

Rhode Island Water Resources Board

Annual Survey of Rhode Island Residential Water Rates: 2010

Water Supplier	Consumption Cost per 1000 gallons	Consumption Cost Ranges (gallons)	Annual Charges	Billing Cycle Type	Annual Cost for 60,000 gallons
Block Island Water	\$13.09	*January - March	0	Monthly	\$1,075.02
	\$19.69	*April - June			
	\$25.79	*July - September			
	\$13.09	*October - December			
Bristol County Water Authority	\$3.39	0 - 11,200	\$233	Quarterly	\$529.70
	\$9.57	11,221 - 33,660			
	\$7.29	22,441 - 224,400			
	\$3.38	224,401 - 673,200			
	\$4.39	673,201 - +			
Cumberland Water Department	\$2.86	0 - 50,000	\$124	Semi-annually	\$306.90
	\$3.99	50,001 - 200,000			
	\$4.26	200,001 - +			
East Providence Water Department	\$0.00	0 - 8,310	\$127	Quarterly	\$236.35
	\$4.10	8,311 - +			
East Smithfield Water District	\$3.41	0 - 16,000	\$40	Quarterly	\$257.20
	\$3.76	16,001 - 12,000			
	\$4.29	12,001 - +			
Greenville Water District	\$3.45	0 - +	\$102	Quarterly	\$308.50
Harrisville Fire District	\$4.06	0 - +	\$50	Quarterly	\$293.60
Jamestown Water Division	\$0.00	0 - 4,999	\$253	Quarterly	\$463.84
	\$5.06	5,000 - 9,999			
	\$5.46	10,000 - 14,999			
	\$6.92	15,000 - 19,999			
	\$9.64	20,000 - 49,999			
	\$11.80	50,000 - 99,999			
	\$15.12	100,000 - 199,999			
\$19.24	200,000 - +				
Johnston Water Control Facility	\$3.54	0 - +	\$110	Semi-annual	\$322.58
Kent County Water Authority	\$6.30	0 - +	\$38	Quarterly	\$416.12
Kingston Water District	\$2.47	0 - 18,326	\$257	Quarterly	\$405.67
	\$2.72	18,327 - +			
Lincoln Water Commission	\$0.54	0 - 20,000	\$93	Annually	\$230.50
	\$3.16	20,001 - 75,000			
	\$5.08	75,001 - +			
Narragansett Water Department	\$0.00	0 - 44,879	\$143	Quarterly	\$192.41
	\$2.53	44,880 - 71,060			
	\$3.36	71,061 - 97,240			
	\$4.30	97,241 - +			

Water Supplier	Consumption Cost per 1000 gallons	Consumption Cost Ranges (gallons)			Annual Charges	Billing Cycle Type	Annual Cost for 60,000 gallons
Newport Water Division	\$5.25	0	-	+	\$61	Quarterly	\$376.24
North Kingstown Water Department	\$3.24	0	-	20,000	\$57	Quarterly	\$251.50
	\$3.99	20,001	-	40,000			
	\$4.54	40,001	-	+			
North Smithfield Water Department	\$5.85	0	-	+	\$150	Quarterly	\$501.00
North Tiverton Fire District	\$5.48	0	-	+	240.24	Tri-annually	\$569.14
Pascoag Utility District	\$3.24	0	-	3,747	\$250	Quarterly	\$528.70
	\$5.04	3,748	-	11,220			
	\$5.25	11,221	-	18,700			
	\$5.44	18,701	-	74,800			
	\$5.64	74,800	-	+			
Pawtucket Water Supply Board	\$4.62	0	-	+	\$0	Monthly	\$277.48
Portsmouth Water & Fire District	\$3.67	0	-	21,000	\$65	Annually	\$311.60
	\$4.11	21,001	-	60,000			
	\$4.91	60,001	-	100,000			
	\$5.46	100,001	-	+			
Providence Water Supply Board	\$3.25	0	-	+	\$67	Quarterly	\$261.76
Richmond Water Supply System	\$0.00	0	-	30,000	\$200	Semi-annually	\$208.00
	\$3.23	30,001	-	59,999			
	\$3.73	60,000	-	+			
Smithfield Water Supply Board	\$2.92	0	-	100,000	\$0	Semi-annually	\$175.20
	\$3.45	100,001	-	+			
South Kingstown Water Department	\$0.00	0	-	37,400	\$165	Annually	\$236.92
	\$3.18	37,401	-	+			
Stone Bridge Water District	\$4.94	0	-	+	\$24	Quarterly	\$320.40
United Water Rhode Island	\$2.60	0	-	17,952	\$69	Quarterly	\$225.08
	\$3.47	17,953	-	+			
Warwick Water Department	\$3.03	0	-	+	\$33	Quarterly	\$224.95
Westerly Water Department	\$0.00	0	-	17,952	\$328	Semi-annually	\$452.56
	\$5.19	17,953	-	+			
Woonsocket Water Dept.	\$5.24	0	-	+	\$58	Quarterly	\$314.46

*Block Island uses a seasonal rate and is therefore not based on consumption. Annual usage calculated as 65 gallons/person/day with an average 2.5 persons/household.

