

3 Rivers
Wet Weather
Demonstration Program



Improving our region's water quality

**Sewer Rate Survey for
ALCOSAN Service Area**

Summer 2004

3 Rivers Wet Weather Demonstration Program

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Introduction

3 Rivers Wet Weather Demonstration Project has conducted a “Residential Sewer Rate Survey” in order to better understand the differing sewer rates within the Allegheny County Sanitary Authority (ALCOSAN) service area. ALCOSAN services almost 320,000 residential, commercial, and industrial accounts. A population of 896,500 in 83 communities, including the City of Pittsburgh, relies on ALCOSAN for treatment of wastewater.

The survey was requested by local municipal officials to better understand the varying rates within the area as a means to analyze their own sewer rates and determine if changes need to be made. Comparing sewer rates with neighboring municipalities allows each individual municipality to determine how and by how much they should raise their sewer rates, if at all, to comply with the consent orders. The rates of 79 of the 83 municipalities (95%) within the ALCOSAN service area were obtained.

This report is not intended as a judgment of rates but rather as an initial step towards better understanding varying rate structures throughout the ALCOSAN service area. With an improved understanding of the varying the rates of this region, municipal decision-makers can better assess their financial situation in order to comply with the consent orders.

Scope of the Survey

The survey covered many aspects of municipal information, including:

- Owner and operator of the sewer system
- The last change in rates, date and amount
- Current rate structure including ordinance or resolution
- Billing agent, cycle, and copy of bill
- Number of residential and commercial customers

See **Appendix 1** for the complete sewer rate survey.

Procedure of the Survey

To conduct the survey, the contact list of Basin Managers for the Southern, Northern, and Eastern basins was used. The first contact was usually by phone. After this initial contact, several different courses followed.

- The survey was performed right then.
- If the manager was busy or out of the office, a message was left and the call was returned at a better time.
- Transferred to another person in who knew more details about the information in the survey.

- Sometimes, the survey was faxed or emailed to the managers so they could complete it at their leisure.

A copy of the latest ordinance or resolution outlining the current sewer rate structures was also obtained, usually via fax, along with a copy or a sample of a sewer bill. Obtaining the ordinance or resolution and the bill was important to verify the information gathered in the survey and to determine how much information was easily accessible to the customers. The bills were looked at to determine how clear and concise they are for bill payers. Clear and concise bills contained meter readings showing the amount of water used per billing cycle, as well as the calculation of the rate times the usage. Some bills showed separate calculations for the municipality charge and for the ALCOSAN charge. When water charges and wastewater charges were listed on the same bill, it was helpful to see the two charges separated.

A **“Verification Form”** with all the information gathered was sent back to the municipality to allow the managers to verify and correct any information before the final report was distributed. Ensuring accuracy was a main goal of this survey and this method seemed to work the best when the “Verification Form” was sent out soon after completing the survey.

Complications of the Survey

Completing the survey was complicated by several factors including:

- Differing rate structures and billing periods.
- Finding the person with knowledge regarding all aspects of survey.
- Vacations and holiday weekends, which increased the time of the survey.
- General reluctance in response to survey.

Despite these complications, the survey was completed as thoroughly as possible and the information homogenized to compare differences in rate structure and billing cycle.

Results of the Survey

To compare the differing sewer rates, the cost to a residential customer who used 15,000 gallons of water in one quarterly billing cycle was used, which was chosen because 15,000 gallons per quarter is an approximation of the usage expected for an average family of four. Fifteen thousand gallons is also above all of the base rates that include some usage. A quarterly cycle was used since many municipalities and ALCOSAN use this value.

Using the “Quarterly Charge for 15,000 Gallons,” the average, median, high, and low values for each Basin Group and for the entire ALCOSAN service area were calculated.

See Appendix 2 for a complete list of rate structures along with graphs comparing the “Quarterly Charge for 15,000 Gallons” for each municipality.

Southern Basin

The municipality with the lowest “Quarterly Charge for 15,000 Gallons” is Bridgeville Borough at \$57.45.

