

NOTICE OF SEWER RENTAL RATE INCREASE TO ALL BERKS-MONTGOMERY MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY CUSTOMERS

Berks-Montgomery Municipal Authority (BMMA) prides itself in diligent management of the operations of the services that we provide to our customers. We continually look for methods and procedures that can reduce our annual operating supply costs. We control our electricity and natural gas rates by bidding our supply contracts. Annually we bid contracts for major supplies and services such as alum and sludge disposal.

With over 60 miles of sewer lines in our collection system, BMMA invested in equipment to clean and televise the sewer service lines throughout the system. We continually run programs of flow monitoring to identify areas contributing to inflow and infiltration. This increased flow is costly and reduces the available capacity of the system.

What is Inflow?

Inflow occurs when stormwater enters the sanitary sewer system through illegal connections such as floor drains, downspouts, subsurface drains, yard drains and sump pumps. Inflow is an area that each homeowner is responsible to control. Please make sure you do not have any illegal connections to the sewer system. If you have questions regarding any of the sources of inflow described above, please feel free to contact us. BMMA will not impose any penalties where a user willingly corrects a violation.

What is Infiltration?

Infiltration occurs when groundwater seeps into sewer lines through leaking joints, holes and cracks. The only long-term solution is to repair or replace these lines that in many cases are more than sixty years old. BMMA has an annual capital budget of \$500,000 to upgrade the aging portions of our collection system.

Based upon rising costs and the need to continually upgrade the aging portions of the collection system and treatment plants, BMMA finds it necessary to increase the sewer rental rate to \$560.00 per year per EDU (equivalent dwelling unit) effective January 1, 2024. This is an increase of \$40.00 per year (\$10.00 per quarter).

We will continue to look for opportunities to reduce our costs while maintaining reliable service to all our customers.

Berks-Montgomery Municipal Authority Board of Directors