

From: Marc Samwick <mayor@scarsdale.com>
Subject: Re: Scarsdale Water Bill
Date: November 27, 2019 at 3:38:55 PM EST
To: Ron Hartman <ronhart21@yahoo.com>

Hi Ron,

Thank you for your email. We recognize and appreciate your frustration with your water bill.

The Village is working to upgrade to smart meters, in part to allow for monthly billing. Monthly billing will, among other things, enable people to more quickly identify and correct costly water leaks.

Unfortunately, the Village is tied to the NYC water system and there are not realistic alternatives to our water source at this time. The Village does, however, fight hard to get whatever rate relief we can from the City, including through litigation.

As you correctly point out, the 3x multiplier and the 3rd tier - at a 3.5x multiple - are impactful. The 3x multiplier is a pass-through of the NYC rate multiplier the Village is charged. The further increase to a 3.5x multiplier was enacted to encourage water conservation measures for the highest consumers of water.

While it is little consolation, please note that the Village's water rates are generally comparable to those of other communities in the County.

Ron, on a personal level, I am genuinely sorry that you faced such an extreme increase in your water bill. I wish there were other alternatives available to ameliorate such increases in water invoices.

Wishing you and your family a very happy Thanksgiving.

Best regards,

Marc

On Nov 26, 2019, at 3:28 PM, Ron Hartman <ronhart21@yahoo.com> wrote:

CAUTION: External sender.

Hi Marc - I live at 4 Magnolia Road and have been living there for over 10 years

I realize that many homes use more water in the summer months - but my bill tripled this year for the June-Sept period vs. last year. I can't understand how my usage is up 50%, but my bill is up 3X?

I called the Water department today and someone came to the house to read our meter. Apparently the meter is correct, since the last 2.5 months' usage is much lower.

Perhaps we can give people a monthly report of their water usage - this way its not such as shock when we get the 3 month bill - 6 weeks after the period is over.

The triple the price penalty for the second tier is really a bit obscene. Were any other pricing mechanisms considered?

Also, I understand that we get our water from NYC - are there any alternatives we have considered?

<https://www.scarsdale.com/179/Water-Rates>

Thank you

Ron Hartman