The municipality with the highest “Quarterly Charge for 15,000 Gallons” is Oakdale at \$179.85.

The average “Quarterly Charge for 15,000 Gallons” in the Southern Basin is \$84.33. The median is lower at \$80.25.

Northern Basin

The municipalities with the lowest “Quarterly Charge for 15,000 Gallons,” are Avalon Borough, Ben Avon, and Ben Avon Heights at \$42.75. These municipalities do not add surcharges above the ALCOSAN rates.

The municipality with the highest “Quarterly Charge for 15,000 Gallons,” is Franklin Park - Bear Run at \$142.50.

Indiana Township is currently paying the loan service Pennvest Loan for recent sewer line installations in two areas. Area 1 has a quarterly debt service charge of \$112.00, but customers are exempt from the \$0.60 per thousand gallons charge from the Township. Area 1 has a “Quarterly Charge for 15,000 Gallons” of \$154.75. Area 2 has a quarterly debt service charge of \$77.00, but customers are charged the \$0.60 charge from the Township. Area 2 has a “Quarterly Charge for 15,000 Gallons” of \$128.75. Indiana Township is scheduled to pay off the loan by 2011.

The average “Quarterly Charge for 15,000 Gallons” in the Northern Basin is \$68.67. The median is lower at \$62.25.

Eastern Basin

The municipalities with the lowest “Quarterly Charge for 15,000 Gallons,” are Churchill, Turtle Creek, and Verona at \$42.75. These municipalities do not add fees above the ALCOSAN rates.

The municipality with the highest “Quarterly Charge for 15,000 Gallons,” is Penn Hills at \$97.50.

The average “Quarterly Charge for 15,000 Gallons” in the Eastern Basin is \$66.81. The median is lower at \$63.98.

Entire ALCOSAN Service Area

The municipality with the highest “Quarterly Charge for 15,000 Gallons” in the ALCOSAN service area is Oakdale. The municipalities with the lowest “Quarterly Charge for 15,000 Gallons” in the ALCOSAN service area are Avalon Borough, Ben Avon, Ben Avon Heights, Churchill, Pitcairn, Turtle Creek and Verona, which do not have a surcharge on top of the ALCOSAN rates. Only these 7 out of the 79 municipalities surveyed (9%) have no surcharge added on top of the ALCOSAN rates. The difference between the highest and lowest “Quarterly Charges for 15,000 Gallons” is \$137.10.

The average “Quarterly Charge for 15,000 Gallons” for the ALCOSAN service area is \$74.33. The median is lower at \$71.25.

Table 1

	Average	Median	High	Low
Southern	\$84.33	\$80.25	\$179.85	\$57.45
Northern	\$68.67	\$62.25	\$142.50	\$42.75
Eastern	\$67.04	\$64.62	\$97.50	\$42.75
Entire Area	\$74.33	\$71.25	\$179.85	\$42.75

Billing Agents

Table 2 compiles the number of municipalities using the different billing agents throughout the ALCOSAN service area.

Table 2

	Municipality /Authority ¹	Outsourced ²	WPJWA ³	PAWC ⁴	ALCOSAN	PA Municipal Services	TCV COG ⁵	Total
Southern	6	9	0	17	1	0	0	33
Northern	18	2	0	0	2	1	0	23
Eastern	8	1	7	0	4	2	2	24
Entire Area	32	11	6	17	9	3	2	80

¹ The municipality or municipal authority is the billing agent for the municipality.

² An entity separate from the municipality is used.

³ Wilkinsburg Penn Joint Water Authority

⁴ Pennsylvania American Water Company

⁵ Turtle Creek Valley Council of Governments

The outsource agents include Jordan Tax Services (5 municipalities), Central Tax Bureau (3), Berkheimer Outsourcing (2), and Legal Tax Services, Inc. (1).

Billing Cycles

Table 3 compiles the number of municipalities that utilize quarterly or monthly billing cycles.

