

Arbuckle Public Utility District
104 Fifth Street
Arbuckle, CA 95912

Proposition 218 Notification
NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNERS OF PROPOSED WASTEWATER
RATE INCREASES AND PUBLIC HEARING PROCEEDINGS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to Article XIII(D) of the California Constitution that the Arbuckle Public Utility District (District) is proposing to increase its rates for wastewater services. The Board of Directors will conduct a public hearing on this matter, which will be held on:

Date: Wednesday, June 17, 2026
Time: 6:00 p.m.
Place: Pierce High School, Multi-purpose Room
960 Wildwood Rd,
Arbuckle, CA 95912

You are receiving this notice in compliance with the California Proposition 218 requirement that all impacted property owners are mailed notice of proposed rate changes at least 45 days prior to a public hearing.

The public hearing will review the proposed changes for wastewater rates and other related changes to fees and charges. At the time of the public hearing, the Board will hear and consider all protests and objections concerning these matters. This notice has been sent to all property owners as of the last address on file with the District's billing records. If there is no majority protest, the Board will consider and may adopt the increased rates by resolution. The proposed rate changes will become effective at the start of each fiscal year, July 1, beginning July 1, 2026, and for the next five years after adoption of the resolution.

This Notice of Public Hearing provides information on the proposed wastewater rate changes as required by State law. The resolution for proposed rate changes is anticipated to be presented to the Board for adoption in December. This notice also provides information on how the rates are calculated, the reasons for the required rate changes, how customers can receive more information on the effect of the rate changes, and how to file a protest of the proposed rate changes.

2026 Wastewater Rate Study

The 2026 Wastewater Rate Study recently completed by MC Engineering for the District provides the basis for calculating the proposed rates to ensure that the revenues generated by the rates do not exceed the cost of providing service, and that the costs to provide service were proportionally allocated to each customer based on the demands of each customer. This report includes detailed revenue requirements and cost projections as well as the basis for the proposed rates. The 2026 Wastewater Rate Study is available at the District's office or on the District's website at <https://arbucklepud.org/recent-news>.

Proposed Wastewater Rates

The proposed wastewater rates are provided below. A total of \$3,566,462 has been expended over the last 1 ½ years for emergency actions and repairs to avoid serious health and safety issues at the wastewater treatment facility, depleting all of the District's reserves. A rate adjustment is necessary to generate sufficient revenue to avoid District insolvency while

it operates and maintains its wastewater infrastructure to meet Regional Water Quality Control Board water quality objectives and avoid significant water quality violations, and to return to yearly and long-term fiscal sustainability. The proposed rate increase includes two components: (1) operations, maintenance, and administration expenses; and (2) debt service for capital reserves and replacements of the wastewater facilities. The rate adjustments are based on anticipated needs while taking into consideration affordability to help ensure current customers are able to pay for the required costs of services.

Proposed Rates (1138 EDUs)	Current FY 25/26	FY 26/27	FY 27/28	FY 28/29	FY 29/30	FY 30/31
EDU Service Rate	\$28	\$33.60	\$36.96	\$38.81	\$40.75	\$42.79
Monthly Rate Increase Required to Fund Debt Service, only	--	\$28.24	\$28.24	\$28.24	\$28.24	\$28.24
Combined Monthly EDU Sewer Rate (operating Expenses and Debt Service)	--	\$61.84	\$65.20	\$67.05	\$68.99	\$71.03
Proposed Combined Annual Rate Increase (%)	--	121%	5%	3%	3%	3%

Public Notice and Majority Protest Process

The Arbuckle Public Utility District Board of Directors will hold a public hearing as part of the Board meeting to be held on **Wednesday, June 17, 2026**, at the Pierce High School Multi-purpose Room, Arbuckle, CA 95912, to consider the adoption of changes in the wastewater rates and consider all written protests.

Customers directly responsible for the payment of rates and/or each property owner, if different, may submit a written protest of the rate changes. If the Board receives written protests from a majority of the affected customers and/or property owners of the identified parcels, then the proposed rate changes cannot be adopted by the Board. It is important to follow these instructions for the protest to be valid:

1. The protest must be in writing and received by the Board Secretary at or before the close of the public hearing on **June 17, 2026**. The protest must specifically identify what is being protested. Written protests may be mailed to P.O. Box 207, Arbuckle, CA 95912 or personally delivered to the Board Secretary at Arbuckle Public Utility District – 104 Fifth Street Arbuckle, CA 95912 prior to the hearing day, or personally delivered by the close of the public hearing held at 6:00 p.m. at Pierce High School on June 17, 2026.
2. All written protests must include the service street address or the Assessor’s Parcel Number (APN)
3. The protest must be signed by the person who is listed on the utility account and who is responsible for paying the utility bill and/or the property owner. The name of the signer should also be printed legibly. Only one protest will be counted for each property.
4. **Email, fax, and telephone protests will not be counted.** Oral comments may be given at the hearing, but will not be counted as a protest unless accompanied by a written protest. Mailed or delivered protests received after the close of the hearing will not be counted, even if they were postmarked earlier.
5. Requests for a disability-related modification or accommodation in order to participate in the public hearing should be made to the District Secretary at least 72 hours prior to the hearing.

Pursuant to California Government Code 53759, there will be a 120-day statute of limitations for challenging any new, increased or extended fees, including wastewater rates.

How can I find out more information about the proposed changes?

For more information please contact the District at (530) 476-2054 or at Office@arbucklepud.org.