



Drake Water Reclamation Facility

# Fort Collins Utilities 2015 RATES + TIPS TO MANAGE YOUR BILL

## 2015 Rates

### Electric, Water, Wastewater and Stormwater

Fort Collins Utilities regularly reviews its rates and makes adjustments to reflect the costs of providing electric, water, wastewater and stormwater services. City Council approves rates by ordinance (typically in mid-November), and utility bills printed on or after January 1 reflect the new rates.

We realize rate increases impact our customers and work diligently to manage costs. Our electric rates continue to remain among the lowest in the state, and we are proud to report our reliability and quality of service is among the highest in the nation in all our service areas.

Utilities offers many programs and services to help customers offset costs and lower monthly bills. Learn more at [fcgov.com/conserves](http://fcgov.com/conserves), email [utilities@fcgov.com](mailto:utilities@fcgov.com) or call 970-212-2900 to talk to an accounts representative. Additional rates information is available at [fcgov.com/residential-rates](http://fcgov.com/residential-rates) or [fcgov.com/commercial-rates](http://fcgov.com/commercial-rates).

Having the electricity or water turned off for non-payment is a reality for many residents. To keep this from occurring, Fort Collins Utilities' Payment Assistance Fund is available to help the families, senior citizens and others in need stay current with their utility bills and avoid having their services turned off.

To apply for assistance, contact Catholic Charities Larimer County (The Mission) at 970-484-5010. To make a donation or learn more about the program, visit [fcgov.com/paf](http://fcgov.com/paf) and print and mail the contribution form, call 970-221-6700 or TDD 970-224-6003. Donations also can be made at 117 N. Mason St. and 700 Wood St.

#### Contact

[fcgov.com/utilities](http://fcgov.com/utilities)  
[utilities@fcgov.com](mailto:utilities@fcgov.com)  
970-221-6700  
TDD: 970-224-6003

# YOU ARE IN CONTROL

Monitor, control and conserve with Utilities' free online tool.

Log in now at:  
[fcgov.com/utilities](http://fcgov.com/utilities)



# 2015 Rate Changes

**Electric:** average increase of 1.9 percent (exact increases vary among rate classes to reflect the cost-of-service study, see list below). Overall increases are due to the rising costs of generating power, and other costs, such as higher operations and maintenance, fuel expenses and load growth.

- Residential: 1.6 percent increase
- Residential demand: -11.3 percent decrease
- Small commercial: 6.5 percent increase
- Mid-size commercial: -0.2 percent decrease
- Large commercial: 2.0 percent increase
- Industrial: 1.8 percent increase

There also are proposed changes to electric development fees, which will decrease for commercial customers by an average of 0.82 percent.

The Colorado Association of Municipal Utilities (CAMU) compares electric rates among municipalities, as well as investor-owned and cooperative utilities. Fort Collins Utilities is ranked 9th lowest in the state for residential rates, 7th lowest for small commercial rates, 5th lowest for large commercial rates and lowest overall for industrial rates among all electric providers in Colorado. See comparisons at [fcgov.com/electric-rates-comparisons](http://fcgov.com/electric-rates-comparisons).

**Wastewater:** 3 percent increase for all rate classes. This increase was determined based on the results of a cost-of-service study completed in 2013 and is necessary to meet long-term capital improvement needs due to anticipated regulatory changes and aging infrastructure.

**Water and Stormwater:** There will be no rate increases in 2015 for water, stormwater or plant investment fees.

# Managing Your Utility Bill

## Save at Home

**Track your home's energy and water use.** Use the free, online tool to track energy and water consumption and costs. Log in at [fcgov.com/utilities](http://fcgov.com/utilities).

**Get a home efficiency audit.** Reduce energy and water costs and increase the comfort of your home with a home efficiency audit, [fcgov.com/HomeEfficiency](http://fcgov.com/HomeEfficiency) (\$60). You'll receive a report of improvement options with information on rebates in over 20 categories. Must use an approved contractor (see list online).

**Receive a rebate.** Rebates are available for recycling your old refrigerator or freezer and for purchasing qualified ENERGY STAR® dishwashers and clothes washers, and high-efficiency toilets and showerheads. Details at [fcgov.com/rebates-programs](http://fcgov.com/rebates-programs).

**Save year-round with efficient lighting.** Receive in-store discounts on energy efficient LED bulbs and select dimmers and occupancy sensors, [fcgov.com/residential-lighting](http://fcgov.com/residential-lighting).

**Pay less for wastewater year-round.** Wastewater charges are based on the average water consumption billed during January, February and March (winter quarter average/WQA). These months represent the amount of water that ends up in the wastewater system. By conserving water, residents can reduce their WQA and pay less for wastewater year-round.

**Sign up for a free sprinkler audit.** Residents and HOAs can sign up for a free sprinkler audit next spring/summer at [fcgov.com/sprinkler-audit](http://fcgov.com/sprinkler-audit) or 970-416-2666.

Fort Collins Utilities partners with the Art in Public Places Program to help mitigate graffiti, reduce maintenance costs on electrical equipment and add an element of art to the community. ▶

## Save at Work

**Talk to a commercial accounts representative.** Learn about your specific rates and how to best manage your account. Call 970-212-2900 to talk to a representative.

**Sign up for a free building assessment.** Receive a free energy and water assessment of your facility, and learn about incentive programs to reduce operating costs and improve the efficiency of your building, [fcgov.com/assessments](http://fcgov.com/assessments).

**Receive rebates and incentives.** Save with a building tune-up, electric and water efficiency programs, integrated design assistance, small business grants (per availability) and solar rebates. Details at [fcgov.com/business-efficiency](http://fcgov.com/business-efficiency).

**Check out our e-newsletter.** Sign up at [fcgov.com/keepcurrent](http://fcgov.com/keepcurrent) and learn about programs and educational opportunities throughout the year.

