



Office of the Ohio Consumers' Counsel

Your Residential Utility Consumer Advocate

CONSUMERS' FACT SHEET

Office of the Ohio Consumers' Counsel
10 West Broad Street
Suite 1800, Columbus, OH
43215-3485

E-MAIL:
occ@occ.ohio.gov

WEB SITE:
www.occ.ohio.gov

AQUA OHIO

WATER RATE INCREASE

In March 2017, the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (PUCO) approved a rate increase for Aqua Ohio water customers. The Ohio Consumers' Counsel, your residential utility consumer advocate, participated in the rate case on behalf of Aqua's 140,000 residential customers in Ohio.

Bills for the average Aqua customer using 4,000 gallons a month are expected to increase approximately \$2-\$5 per month. The expected rate increases were reported by the PUCO and are included in the table below. The settlement also included the creation of a shareholder-funded bill-payment assistance program.

The rate increase will generate \$4.2 million in additional revenue for Aqua. The increase is less than what Aqua originally applied for in their May 2016 application; Aqua originally sought to increase rates by 9.21 percent and collect an additional \$5.6 million per year from customers. Aqua said that an increase

was needed to collect costs associated with infrastructure improvements and operational costs to maintain service reliability, fire protection, water quality, and compliance with federal and state regulations.

At the PUCO the ratemaking process includes both public and evidentiary (legal) hearings. The PUCO held local public hearings hear from affected customers in January 2017 in Columbus, Marion and Ashtabula, Ohio. Consumers also wrote letters and sent comments on the case docket at the PUCO's website. These public comments can be viewed at the PUCO's website, www.puco.ohio.gov, Case No. 16-907-WW-AIR. The OCC participated in legal hearings at the PUCO prior to the PUCO's approval of the settlement.

Visit the [PUCO's webpage](http://www.puco.ohio.gov/be-informed/consumer-topics/aqua-ohio-rate-case-2016) for more information about the ruling and the rate increase. www.puco.ohio.gov/be-informed/consumer-topics/aqua-ohio-rate-case-2016

Aqua Ohio service areas: How your bill will increase

Division	Current bill	New bill	Increase	% Increase
Lake Erie Division	\$39.01	\$42.39	\$3.38	8.70%
Auburn Lakes	\$43.71	\$45.24	\$1.53	3.50%
Jefferson (Lake Erie East)	\$37.80	\$40.50	\$2.70	7.14%
Seneca	\$43.71	\$45.24	\$1.53	3.50%
Masury	\$37.80	\$40.50	\$2.70	7.14%
Former Ohio-American Water	\$45.56	\$48.17	\$4.32	5.70%
Tomahawk	\$28.83	\$33.15	\$4.32	14.98%
Mohawk	\$31.33	\$33.99	\$2.66	8.50%
Mansfield	\$52.36	\$54.59	\$2.23	4.30%

Source: [PUCO](http://www.puco.ohio.gov) and [settlement agreement](#)