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Cut back on the number of loads of laundry you do and the length of and number of showers you take and you could lower your average wastewater bill for the rest of the year. The less water used between December and February, the lower your residential sewer bill will be year-round.

The City of Burleson's wastewater charge is based on volume. The rate is set based on the winter quarter average method. If you save water in December, January and February (bills come due in January, February and March), the residential customer's average for the remainder of the year will be lower. Why? The theory is that all of the water used during those three winter months is returned to the sewer system and requires treatment, whereas with the remaining nine months of the year the potential for irrigation, car washing, filling pools and other outside-related activities may increase water usage but will not require transport and treatment of wastewater.

If you control your water usage in those three months, you will be rewarded with lower sewer bills each month. There is a 12,000-gallon maximum for residential sewer charges. No resident will be charged for more than 12,000 gallons for sewer each month.

Commercial accounts are billed based on each month's water usage.

For more, call the Municipal Service Center, 817-426-9830.