

Van Buren Proposed rate increases effective April 1, 2024

AVERAGE CITY RESIDENTIAL CHARGES at 4,000 GALLONS WATER ONLY (Larger residential, commercial, industrial, and wholesale customer class charges will vary based on size of meter and amount of water used)	January 2016 – March 2024	April 2024	INCREASE	AVERAGE COST OF WATER PER DAY
Water volume charge (4,000 gallons)	\$17.56	\$23.20	\$5.64	
Fixed Charge (Base)	\$4.75	\$6.80	\$2.05	
Arkansas Drinking Water Fee	\$0.40	\$0.40		
Sales Tax	<u>\$2.06</u>	<u>\$2.78</u>	<u>\$0.72</u>	
TOTAL	\$24.77	\$33.18	\$8.41	\$1.09

*To view Rate Schedules and Ordinances online- vbm.org/water-and-sewer-rates

34%

**Does NOT include increased costs of purchasing water from the City of Fort Smith expected sometime in 2024

Water volume charges will be adjusted when the City of Fort Smith water purchase rate increase is implemented

AVERAGE RESIDENTIAL CHARGES at 4,000 GALLONS SEWER ONLY (Larger residential, commercial, industrial, and wholesale customer class charges will vary based on size of meter and amount of sewer used)	January 2016 – March 2024	April 2024	INCREASE	AVERAGE COST OF SEWER PER DAY
Sewer volume charge (4,000 gallons)	\$16.56	\$27.60	\$11.04	
Fixed Charge (Base)	\$8.06	\$3.50	(\$4.56)	
TOTAL	\$24.62	\$31.10	\$6.48	\$1.02

26%

RESIDENTIAL WATER AND SEWER AT 4,000 GALLONS	\$49.39	\$64.28	\$14.89	\$2.11
	30%			

Water Bill Affordability Analysis	
Water Bill 4,000 gallons	\$30
City of Van Buren Median Household Income (MHI)	\$46,075
Cost Affordability	0.78%
Sewer Bill Affordability Analysis	
Sewer Bill 4,000 gallons	\$31
Cost Affordability	0.81%

According to the Arkansas Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Division (NRD), a disadvantaged community in Arkansas is defined as “any community where the current utility rates for 4,000 gallons of water/sewer (*calculated seperately-not combined*) on an annual basis is at least 1.5% of the MHI.” *NRD Defined MHI: Average of the three (3) most recent years of MHI data from University of Arkansas Little Rock American Community Survey 5-year estimates