

THE FACTS ABOUT UTILITY BILLS IN JACKSON COUNTY

Recent news articles have addressed issues regarding “utility bills” that certain cities in Jackson County sent to their customers. To clarify the situation regarding utility bills to municipal customers, the JCUA wishes to give the citizens accurate facts:

1. The JCUA only provides sewer treatment services to the four cities in Jackson County. The JCUA does not provide or charge any homeowner or business within a city for water, sewer transport, “sewer demand” fees, bond charges, garbage collection fees or gas charges. Those charges are totally within control of the cities themselves.
2. The JCUA bills each city based on the city’s proportion of sewer flow that the city delivers for treatment to the JCUA. The JCUA does not bill any individual customer in any city.
3. The JCUA bills every city for sewer treatment in exactly the same manner it has done since 1982.
4. The JCUA charges all cities the same “rate” (a price per 1,000 gallons of sewer it delivers to the JCUA), the “amount” of each cities bill depends on how much sewer the city delivers to us (rate times volume equals the bill).
5. Each city determines how much they bill and how it bills its charges to their municipal customers for their utility usage.
6. The JCUA does not and has never billed individual municipal customers a “demand fee” in any amount.
7. The JCUA bills each city monthly on the amount of sewer flow it receives from the city. It charges every city the present rate of \$3.03 per 1,000 gallons of sewer the city delivers to the JCUA for treatment.
8. The JCUA has no role in the water systems of Pascagoula, Gautier or Moss Point. It does sell water on a wholesale basis to the City of Ocean Springs by contract.
9. The volume of water sold to municipal residents and customers by the cities does not equal the amount of sewer delivered to the JCUA. In addition to the water customers use, the JCUA also receives from the cities waste water that leaks into their sewer system through inflow and infiltration, rain water, storm water runoff, etc.
10. The JCUA is required to treat all sewer delivered to it by a city and the volume of sewer substantially exceeds the water used by homeowners or businesses within each city.

For information, news an updates on the JCUA, please see our website at www.jcua-ms.us.