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The City of Rensselaer residents and businesses are served by approximately 80 miles of sewer lines. The sewer system, portions of which were first constructed over 100 years ago, collects and pumps wastewater (sewage) to the Rensselaer County sewer treatment plant, where it is treated and released into the Hudson River.

The cost of maintaining this system is increasing due to aging equipment and stricter regulations. The pipes and pump stations that collect and transport sewage are getting older and some have reached the end of their useful life. If the system is not properly maintained and replaced when necessary, old sewer lines will break and release raw sewage into our rivers and streams, and even into homes and businesses. At the same time, increasingly stringent State and Federal environmental rules to protect the Hudson River require regular updates to the system to avoid penalties and fines.

The sewer maintenance on your water bill will allow the City to properly maintain our aging system and to make the improvements necessary to comply with the State and Federal regulations that protect the Hudson River and other critical bodies of water.

The sewer maintenance fee increase, which was passed through Resolution on 1/15/2014, will be charged at rate of 10% of the total bill for Residential customers and 20% of the total bill for Commercial customers.

Please see list of additional fees on back of this letter.

If you have any further questions or concerns, please contact your Alderperson, or the City of Rensselaer Sewer Dept. at 518-462-6466.

SEWER LINE MAINTENANCE FEE	RESIDENTIAL 10%
	COMMERCIAL 20%
SEWER TURN OFF (AT TIME OF WATER TURN OFF)	\$100.00
SEWER TURN ON (AT TIME OF WATER TURN ON)	\$250.00
SEWER CALL OUTS (CITY ISSUE)	NO CHARGE
SEWER CALL OUT (CUSTOMER'S ISSUE) 8am – 2pm	\$100.00 per hour
2pm – nights & weekends	\$200.00 per hour
Legal Holidays	\$400.00 per hour
NON-COMPLIANCE FINE (UNFLUSHABLE ITEM IN SEWER SYSTEM)	(see examples below)
	RESIDENTIAL \$1,500.00
	COMMERCIAL \$2,500.00-\$5,000.00

EXAMPLES OF UNFLUSHABLE ITEMS ARE: (INCLUDING ADVERTISED "FLUSHABLE")

- BABY WIPES
- PRE-MOISTENED TOWELETTES OF ANY KIND
- DIAPERS OF ANY KIND
- PAPER TOWELS
- ARTICLES OF CLOTHING
- KITTY LITTER
- CLEANSING CLOTHS
- FEMININE PRODUCTS