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March 26, 2024

## NOTICE OF WATER AND ROADS RATE INCREASE EFFECTIVE MAY 1, 2024.

Dear Members:

Since our last rate increase in 2010, your Board of Directors has worked diligently to control expenses without sacrificing quality, service, or depleting our mandatory federal emergency reserves. Unfortunately, inflation and the rapidly rising cost of goods and services, coupled with the severe impact of 2023 storm damage repairs to our water and road systems, has taken a heavy toll on available operating funds.

Although your directors receive no compensation for their work, and many other community services are provided by volunteers—such as snowplowing, hazardous fuel reduction, checking for water leaks, seasonal requests to turn water meters on or off, hosting community events, and more—the water company must pay for labor and materials to repair and maintain our roads and water facilities, which includes wells, pumps, storage tanks, pipes, valves, meters, and electrical components. The cost of subcontracted labor and materials has escalated dramatically, especially in past years.

As a result, effective May 1, 2024, water rates will increase by \$5.50 per month per each member account. The annual road fee assessment will increase by 50% annually per member account.

*To illustrate, the basic annual road fee assessment for a vacant lot will increase from \$100 to \$150 (currently \$8.33/mo., it will be \$12.50/mo.) The average assessment for one lot with one home will increase from \$200 to \$300 per year (currently \$16.67/mo., it will increase to \$25.00/mo.).*

**Members utilizing their bank's bill pay, autopay, or automatic transfer features should contact their banks to adjust the monthly payment amount. Members enrolled in autopay through the CMWC office must sign new authorizations to be provided via email or mail within weeks. Please check your mail/email and return the forms promptly to avoid gaps in payment.**

Although necessary to ensure that your water company remains financially healthy and able to provide clean water and essential services to the residents of Cascadel Woods, implementing this rate increase is not easy. We all face growing costs for everything we purchase. But consistent attention to quality, steadfast fiscal management, and dedicated volunteer contributions have helped us hold the line on expenses, so far.

Your board thanks you for your understanding and support.



Stan Eggink, President