing a clearwell and sedimentation basins, which are critical to water quality and at risk of failing.
4. **Aging Infrastructure Replacement:** Upgrading deteriorating water and sewer lines to prevent costly failures.
5. **Stormwater Drainage Improvements:** Enhancing drainage systems and meeting FEMA flood protection levee mandates.

Urgent upgrades, estimated at **\$102 million**, will be completed within 5 years, while additional priority upgrades over the next 10 years will cost **\$57 million**. A detailed overview of these projects is available at:

<https://www.eastmoline.com/470/East-Moline-Utility-Improvements>

**UTILITY RATE CHANGES:** After several months of deliberation, the City Council approved setting utility rates for the next five years at its January 21, 2025 meeting. Below is a summary of the funding strategies adopted by the City Council:

- **Gradual Utility Rate Adjustments:** Beginning in 2025 the average residential customer will see an increase of approximately \$12.10 per month, with rates gradually rising annually through 2029. Rates depend on usage (for water and stormwater) and apply to residential, commercial, and industrial customers. A future analysis will take place to determine rate adjustments for 2030-2034.
- **Long-Term Borrowing:** The City will utilize bonds to spread costs over time. However, due to being a non-home rule community, the city is limited to borrow for only 20 years, whereas, Home Rule communities can borrow for up to 40 years. The City Council recently voted to put the home rule referendum question on the April 1, 2025 ballot. If approved, the city could then borrow for up to 40 years, allowing to spread infrastructure costs over an additional timeframe and potentially reducing annual costs to customers.
- **Grant Opportunities:** The City will actively pursue federal and state funding to offset infrastructure expenses.

The following are new rate schedules:

## NEW UTILITY RATE SCHEDULES (Effective February 1, 2025)

### Water Utility Rates (for all classes of customers)

WATER UTILITY RATES	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029
Billing Charge (\$/Month)	\$5.82	\$7.00	\$8.00	\$9.25	\$10.50	\$11.50
Consumption Charge (\$/CCF)						
0 - 80	\$9.08	\$10.16	\$11.32	\$12.63	\$14.21	\$15.21
80-200	6.03	6.74	7.50	8.38	9.43	10.11
200-700	5.88	6.57	7.32	8.19	9.19	9.86
700-1,137	4.22	4.72	5.71	6.74	7.62	8.21
1,137-8,022	1.52	1.85	2.30	2.71	3.30	3.80
8,022-33,423	1.15	1.52	1.95	2.50	3.08	3.69
33,423-66,845	1.06	1.41	1.84	2.38	2.96	3.57
66,845+	0.84	1.29	1.84	2.38	2.96	3.57

### Sewer Utility Rates

SEWER UTILITY RATES	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029
<b>Residential</b>						
Billing Fee (\$/Month)	\$3.82	\$4.49	\$5.28	\$6.10	\$7.02	\$7.90
Sewer Plant and Usage (\$/CCF)	6.04	7.10	8.34	9.63	11.07	12.46
<b>Commercial</b>						
Billing Fee (\$/Month)	\$3.82	\$4.49	\$5.28	\$6.10	\$7.02	\$7.90
Sewer Plant and Usage (\$/CCF)	6.04	7.10	8.34	9.63	11.07	12.46
<b>Industrial</b>						
Billing Fee (\$/Month)	\$3.82	\$4.49	\$5.28	\$6.10	\$7.02	\$7.90
Sewer Plant and Usage (\$/CCF)	6.04	7.10	8.34	9.63	11.07	12.46
<b>Municipal</b>						
Billing Fee (\$/Month)	\$3.82	\$4.49	\$5.28	\$6.10	\$7.02	\$7.90
Sewer Plant (\$/CCF)	3.59	4.22	4.96	5.73	6.59	7.41

### Stormwater Utility Rates (for all classes of customers)

STORMWATER UTILITY RATES	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029
Rate per Equivalent Unit (\$/ERU)	\$2.61	\$4.31	\$4.50	\$4.70	\$4.91	\$5.13

The City recognizes the financial burden these adjustments may impose and is committed to minimizing the impact. A **relief program for qualifying low-income residents** will be established to assist households. Additional details on this program will be shared when available on our website at [www.eastmoline.com](http://www.eastmoline.com).

If you have any questions about these rate adjustments or need assistance, please contact our customer service team at **309-752-1530** or email [utilitybilling@eastmoline.com](mailto:utilitybilling@eastmoline.com).

Thank you for your understanding and continued support as we invest in the future of East Moline's utility infrastructure.