



City of Valley Falls

Established 1854

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 10, 2025

City of Valley Falls Announces Seasonal Utility Billing Adjustments and Annual Rate Increase

Valley Falls, KS – The City of Valley Falls would like to inform residents that Utility Bills for the months of **January, February, and March** may appear higher than usual. This seasonal increase is due to the billing method used during these months.

During the winter months, **sewer charges are based on actual water usage**. This differs from the rest of the year—**April through December**—when sewer charges are calculated using an average of the winter usage, a practice known as **sewer averaging**. This method is designed to fairly estimate sewer use during months when outdoor water consumption (like lawn watering or gardening) is more likely, which does not flow into the sewer system.

In addition to this seasonal adjustment, residents are reminded that **water and sewer rates increase by 2% annually on January 1st**. This annual rate increase is part of the terms associated with the City's **USDA loan for the sewer replacement project**. The project is a critical investment in our infrastructure, ensuring safe, efficient, and environmentally responsible service for years to come.

We understand that changes in billing can be concerning, and we are committed to transparency and open communication with our community. If you have any questions or need assistance understanding your bill, please contact City Hall at (785) 945-6612 or visit our website at www.valleyfalls.org.

Thank you for your continued support and understanding as we work to maintain and improve Valley Falls' essential services.

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