

**Caribou Utilities District
Legal Notice**

The Caribou Utilities District Waterworks Division gives notice to the public that on Thursday, **June 17, 2021 at 7:30 a.m. at the Caribou Wellness Center at 55 Bennett Drive, Caribou, Maine**, the Trustees of the Caribou Utilities District will hold a public hearing to discuss and hear comments on a proposed water rate increase.

Effective on October 4, 2021

	% Increase	\$ Increase
Residential	2.90%	\$ 15,085
Commercial	8.27%	\$ 9,584
Government	18.03%	\$ 5,627
Industrial	5.97%	\$ 4,508
Private Fire Protection	5.50%	\$ 2,164
Public Fire Protection	1.11%	\$ 3,567
Non-Metered Revenues	15.28%	\$ 5,424
	4.03%	\$ 45,959

**Fire Protection rates are determined pursuant to Chapter 690 of the Public Utilities Commission Rules.*

The last approved water rate increase was filed in 2016. Since that time, the District has been subject to increases in costs incurred for labor and other operating expenses.

Pursuant to 35-A MRSA Section (6104), a customer has the right to request additional information relating to the present and proposed rates from the District, the right to an open and fair hearing, and the right to assistance from the Public Advocate. Customers also have the right under 35-A MRSA Section (6104) to petition the Maine Public Utilities Commission to suspend and investigate the District's rates pursuant to 35-A MRSA Section 310, if, on or before **July 16, 2021**, 253 of the District's customers (15% of customers or 1,000 customers, whichever is less) file with the District's General Manager, at 176 Limestone St., Caribou, ME and with the Public Utilities Commission, c/o Administrative Director, State House Station #18, Augusta, ME 04333-0018, a petition or petitions demanding review by the PUC of the proposed rate changes. Signatures on the petitions filed pursuant to Section 7 are invalid unless accompanied by the printed names and addresses of the signers. Upon request the District will provide customers with petition forms that include space for the signatures and the printed names and addresses of the signers.

A copy of material supporting the proposed rate changes will be available at the Caribou City Hall for inspection on and after **May 14, 2021**. If you have any questions or desire additional information, you may call Hugh A. Kirkpatrick, General Manager at (207)-496-0911, or the Administrative Director of the PUC at (207)-287-3831. For additional assistance, contact the Public Advocate, State House Station #112, Augusta, ME 04333-0112, (207)-624-3687.

PUC Docket # 2021-00104

Board of Trustees
Caribou Utilities District

**Notice of Public Hearing
Caribou Utilities District
Proposed Sewer Rate Increase**

Pursuant to Section 1252 of Title 38 MRSA, notice is hereby given of a proposed 2% increase in sewer rates effective October 4, 2021.

This additional revenue is necessary to cover increased expenses and deferred maintenance, as well as improving District infrastructure. As facilities age and maintenance increases, additional costs are incurred. More stringent regulations require more treatment, testing, and reporting.

Current residential, commercial and governmental rates are \$250 per year. All current rates have a consumption component; for monthly usage above 300 cubic feet there is a charge of \$2.50 per 100 cubic feet. The consumption component was established in 2001.

The proposed residential, commercial and governmental rates are \$255 per year. All new rates will have a consumption component; for monthly usage above 300 cubic feet there will be a charge of \$2.55 per 100 cubic feet. The last sewer rate increase was in October 2018.

Additionally, a base rate increase of \$5 per year is proposed with subsequent \$5 per year rate increases added to the base rate for 5 years. The consumption component will be increased \$0.50 per 100 cubic feet of water usage over the allowance annually as well. Sewer bills will continue to be based upon water usage and billed concurrently with water bills, with the exception of non-water customers. With the proposed rate increase, Caribou Utilities District rates will remain among the lowest sewer utility rates in Maine.

Therefore:

Current rate - \$250.00/yr + \$2.50/100 cubic feet over the monthly minimum of 300 cubic feet
10/4/21 rate - \$255.00/yr + \$2.55/100 cubic feet over the monthly minimum of 300 cubic feet
10/3/22 rate - \$260.00/yr + \$2.60/100 cubic feet over the monthly minimum of 300 cubic feet
10/2/23 rate - \$265.00/yr + \$2.65/100 cubic feet over the monthly minimum of 300 cubic feet
10/7/24 rate - \$270.00/yr + \$2.70/100 cubic feet over the monthly minimum of 300 cubic feet
10/6/25 rate - \$275.00/yr + \$2.75/100 cubic feet over the monthly minimum of 300 cubic feet

A public hearing will be held at 7:30 am at the Caribou Wellness Center at 55 Bennett Drive in Caribou ME on June 17, 2021 to discuss the proposed rate increase. A regular monthly District meeting will be held afterwards. If you have any questions, please call the Caribou Utilities District at 207-496-0911.

**CARIBOU UTILITIES DISTRICT
PUBLIC HEARING, SPECIAL MEETING, AND MONTHLY TRUSTEES MEETING
THURSDAY, JUNE 17, 2021 AT THE CARIBOU WELLNESS CENTER,
55 BENNETT DRIVE, CARIBOU MAINE 04736
7:30 A.M.**

The Caribou Utilities District gives notice to the public that on **Thursday, June 17, 2021** at the **Caribou Wellness Center, 55 Bennett Drive, Caribou, Maine**, the Trustees of the District will hold a **PUBLIC HEARING to discuss and hear comments on a proposed water and wastewater rate increase**. There will also be a **Special Meeting** for the purpose of considering the authorization of issuance of a bond, and a bond anticipation note of the District in the amount of \$1,028,000 to be awarded to the Maine Municipal Bond Bank. The proceeds of both the note and the bond will be used to finance upgrades to the District's waste water treatment plant, including but not limited to sludge removal and treatment upgrades at Grimes Treatment Plant (the Project). The District Trustees will hold the monthly meeting immediately following the Public Hearing and Special Meeting to consider, among other matters, the water and wastewater rate increase, and the issuance of the bond. Both meetings are open to the public.