



# Connected

## Rising Costs of Utility Services Cause Rate Increases

At Marietta Power and Water, we're proud to supply you with the highest quality service in the area at the most reasonable price. However, Marietta Power and Water's wholesale suppliers have announced that the cost of water, sewer and power will increase effective January 1, 2013. These increases are largely the result of higher costs to comply with a number of environmental regulations requiring upgrades to water and sewer treatment plants and power plants. It is necessary for Marietta Power and Water to pass these cost increases through to our customers by increasing retail rates. Our new rates will be effective January 1, 2013.

### What are these environmental regulations?

Over the years, the federal government has implemented several measures to protect the environment which in turn help protect our water and air quality. These measures include the following acts:

- **The Safe Drinking Water Act** authorizes the EPA to set national health-based standards

for drinking water to protect against both naturally-occurring and man-made contaminants that may be found in drinking water. The EPA, individual states and water systems work together to make sure that these standards are met.

- **The Clean Water Act** establishes the basic structure for regulating discharges of pollutants into the waters of the United States and regulating quality standards for surface waters. Water and sewer systems require plant upgrades for elimination of contaminants.
- **The Clean Air Act** defines the EPA's responsibilities for protecting and improving the nation's air quality and the stratospheric ozone layer. In relation to power production, clean air regulations require pollution control investments in coal units resulting in higher electricity costs.

All of these requirements serve the public purpose of protecting the environment by enhancing air and water quality, but they also mean higher costs to our wholesale suppliers,

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## Rising Costs of Utility Services Cause Rate Increases continued

and therefore to us. Those costs include not only higher operating expenses for water/sewer treatment and for fuel for generating plants, but also significant capital investment costs for pollution control. In order to continue to provide reliable service, Marietta Power and Water must pass along these higher supply costs to our customers (subject to Board and Council approval).

### How much of a rate increase can you expect?

Marietta Power and Water customers are expected to see a 3 percent increase for water, 1 percent for sewer and 7 percent for power on January 1, 2013. The following table shows the water and sewer rate increases for selected levels of use by residential customers:

#### Water & Sewer Rate Comparison

Monthly Use	2000 gallons	4000 gallons	7000 gallons
<b>Present Bill:</b>			
Water	\$18.30	\$27.10	\$40.30
Sewer	15.10	30.20	52.85
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$33.40</b>	<b>\$57.30</b>	<b>\$93.15</b>
<b>Increases:</b>			
Water	0.16	0.42	0.81
Sewer	0.15	0.31	0.55
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$0.31</b>	<b>\$0.73</b>	<b>\$1.36</b>
<b>TOTAL NEW BILL:</b>	<b>\$33.71</b>	<b>\$58.03</b>	<b>\$94.51</b>

The changes in the power bill for residential customers are shown in the following table:

#### Electric Rate Comparison

Monthly Use	500 kWh	1000 kWh	2000 kWh
<b>Present Bill</b>	\$54.71	\$100.64	\$195.65
<b>Increase</b>	3.90	7.82	15.63
<b>TOTAL NEW BILL:</b>	<b>\$58.61</b>	<b>\$108.46</b>	<b>\$211.28</b>

You can feel confident that even in the face of rising operating costs and increasing environmental regulations, you will always have the best value for your money with Marietta Power and Water. Rate comparisons routinely show that Marietta Power and Water customers consistently pay lower electric rates than Georgia Power and Cobb EMC customers — and we work hard for you every day to keep it that way. 💧

## Calendar

### Monday, December 31

*The Jagged Stones NYE Concert*  
Earl Smith Strand Theatre  
9 p.m.  
Ring in 2013 with the best Rolling Stones tribute band around!  
For more information visit  
[www.earlsmithstrand.org](http://www.earlsmithstrand.org).

### February 5 and 7

*Beauty and the Beast*  
Earl Smith Strand Theatre  
7:30 p.m.  
\$10  
Presented by the West Side Elementary  
Drama Program.  
For more information visit  
[www.earlsmithstrand.org](http://www.earlsmithstrand.org).

Marietta Power and Water will be closed on January 1, 2013 in observance of New Year's Day.

Marietta Power and Water will be closed on January 21, 2013 in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr.'s birthday.

For a complete list of City of Marietta events, please visit [www.mariettaga.gov](http://www.mariettaga.gov) and click on Calendar of Events.

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