

2020 Utility Billing Rates

Landfill – \$6.50

Garbage – \$7.50

Water – Base charge – \$ 14.46

Usage Charge: First 5,000 gallons	\$8.71/1,000 gallons
Next 5,000 gallons	\$7.10/1,000 gallons
Next 10,000 gallons	\$6.59/1,000 gallons
Next 9,999,999 gallons	\$5.98/1,000 gallons

Storm Sewer - \$2.50 per unit Residential
\$5.00 commercial

Sewer – Minimum - \$13.38

Usage Charge: \$6.43/1000 gallons

Explanation of each of the charges on a residential utility bill:

WA – Water Usage

This first item on the bill contains the previous meter reading and the present meter reading in 100 gallon units. For example, if the previous reading is 20, and the new reading is 44, that would mean there were 2400 gallons used. The meters round to the nearest 100 gallons when they are read.

GB – Garbage

This is a fixed charge for garbage pickup, which covers the basic costs for the City to provide garbage collection services for the residents, such as fuel costs, utilities for the sanitation department building, salary expenses, repairs, equipment, and other costs. Every residential unit with water service is charged this fee to pay.

In addition to this monthly charge, the City of Humboldt requires residents to purchase City garbage bags/stickers for their trash. The cost of these bags/stickers covers the actual costs of picking them up. The system is set up so that the more garbage a residence has, the more they pay for bags. That way a family of six will pay more for their garbage pickup than a family of two, with less garbage. This is called a unit-based fee system. This system also encourages more recycling; the more you recycle, the fewer bags you need to buy.

LF – Landfill Assessment

This is an assessment to cover the City of Humboldt share of the costs of operating both the landfill in Fort Dodge (Humboldt, along with several other cities in the area are members of the North Central Iowa Landfill, and share in its operating cost). Humboldt and other Humboldt County cities also share in the costs involved with the closed Humboldt County Landfill. All of the garbage collected in Humboldt is taken to the Fort Dodge landfill.

As a side note, the Fort Dodge landfill used to offer one free visit per year to residents of the member cities, but the costs of that program were too high for it to continue. That program was discontinued several years ago.

SW – Sewer Usage

This is the charge for sewer usage. The cost is based on water usage (per gallon).

ST – Storm Water

This \$2.50 (for residences) covers some of the costs to operate our storm sewer system throughout the city. Rain water that falls onto a property eventually runs into the storm sewer system, which needs to be kept operational.

WS – Water Service Fee

This is a fixed fee to cover the basic cost of bringing water service to a property, regardless of how much water is used. Those costs include such things as fuel, utilities for the various water department buildings, salaries, equipment, repairs, and so on.

TX – Water Excise Tax

Instead of 7% Sales Tax, water in Iowa is taxed a 6% Water Excise Tax. This is required by Iowa law.

Please let us know if you have any other questions regarding your City of Humboldt monthly utility bill.

Utility bills are mailed on the 1st of each month, due on the 15th. Accounts over 30 days past due are subject to disconnection, as outlined in the Disconnect Notice mailed to past due accounts.