Table 3

	Quarterly	Monthly
Southern	16	16
Northern	22	1
Eastern	23	1
Entire Area	61	18
Percentage	77%	23%

Water Usage Information

Table 4

	Municipality/Authority	WPJWA ¹	PAWC ²	WVWA ³	WMW ⁴	WACMA	Total
Southern	3	0	25	3	0	1	32
Northern	14	1	1	9	0	0	25
Eastern	3	11	0	0	2	0	16
Entire Area	20	12	26	12	2	1	73

¹ Wilkinsburg Penn Joint Water Authority

² Pennsylvania American Water Company

³ West View Water Authority

⁴ Westmoreland Water

⁵ West Allegheny County Municipal Authority

Several municipalities use multiple sources for water usage information, including the City Of Pittsburgh (Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority, WPJWA, PAWC, WVWA), Indiana (Fox Chapel and Hampton), O'Hara (Fox Chapel and Hampton), and North Versailles (WPJWA and WMA).

See **Appendix 3** for some examples of informative websites of local municipalities or authorities.

APPENDIX 1 - Residential Sewer Rate Survey

1. Municipality: _____ Administration Authority: _____
2. Who owns the sewage collection system? _____ (The system owner will also be the permit holder.)
- a. Who operates and maintains the sewage system? _____ (The owner may be a municipality with operation and maintenance by an authority.)
3. Are rate structures set by elected council or by an authority board?
_____ (Elected council may set rate structures by ordinance while authorities may set rates through resolutions.)
- a. Effective date of current rate structure. _____
- b. If possible, fax a copy of the most recent ordinance or resolution.
- c. Percent or amount of last rate change (increase/decrease): _____%
(The change should be divided by the original rate.)
4. Does the municipality charge different rates within the municipality?
_____ Yes / No (Municipalities may have different rate structures for separate areas of the community.)
- d. Is a map available showing these areas? If possible, obtain a copy.
- e. Reason for differing rates, debt, condition of system, etc. _____

Residential (and Commercial) Sewage Rates and Billing Information

ALCOSAN rates for 2004 are \$5.25 per quarter plus \$2.50 per 1,000 gallons of metered water usage. Municipalities may charge an additional fee for their own collection system operations

Current residential sewer rate structure, including exact billing formula. (Differing rate formats exist. Most ALCOSAN municipalities add a fee on top of the ALCOSAN charges.)

- 5. What is the base fee or service charge for residential customers (above the ALCOSAN rate)?

\$_____per_____ (time period)

(Municipalities may charge a base rate that includes the first few thousand gallons of usage. After the base rate usage residents may be charged a user rate per 1,000 gallons.)

- a. Does the base bill or user fee include some usage? _____

- b. How many gallons? _____

- c. What is the rate over the initial usage or base fee?

\$_____ per _____ gallons (Above the ALCOSAN rate) (Rates may be expressed in different increments, for example 500 gallons.)

- d. Convert all rates to unit standard per 1,000 gallons usage:

\$_____ per 1,000 gallons

- 6. What charges do ratepayers see on the bill, for example debt service, local collection, etc.? In other words, are charges combined or itemized, (ALCOSAN, municipal rates, debt service, local collection, etc.)?

- 7. Who collects water usage information (meter readings)?

- 8. Please provide a sample residential sewer bill.

- 9. Current commercial sewer rate structure, include billing formula.

- 10. Please provide a sample commercial sewer bill.

11. Who is the billing agent? For example, ALCOSAN, local authority, municipality, water company, or outsourced. _____ (Municipalities may bill on their own, through ALCOSAN, or contract with a another municipal entity, authority or private billing company.)
12. What is the billing cycle: _____ (Municipalities may bill monthly or quarterly.)
- a. Is automatic payment (automatic deduction from credit card or other account) an option provided to customers? _____
- b. How long has this option been available? _____
- c. Comments regarding success / challenges with providing this option.

