

PRESS RELEASE

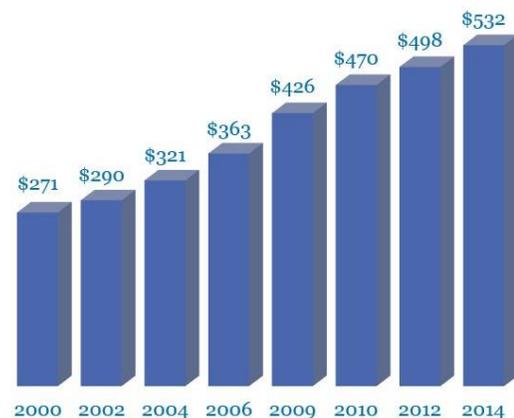
TIGHE & BOND PUBLISHES 2014 MASS. WATER & SEWER RATE SURVEYS DATA PROVIDES BENCHMARKING TOOL FOR COMMUNITIES

Westfield, Massachusetts –August 11, 2015 –Tighe & Bond recently published the results of its 2014 Water and Sewer Rate Surveys in Massachusetts. The results from these latest surveys indicate that residential users in Massachusetts pay approximately \$532 and \$756 annually for water and sewer respectively. This represents increases of 6.6% and 9.6% above the 2012 averages: the cost of both water and sewer service is rising.

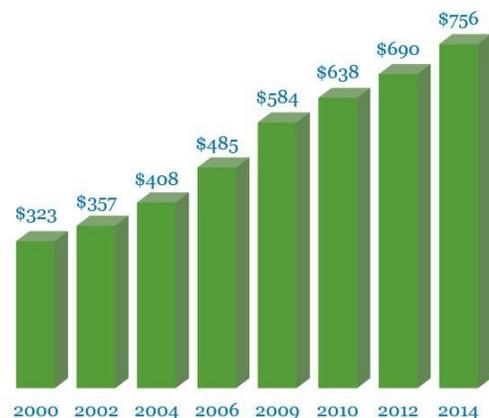
For more than a decade, Tighe & Bond has gathered and reported data on water and sewer rates in Massachusetts and Connecticut. Using rate information provided by survey participants, the firm calculates the annual average homeowner’s cost for water and sewer service based on the consumption of 90,000 gallons or 120 hundred cubic feet of water. Tighe & Bond continued this practice in the 2014 survey.

However, this year the survey also includes a second calculated value based on residential gallons per capita day (RGPCD). Each community reports this data in its annual Public Water Supply Annual Statistic Report filed with the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP). The RGPCD represents performance standards that MassDEP uses to measure how efficiently municipal public water suppliers are operating their systems. This annual cost value, determined using local data, recognizes the variability of actual household usage by community.

The survey also provides information regarding rate structures and billing cycles. The trend is that rate structures are changing, and billing cycles are becoming more frequent.



Annual Average Cost of Water



Annual Average Cost of Sewer Service

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Tighe & Bond's water and sewer rate surveys offer municipalities and private suppliers a benchmarking tool for comparing their rates against other suppliers in the state. This can be particularly useful information when suppliers are considering adjustments to their current rates or rate structures. The survey results are readily available to the public online at <http://rates.tighebond.com>

Tighe & Bond

Founded in 1911, Tighe & Bond is one of the most experienced engineering firms in New England, with offices in Pocasset, Westfield, Westwood, and Worcester, Massachusetts; Middletown and Shelton, Connecticut; and Portsmouth, New Hampshire.

Engineering News Record annually ranks Tighe & Bond among the top design and environmental engineering firms nationally. ZweigWhite also has recognized Tighe & Bond several times as one of the best engineering firms to work for in the nation.

With a team of more than 250 employees, Tighe & Bond provides engineering and environmental services for clients in government, industry, healthcare, education, real estate, energy, and water/wastewater markets.

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