



# Your Utility Company Newsletter

## There is No Away

When a person flushes a wipe, that wipe is “away” from the person who used it but, since there is no away the wipe often ends up in the influent pump at the sewer plant. The basic problem with wipes is that even the ones that are labeled “flushable” and “plumber approved” are flushable because they can be physically flushed, but in Bandon, wipes stay in the system less than three hours, which is not long enough to disintegrate. Wipes are a multi- billion dollar, world-wide industry today. The industry started with baby wipes, which were convenient and disposed of in a diaper pail. Later, adult wipes, equally convenient, were introduced and marketed to be flushed down the toilet. Many of the big corporations that sell adult wipes are aware of the clogging problem with both sanitary sewer systems and septic systems. They claim that their wipes are safe to flush. This claim is debatable and some of the largest companies are currently in litigation about the “safe to flush” claim. Manufacturers, aware of sewer plants dealing with damaging clogs like the one to the right, are working on methods of fabricating wipes that are more sewer friendly, like toilet paper. Until that change comes, please don’t flush ANY wipes.



Our influent pump that is currently being rebuilt. This pump has been in use for 7 months. This condition is largely preventable.

## Your Utility Company at the Cranberry Festival

If you visit the Cranberry Festival on Saturday, September 14, **LOOK UP**. You will see a green air dancer; and if you are observant, you will see two. Walk toward either of them and you will find yourself at a Utility Company booth. If you take the trolley, it will drop you off at the Waste Water Treatment Plant on Fillmore, where you can tour part of the plant, observe demonstrations, play a game, color a frog, maybe get a reusable straw, choose frogs to fit in a bucket, toss bean bags into Frugal’s mouth, find information, and ask questions. If you go to the other air dancer, that booth has demonstrations, coloring, information, and some interesting give-aways.

**Bandon's New Utilities Rates Schedules \***  
Effective July 3, 2019 - June 30, 2020

	Treated Water			Wastewater		
	City Limits	Base Rate			Base Rate	
		First 2,000 gal.	Each add'l. 1,000 gal.		First 2,000 gal.	Each add'l. 1,000 gal.
<b>Resident</b>						
Inside	\$	28.44	\$ 1.57	Dec-May	\$	29.08 \$ 4.81
				Jun-Nov	\$	29.08 \$ 3.14
Outside	\$	38.88	\$ 2.63	Dec-May	\$	45.85 \$ 7.21
				Jun-Nov	\$	45.85 \$ 4.70
<b>Commerical</b>						
Inside	\$	40.54	\$ 1.57		\$	29.08 \$ 4.81
Outside	\$	50.98	\$ 2.63		\$	45.85 \$ 7.21

\* <https://www.cityofbandon.org/general/page/rates-and-fees>

You may have noticed in your July utility bill that the City’s rates have changed for electric, water and sewer utilities. Your higher electric rates are in response to the Bonneville Power Administration increasing the rates that it charges the City; this cost is passed on to us, the ratepayers. We informed you earlier in the year that the increases were coming, and they are now in effect.

The temporary emergency increases in water and sewer rates were passed by the City Council in June; they became effective July 3, 2019. The table displays the increases in base rates for treated water (water) and wastewater (sewer) for all ratepayers. For residential ratepayers, you will now be billed wastewater (sewer) usage depending on the time of year. For usage beyond the initial 2,000 gal. covered in the base rate, there will be one rate from December through May and another for June through November.

To find these new rate schedules, please go to the City of Bandon’s webpage (<https://www.cityofbandon.org/>), click on “Public Resources”; scroll down and click on “Rates and Fees”. For water, you will see the base rate listed as “1st 2000 Gal”, and the other price in the box is for each additional 1,000 gal. you use. For sewer (wastewater) rates, you will see a layout similar to water.