

# SOUTH HAVEN AREA WATER SEWER AUTHORITY

In an effort to comply with new state regulations, the South Haven Area Water Sewer Authority has made the decision to increase rates.

In the face of aging infrastructure and increasing regulatory requirements, municipalities across our state are now working to invest in improvements to ensure access to clean, safe drinking water. The most recent tests of drinking water for customers served by SHAWSA show non-detect for lead and for PFAS.

Starting July 1, water rates will increase by 8 percent while sewer rates will increase by 9.95 percent. The average rate payers will see between \$4.36 and \$4.71 per month on their water bills and \$5.75 to \$6.39 on their sewer bills.

The SHAWSA board made this decision in order to:

- Prepare to meet new requirements under the Safe Water Drinking Act related to lead and copper that will go into effect January 1, 2020. These changes were made by the Department of Environment, Great Lakes & Energy, formerly the Department of Environmental Quality and will require an annual infrastructure investment of \$625,000 for the next 20 years.
- Continue to make capital improvements to our infrastructure, including the replacement of a concrete standpipe at 361 Blue Star Highway, which has been identified as a priority of SHAWSA. The water portion of this totals \$6.9 million, which will be paid out over the next seven years.
- Service ongoing debt requirements without entering into a budget shortfall. This will cost \$41 million over the next 28 years.

If you have any questions, please William Hunter, the Director of SHAWSA at 269.637.0737.

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