

# **Utility commission OKs increase in water, sewer rates**

**By Wesley Young | Journal Reporter**

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**The City-County Utility Commission today approved a 10 percent increase in water rates and an 11 percent increase in sewer rates, both taking effect Oct. 1.**

**The increases mean that the average bill for a typical household would be \$55.63 every two months, or 92.7 cents per day. The average household uses about 9,000 gallons of water every two months. Currently, the average user pays 84.6 cents per day.**

**David Saunders, the director of utilities, said the increases are needed because the current rate structure doesn't provide enough money to meet expenses, including the cost of replacing old treatment plants and water and sewer lines.**

**Even with the increase, Saunders said, customers here would pay less than they do in Greensboro, Raleigh, Charlotte and Durham.**