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For Immediate Release

## **2010 Water and Wastewater Rates**

### **The Regional Municipality of York is investing in water and wastewater infrastructure**

York Region is a wholesale distributor of water and wastewater services to our nine local municipalities, responsible for delivering clean drinking water and treating wastewater for release back into the environment. York Region is investing more than \$1.8 billion in 2010 to expand water and wastewater capacity to meet current and future needs. York Region's major water and wastewater projects include:

#### **Water Projects**

- York-Peel Feedermain and Toronto water supply
- Construction of watermains in the Towns of Georgina, Aurora and Newmarket
- Additional water supply to the Township of King
- Construction of an elevated tank in both the Town of Aurora and the Town of Richmond Hill

#### **Wastewater Projects**

- Completing the third phase of the Duffin Creek Water Pollution Control Plant expansion
- Expansion of the Southeast Collector trunk sewer

### **How does York Region finance these projects and this service?**

York Region finances water and wastewater infrastructure through a combination of Development Charges (one-time fees charged to builders for developing a property), debt financing and water and wastewater rates. York Region residents receive a water and wastewater bill from their local municipality.

### **Revised water and wastewater rates**

York Region has adjusted the water and wastewater rates we charge our local municipalities to better reflect the actual cost to expand and maintain the services we provide.

York Regional Council approved a 10 per cent annual increase for wastewater rates for 2009 through 2013 and a five per cent annual increase thereafter. York Regional Council also approved a 10 per cent annual increase for water rates for 2009 through 2011, five per cent in 2012 and 2013 and two per cent thereafter.

Canadian municipalities have among the lowest water and wastewater rates in the world.

### **What does this mean for the average York Region household?**

The cost increase for the average York Region home in 2010 is estimated to be \$43.

### **York Region's water conservation measures**

York Region encourages all residents to help conserve water. For water conservation tips, please visit our award-winning *Water for Tomorrow* program at [www.waterfortomorrow.ca](http://www.waterfortomorrow.ca)

For more information on the 2010 Business Plan and Budget, click on the Budget Banner at [www.york.ca](http://www.york.ca)

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