Data reflects consistent usage throughout the year.

Calculations are based on a meter connection of 5/8", unless where the supplier's ordinance does not account for any meters as small as 5/8".

Where a supplier bills in hundred-cubic-feet, rates have been converted to reflect the equivalent price-per-1000 gallons (1 HCF = 748 gallons).

Notes	
Block Island	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Block Island is the only supplier that uses a seasonal structure to promote conservation during high-use summer months. 2. Supplier charges the RI surcharge tax as a separate line item to each customer. As this is based on consumption, it has been calculated into the rate per 1000g.
Bristol	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Service charge is based on meter size. 2. Supplier bills based only on consumption per billing period.
Cumberland	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Service charge is based on meter size. 2. Usage is billed cummulative. If the customer passes 50,000 gallons, they will continue to pay at the second tier rate until the year ends, regardless of beginning the new 6-month bill cycle. 3. CWD addresses the Town Council in order to change water rates, except for a "pass through rule". This rule allows the department to adjust the price per gallon based on the cost of acquiring their water from Pawtucket, but not for any other cost of operation.
East Providence	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Supplier charges the RI surcharge as a separate line item to each customer. As this is based on consumption, it has been calculated into the rate per 1000g. 2. Service charge is \$31.66 per quarter and alots the first 8,310.27gal. Consumption is calculated quarterly.
East Smithfield	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Supplier will be switching to quarterly billing in January 2011. By switching to quarterly from semi-annually, the supplier halved each tier's consumption range. This survey accounts for that change. 2. Supplier charges \$0.50/1000g for Infrastructure Replacement Program. This has been calculated into the variable cost per 1000 gallons.
Greenville	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The consumption rate used for Greenville in this survey is for their Fiscal Year 2011. Greenville will increase to \$3.26/1000g in FY12 and to \$3.36/1000g in FY13. 2. Supplier charges the RI surcharge as a separate line item to each customer. As this is based on consumption, it has been calculated into the rate per 1000g. 3. Supplier charges \$1.50 per customer, annually, for the Department of Health, as well as \$10 quarterly for the supplier's own IFR program.
Jamestown	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Service charge is based on meter size.
Kingston	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Service charge is based on meter size. 2. Supplier charges, annually, \$38.93 for a Capital Improvement Fund and \$38.93 for an Infrastructure Replacement Fund

Lincoln	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Supplier charges \$0.54/1000g for Infrastructure Replacement Program. This has been calculated into the variable cost per 1000 gallons. 2. Annual fees: A flat fee of \$70.20 is assessed per account and grants the first 20,000 gallons. A second service fee of \$21.60 is also charged and earmarked for capital improvements. Lastly, a \$1.50 per customer is charged for the Department of Health. Total is \$93.30 annually.
Narragansett	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Supplier calculates bills based on cumulative consumption, such that a customer only receives the first allotted 6000CF (44,880 gal.) once, rather than at the beginning of each billing period. 2. The billing cycle begins in the summer season, allowing customers to still be within their first allotted 6000CF during the period of highest use (first quarter : June 1 - Sept 30). In 2009, 61% of Narragansett customers used less than 6000CF from June 1 - May 31, making their annual cost for water equal to the minimum charge. 3. Supplier charges \$1.50 per customer for a licensing fee. 4. Supplier charges the RI surcharge tax as a separate line item to each customer. As this is based on consumption, it has been calculated into the rate per 1000g.
North Kingstown	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The service charge amount is determined by the annual fixed costs of operating the system. 2. Residents not on this public water system are assessed a fire hydrant fee of \$18.62, paid to the Water Department, in order to ensure public water is available for fire suppression. 3. Supplier charges the RI surcharge tax as a separate line item to each customer. As this is based on consumption, it has been calculated into the rate per 1000g. 4. Supplier charges \$0.24111/1000g for Infrastructure Replacement Program. This has been calculated into the variable cost per 1000 gallons.
North Smithfield	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Supplier has less than 100 residential accounts.
North Tiverton	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. North Tiverton bills in January, May, and September. 2. Last tax assessment done June 31, 2008. Median value of \$308,000 for entire Tiverton area. From this, the ad-valorem tax of \$0.78/\$1000 equates to approximately \$240.24. This fee is due in November, though customers can pay as late as December 6th without accruing interest on the amount owed. The water district retains this income.
Pascoag	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Service charge was calculated from the following information: \$12 is charged per quarter for a restricted ("capital projects") account. \$38.50 is charged quarterly for a minimum usage of 3740gallons per quarter. \$11 is charge quarterly for fire hydrant maintenance. \$1 is charged quarterly for a meter replacement fund. $((12*4)+(38.50*4)+(11*4)+(1*4))= \\250 annually. 2. The "Harrisville surcharge" is intended to pay for the difference between the total amount of water bought from Harrisville and what is metered (i.e. leakage in the Pascoag system). An account's estimated leakage is based on an account's past consumption and applied in advance. This survey used the most recent reported fee amount of \$0.022/CF, or \$0.00294/gallon. This has been added to the variable cost per 1000 gallons. 3. Supplier charges the RI surcharge as a separate line item to each customer (\$0.29/1000g). As this is based on consumption, it has been calculated into the rate per 1000g. 4. Supplier calculates bills based on consumption per billing period.

