



WATER EDUCATION



Welcome! This is a **WaterSmart “Drop by Drop”** factsheet; the new water education program sponsored by the City of Prescott. Each month learn more about Prescott’s water resources. From history to infrastructure, together we’ll discuss Prescott water one drop at a time!

WaterSmart Factsheet Summary:

- How much water do you use?
- How are the charges for City water structured?
- How is the money water customers pay being used?

The first step in using water more efficiently is to understand how much you use; this information is on your monthly water bill.

How much water do you use?

The City of Prescott measures water usage in gallons. Americans use an average of 88 gallons per person per day (or 2,640 gallons/person/month); the actual use varies greatly across the country.

Prescott residents are really good at conserving water! For example, one typical customer (a three person household) used 4,257 gallons (1,370 gallons/person/month, 47 gallons/person/day) in July/August 2016.

The City of Prescott has a Conservation-Oriented Tiered Rate Structure

In simple terms, the more water you use, the more you pay, and the higher the rate for above average usage. A tiered rate structure was adopted in 2006, and was updated in 2014 (see table below). This approach is very effective in encouraging careful use of water supplies.

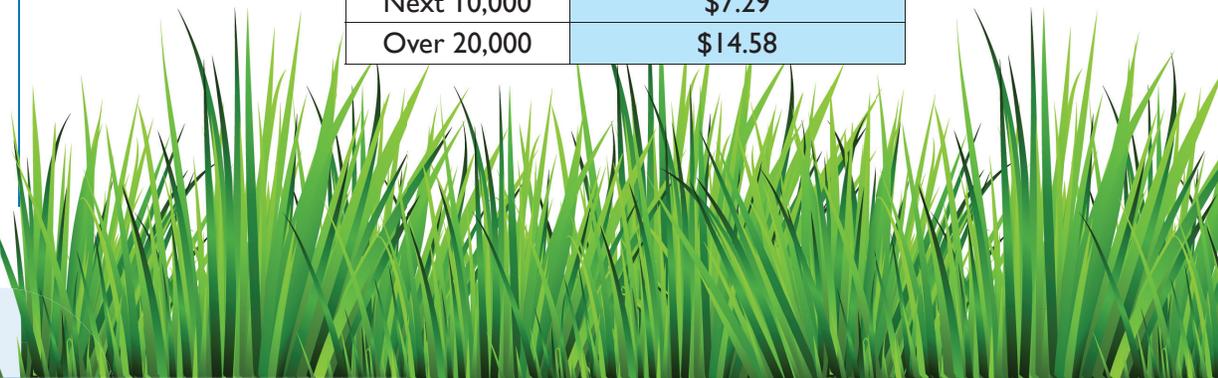
Current Tiered Water Usage Rates for Single Family Residential

SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENCE	
Block Thresholds (gallons)	Rate (\$ per 1,000 gallons)
	<i>Beginning January 1, 2017</i>
First 3,000	\$3.24
Next 7,000	\$4.86
Next 10,000	\$7.29
Over 20,000	\$14.58

For other residential and non-residential tiered rates, go to the City's website.



Join us at noon on the 3rd Wednesday every month at the Prescott Public Library.



Analysis of a Typical Monthly Water Bill

Here's the breakdown of the monthly bill for the previously mentioned customer who used 4,257 gallons in July/August 2017 and paid a total of \$37.16, according to the structure set forth in the Prescott City Code.

Water Used (GAL)	4,257
Water Charges	\$30.24
Alternative Water Charge	\$3.79
Tax on Water	\$3.13
TOTAL WATER BILL	\$37.16

The **Alternative Water Charge** is also a tiered fee for actual water usage (per 1,000 gallons).

Alternative Water Charge	Description
$[(\$0.89 * 4)]$ + $[(257/1000*0.89)]$ Total: \$3.79	The rate is \$0.89 per 1,000 gallons

The **Water Charges** consist of two flat fees, plus the charge for actual water usage. The fees include:

- a fixed **Meter/Account Charge**
- an **Aquifer Protection Fee**

Water Charges	Description
1. Meter/Account Charge = \$13.69	Flat fee based on meter size
2. Aquifer Protection Fee = \$0.72	Flat fee based on meter size
3. Water Usage = \$15.83 $[(3.24)+(3.24)+(3.24)]$ $+[(4.86)]+[(1.25)]$ = \$15.83	The first 3,000 gallons are \$3.24 per 1,000 gallons; the next 7,000 gallons are billed at \$4.86 per 1,000 gallons.
Total: \$30.24	

How are these water fees used?

The **City of Prescott Water Fund** is an “enterprise fund” restricted to water purposes to provide a safe and reliable supply of water to City customers from existing sources, the acquisition of new supplies, and ongoing maintenance and improvement of existing water delivery infrastructure.

- **Aquifer Protection Fee:** to provide a dedicated funding source for design, construction, and operation of facilities and implementation of other measures and practices necessary to achieve and maintain water quality mandated by state and federal law applicable to surface, reuse and recharge assets. P.C.C. 2-1-18(E)
- **Alternative Water Charge:** Revenues from this fee are restricted to defray expenses of the City associated with obtaining alternative water sources in order to comply with the groundwater laws of the state. P.C.C. 2-1-18(C)

Be WaterSmart!

5 Steps to Detecting a Water Leak:

1. Locate your water meter.
2. Turn off all indoor and outdoor water-using devices including the evaporative cooler, water softeners, and icemaker.
3. Record the read from your water meter.
4. Wait 30 minutes, read and record the meter again.
5. If you have a different reading, you have a leak!

Source: Conservation Regional Handbook, page 30

