City of Cambridge
FINANCE DEPARTMENT

LOUIS DePASQUALE
Assistant City Manager/Finance

Great News! No Water Rate Increase for the 4th Consecutive Year

May 5, 2014

Dear Water/Sewer Customer:

The City administration and City Council continue to recognize the importance of minimizing increases in water and sewer rates. Therefore, I am pleased to announce, the approved FY15 0% increase in the water consumption block rate and a 5.2% increase in the sewer use block rate, resulting in a 3.7% combined rate increase for the period beginning April 1, 2014. This is the fourth consecutive year that the City has been able to produce a 0% increase in the water rate. This accomplishment is due to our planning process which includes conservatively estimating our water and sewer revenues and controlling expenditure growth, including debt issuance. The increase in the sewer rate is primarily due to increases in the pay-as-you-go capital budget, MWRA assessment, debt service account, and the sewer component of the Public Works Budget. Debt service on sewer bonds and the MWRA assessment account for 88.1% of the total Sewer Budget.

The following block rates will commence with the water/sewer usage as of April 1, 2014, and you will see the changes in bills issued as of July 1, 2014.

	Annual Consumption	FY14 Water Rate	FY15 Water Rate	FY14 Sewer Rate	FY15 Sewer Rate
Block 1	0 - 40 CcF	$3.02	$3.02	$8.19	$8.62
Block 2	41- 400 CcF	$3.24	$3.24	$8.67	$9.12
Block 3	401 - 2000 CcF	$3.44	$3.44	$9.31	$9.79
Block 4	2,001 - 10,000 CcF	$3.65	$3.65	$10.02	$10.54
Block 5	Over 10,000 CcF	$3.96	$3.96	$10.66	$11.21

All rates are per CcF. CcF is an abbreviation of 100 cubic feet. One CcF is approximately 750 gallons.

Senior Discount Program

The City offers a 15% discount, not to exceed $90, to residents 65 years of age or older who own and occupy their one, two or three family homes. *An application form is on the reverse side of this notice*. Any resident who was granted a Clause 41C elderly exemption on FY2014 real estate taxes will receive a 30% discount, not to exceed $180 per year. The City automatically grants this discount where applicable.

If you have any questions, please contact the Finance Department at 617 349-4220, or e-mail us at treasurer@cambridgema.gov.

Sincerely,

Louis DePasquale

Louis DePasquale
Assistant City Manager/Fiscal

795 Massachusetts Avenue Cambridge, MA 02139 617.349.4220 Phone 617.349.4213 Fax treasurer@cambridgema.gov E-mail

SENIOR DISCOUNT WATER/SEWER PROGRAM

Because of the impact the water and sewer rate increases may have on senior citizens, the City offers a Senior Discount Water/Sewer Program. All residents 65 years of age or older who own and occupy their one, two or three family home are eligible for a 15% discount on water/sewer charges, not to exceed $90 per year. To qualify, you must be 65 years of age or older on July 1, 2014. **If you are currently receiving the discount, you will continue to receive it and you need NOT reapply.** To begin receiving the discount, complete the application form below if you qualify for this program. Any resident who was granted a Clause 41C elderly exemption on FY14 real estate taxes will receive a 30% discount, not to exceed $180 per year. The City automatically grants this discount where applicable; therefore, you do not need to apply for it.

If you have any questions regarding the Senior Discount Water/Sewer Program, please contact the Finance Department at 617 349-4220. If you have any questions regarding the qualifications for the real estate tax exemption under clause 41C, please contact the Assessor's Office at 617 349-4343.

SENIOR DISCOUNT WATER/SEWER APPLICATION FORM

If you own and occupy your one, two, or three-family home and will be 65 or older by July 1, 2014, please complete and return by June 16, 2014 to:

City of Cambridge - Finance Department

795 Massachusetts Avenue
Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139

15% Senior Discount Water/Sewer Program

PARCEL ID _____ ACCOUNT NUMBER _____

DATE _____

TELEPHONE # _____

NAME OF RECORD OWNER _____

NAME OF APPLICANT _____

ADDRESS _____

DATE OF BIRTH _____

SIGNATURE _____