Portsmouth	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Last tax assessment done 12/31/07. Median value of \$330,000. Town Tax Assessor places 2010 median at approximately \$300,000. From this, the ad-valorem tax of \$0.15/\$1000 equates to approximately \$45. 2. Service charge based on meter size.
Providence	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Service charge is based on meter size. 2. 80.4% of PWSB revenues come directly from consumption (retail and wholesale). For retail (54.2%), the Board bills Providence, Cranston, North Providence, and a part of Johnston. Wholesale revenues (26.2%) come nine other State suppliers. The remaining 19.6% is derived from service charges, one-time services, and fire hydrant services. 3. Supplier charges the RI surcharge as a separate line item to each customer. As this is based on consumption, it has been calculated into the rate per 1000g.
Richmond	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Supplier charges the RI surcharge as a separate line item to each customer. As this is based on consumption, it has been calculated into the rate per 1000g. 2. Service charge is based on meter size. Richmond's ordinance does not account for any meters smaller than 3/4", which has a \$100 charge. 3. Using 60,000g as annual consumption, this customer would never hit the second tier and only pay the service charge (\$100) plus the surcharge (\$3.99) for each semi-annual bill $((\\$100+\\$4)*(2))=\\$208$ annually
Smithfield	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. In 2010, rates increased 6.07% to reflect the increased cost of receiving water from Providence.
South Kingstown	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Service charge is based on meter size.
United Water	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Service charge is based on meter size.
Warwick	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The WWD calculates its consumer fees based on the wholesale cost of water from Providence (called the "purchase rate"). Price per gallon is a total of:consumption, purchase rate, and RI surcharges. 2. The service charge, or "distribution fee", is based on meter size.
Westerly	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Westerly collects revenue for both water and sewer services. Residents pay a flat \$135 semi-annually for service (\$270 annually). Multi-family homes on one meter are granted \$3.88/24HCF (17,952g) for each unit and charged \$135 per unit for service. (Ex. 3-family home allowed the rate of \$3.88/72HCF (54,056g) and pays service charges of \$405 semi-annually). 2. \$43 is charged semi-annually for first 24HCF (17,952 g). 3. Supplier charges \$0.75 semi-annually for a licensing fee.
Respectfully Submitted: Emily J. Cousineau, RI Water Resources Board, Implementation Aide	

Previous WRB rate surveys have been based on 73,000 gallons annual usage. For reference purposes, the following annual costs have been calculated for each supplier using 73,000 gallons.

Water Supplier	Annual Cost for 73,000 gallons usage
Block Island Water	\$1,307.80
Bristol County Water Authority	\$654.37
Cumberland Water Dept.	\$358.77
East Providence Water Dept.	\$289.65
East Smithfield Water District	\$306.08
Greenville Water District	\$334.11
Harrisville Fire District	\$346.38
Jamestown Water Division	\$553.80
Johnston Water Control Facility	\$368.42
Kent County Water Authority	\$497.80
Kingston Water District	\$437.57
Lincoln Water Commission	\$271.58
Narragansett Water Dept.	\$213.65
Newport Water Division	\$444.49
North Kingstown Water Dept.	\$293.64
North Smithfield Water Dept.	\$577.05
North Tiverton Fire District	\$640.28
Pascoag Utility District	\$596.83
Pawtucket Water Supply Board	\$337.26
Portsmouth Water & Fire District	\$361.28
Providence Water Supply Bd.	\$304.01
Richmond Water Supply System	\$221.00
Smithfield Water Supply Bd	\$213.16
South Kingstown Water Dept.	\$278.21
Stone Bridge Water District	\$384.62
United Water Rhode Island	\$259.88
Warwick Water Department	\$254.19
Westerly Water Department	\$520.03
Woonsocket Water Dept.	\$440.80