General Information

13. Person completing this form:

Name: _____

Title: _____

Phone No.: _____

Email: _____

14. Municipal Manager or Secretary: (Confirm during phone interview.)

Name: _____

Title: _____

Phone No.: _____

Email: _____

15. Total customer base by population: _____

16. Approximate number of households/residential customers: _____

17. Approximate number of commercial customers: _____

For questions about this survey, call 3 Rivers Wet Weather at 412-578-8039.

APPENDIX 2 –RATES

The current ALCOSAN sewer rates as of January 1, 2004 are as follows:

- \$5.25 quarterly customer service charge plus
- \$2.50 per 1,000 gallons of water used.

For a residential customer using 15,000 gallons of water in one quarter, the ALCOSAN charge equals \$42.75, which goes directly to ALCOSAN. For “Quarterly Charges for 15,000 Gallons” that are higher than \$42.75, the excess is retained by the municipality or authority, usually to fund improvements in the sewer infrastructure that they own, operate, and maintain.

While many of the municipalities just place a surcharge onto the usage rate set by ALCOSAN (and sometimes add an additional flat fee on top of the ALCOSAN customer service charge), other municipalities do not use the ALCOSAN rates as a component of their sewer rate formula. Municipalities use different methods to obtain funds that cover the payments to ALCOSAN. Two common methods are by setting a higher flat monthly or quarterly fee that may include some usage¹, or by using only a usage rate that is higher than the ALCOSAN usage rate of \$2.50 per thousand gallons². Three municipalities use a multiplier in their formula³ to obtain funds in excess of the ALCOSAN rates. Only one municipality has a flat fee with no charges for usage.⁴

The City of Pittsburgh lies in all three Basin Groups and is therefore listed in each.

The service area for Girty’s Run Joint Sewer Authority lies in portions of several of the Townships in the Northern Basin: Millvale, Reserve Township, Ross, and Shaler. The additional rate for Girty’s Run is \$2.10 per thousand gallons of water used on top of the ALCOSAN service charges. The Townships may add a service fee to cover billing costs.

¹ For example, Emsworth, Bethel Park, Neville, Ohio, and Plum Borough all have relatively high flat fees.

² For example, Kennedy, North Fayette, and Etna only charge usage rates higher than the \$2.50 per thousand gallons ALCOSAN usage rate.

³ Upper St. Clair, Rankin, and Wilmerding.

⁴ North Huntingdon Township.

SOUTHERN BASIN

Municipality	Sewer Rate Formula	ALCOSAN Charge	Municipality Charge	Total Quarterly Charge for 15,000 Gallons
Baldwin Borough	ALCOSAN rates plus \$2.75 per quarter plus \$1.80 per thousand gallons	\$42.75	\$29.75	\$72.50
Baldwin Township	ALCOSAN rates plus \$1.75 per quarter plus \$4.50 per thousand gallons	\$42.75	\$69.25	\$112.00
Bethel Park	\$30.00 quarterly charge plus \$2.30 per thousand gallons	\$42.75	\$21.75	\$64.50
Brentwood Borough	ALCOSAN rates plus \$3.77 per thousand gallons	\$42.75	\$56.55	\$99.30
Bridgeville Borough	ALCOSAN rates plus \$0.98 per thousand gallons	\$42.75	\$14.70	\$57.45
Carnegie	ALCOSAN rates plus \$1.50 per thousand gallons	\$42.75	\$22.50	\$65.25
Castle Shannon	ALCOSAN rates plus \$3.00 per thousand gallons	\$42.75	\$45.00	\$87.75
City of Pittsburgh	ALCOSAN rates plus \$1.25 per thousand gallons	\$42.75	\$18.75	\$61.50
Collier Township	ALCOSAN rates plus \$2.25 fee per quarter plus \$2.80 per thousand gallons	\$42.75	\$44.25	\$87.00
Crafton	ALCOSAN rates plus \$2.00 per month (\$6.00 per quarter) administrative fee plus \$2.00 per thousand gallons	\$42.75	\$36.00	\$78.75
Dormont	ALCOSAN rates plus \$2.00 per thousand gallons	\$42.75	\$30.00	\$72.75
Green Tree	ALCOSAN rates plus \$1.00 per thousand gallons	\$42.75	\$15.00	\$57.75
Heidelberg	ALCOSAN rates plus \$2.25 fee per quarter plus \$2.50 per thousand gallons	\$42.75	\$37.50	\$80.25
Homestead Borough	ALCOSAN charges plus \$1.65 per quarter plus Single family: \$3.40 per thousand; Multiple family: \$4.25 per thousand; Other (includes commercial): \$5.50 per thousand	\$42.75	\$52.65	\$95.40
Ingram	Not available.			
Kennedy	\$4.50 per thousand gallons	\$42.75	\$24.75	\$67.50
McDonald Borough	ALCOSAN rates plus \$46.50 per quarter plus \$2.35 per thousand gallons	\$42.75	\$81.75	\$124.50
McKees Rocks	ALCOSAN rates plus \$3.82 per thousand gallons	\$42.75	\$57.30	\$100.05
Mt. Lebanon	ALCOSAN rates plus \$1.40 per thousand gallons	\$42.75	\$21.00	\$63.75
Mt. Oliver	ALCOSAN rates plus \$3.00 per thousand gallons	\$42.75	\$45.00	\$87.75
Munhall Borough	ALCOSAN rates plus \$2.50 per thousand gallons	\$42.75	\$37.50	\$80.25
North Fayette	\$55.20 flat fee per quarter (includes 12,000 gallons) plus \$4.60 per thousand gallons above	\$42.75	\$26.25	\$69.00

