

**Bethel Water District  
Legal Notice**

The Bethel Water District gives notice to the public that on **October 21, 2024, 7:00 p.m. at the Bethel Airport, Bethel, Maine**, the trustees will hold a public hearing to discuss and hear comments on a proposed water rate increase.

	<u>Effective on December 1, 2024</u>		<u>Effective on December 1, 2025</u>	
	<u>% Increase</u>	<u>\$ Increase</u>	<u>% Increase</u>	<u>\$ Increase</u>
All Metered Customers	25.06%	\$74,729	24.99%	\$93,224
Private Fire Protection	19.40%	\$ 3,952	25.00%	\$ 6,080
Public Fire Protection	25.74%	\$35,469	23.45%	\$40,631
Other Revenues	-65.04%	-\$12,994	-64.40%	-\$ 4,498
Overall Increase	21.23%	\$101,156	23.45%	\$135,437

Rates are to become effective in two steps on December 1, 2024, and December 1, 2025. Since its last adjustment in 2019, the district has been incurring continuous increases in operating expenses and will be funding a depreciation account for the replacement of matured assets.

Pursuant to 35-A MRSA Section (6104), a customer has the right to request additional information relating to the present and proposed rates from the district, the right to an open and fair hearing, and the right to assistance from the Public Advocate. Customers also have the right under 35-A MRSA Section (6104) to petition the Maine Public Utilities Commission to suspend and investigate the District's rates pursuant to 35-A MRSA Section 310, if, on or before Thirty (30) days following the public hearing 15% of District customers (or 1000 District customers, whichever is less), file with the Bethel Town Office, Town Clerk and with the Public Utilities Commission, c/o Administrative Director, State House Station #18, Augusta, ME 04333-0018, a petition or petitions demanding review by the PUC of the proposed rate changes. Signatures on the petitions filed pursuant to Section 7 are invalid unless accompanied by the printed names and addresses of the signers. Upon request the district will provide customers with petition forms that include space for the signatures and the printed names and addresses of the signers.

A copy of material supporting the proposed rate change has been available at the Bethel Town Office for inspection since **September 20, 2024**. If you have any questions or desire additional information, you may call Scott Fraser, Chairman, at 207-381-4308, or the Administrative Director of the PUC at (207) 287-3831. For additional assistance, contact the Public Advocate, State House Station #112, Augusta, ME 04333-0112 at (207) 624-3687.

PUC Docket #2024-00268

Board of Trustees  
Bethel Water District