

# Articles on Utility Rate-related Issues

## In this collection:

Goodwill and Temperance – The Foundation of Good Rates	It is critical to foster goodwill to get appropriate rates
Lawsuits: Are Your Rates Vulnerable?	Examines various reasons your utility may be sued, prevention and recovery
Sued!	Examines how to recover from a rates-related lawsuit
Pay Them in Water	Examines a way to pay obligations for “pennies on the dollar”
What Should a Rate Study Cost?	Shows how to estimate what a rate study should cost
Getting Great Rates: Taking a Closer Look at Rate Analysts	Covers what a rate analyst should do and how to assure good results
But, It’s Not in the Budget	Rate studies need not be budgeted ahead of time – they pay for themselves
Why Are Our Rates Too Low?	Considers various reasons rates are kept too low
To Meter or Not Meter: That is the Question	Shows how to decide when it is time to move up from flat rates to metered water use
The Future Starts Now: Setting Rates Helps Systems Today and Tomorrow	Covers rate setting risks, rewards and how to get a good rate analyst
Quelling the Ratepayer Revolt	Covers the basic steps for good rate setting
Quick and Easy Water and Sewer Rates: A Slightly “Tongue-in-Cheek” Look at a Serious Problem	Shows how to decide who should do a rate study and how involved it should be
Great Rates are ‘For the People’	Examines pitfalls of the rate setting political process
Great Assets Require Great Rates	Proposes that great rates are needed to fund asset management

How to Get Great Rates and Not Get Beat Up	Shows how to present proposed rate increases and have them be accepted
Rate Adequacy, Fairness and Risk	Briefly examines three main attributes of the rate analysis process
The Rate Setting Story	Presents rate structure alternatives and how to go about analyzing and adopting the right one for your needs
Rate Design	Examines rate structure types in detail
Minimum Charge Concept for Water and Wastewater Systems	Teaches basic calculation method for minimum charges
The Right Rate	Examines rate structure types and their appropriate applications
Conservation Rates	Shows what conservation rates do and several variations of this structure
Beyond the Binge	Shows how utilities can thrive post “great recession”
Federal Help is on the Way	Articulates why most utilities should not be subsidized
Resilience	Proposes that utilities should be able to weather financial and other “storms”
Asset Management Do’s and Don’ts	Tells what makes up good asset management
Asset Management Goes Country	Describes how rural systems can best adopt asset management principles
Refinancing: Do You Feel Lucky?	Looks ahead to when interest rates will climb and how to prevent ill effects
Run it Like a Business	Compares government-owned business (mainly utilities) to private business
Decisions, Decisions	Describes how to make sound, defensible decisions
Make Things Happen	Describes how to successfully take action
Successful Workshops	A checklist to make sure events go smoothly