	12,000			
Oakdale	\$17.95 flat rate per month (includes 1,000 gallons) plus \$10.50 per thousand gallons above 1,000 gallons	\$42.75	\$137.10	\$211.35
Peters Township	ALCOSAN rates plus \$24.00 per quarter plus \$1.10 per thousand gallons	\$42.75	\$40.50	\$83.25
Pleasant Hills	ALCOSAN rates plus \$14.75 per quarter plus \$2.80 per thousand gallons	\$42.75	\$56.75	\$99.50
Robinson Township	ALCOSAN rates plus \$13.59 per quarter plus \$2.25 per thousand gallons	\$42.75	\$47.34	\$90.09
Rosslyn Farms	ALCOSAN rates plus \$4.00 per thousand gallons	\$42.75	\$60.00	\$102.75
Scott Township	ALCOSAN rates plus \$1.50 per thousand gallons	\$42.75	\$22.50	\$65.25
South Fayette Township	ALCOSAN rates plus \$21.75 per quarter plus \$0.50 per thousand gallons	\$42.75	\$29.25	\$72.00
Stowe Township	ALCOSAN plus \$2.00 per thousand gallons	\$42.75	\$30.00	\$72.75
Thornburg Borough	Not available.			
Upper St. Clair	ALCOSAN rates times multiplier of 1.95	\$42.75	\$40.61	\$83.36
West Homestead	Not available.			
West Mifflin	\$13.00 cost of service fee monthly plus: 0-2,000 gallons \$2.50 per thousand; 2,001-15,000 gallons \$3.00 per thousand; 15,001-100,000 gallons \$9.00 per thousand; over 100,000 gallons \$11.50 per thousand	\$42.75	\$38.25	\$81.00
Whitaker	ALCOSAN rates plus \$1.65 per month service charge plus \$1.00 per thousand gallons	\$42.75	\$19.95	\$62.70
Whitehall Borough	ALCOSAN rates plus \$6.00 per quarter plus \$3.77 per thousand gallons	\$42.75	\$56.55	\$99.30

NORTHERN BASIN

Community	Sewer Rate Formula	ALCOSAN Charge	Municipality Charge	Quarterly Charge for 15,000 Gallons
Aspinwall	ALCOSAN rates plus \$1.00 per 1,000 gallons	\$42.75	\$15.00	\$57.75
Avalon Borough	ALCOSAN rates	\$42.75	\$0.00	\$42.75
Bellevue	ALCOSAN rates plus \$7.95 service charge for first 30,000 gallons per quarter (\$0.38 per thousand gallons above that)	\$42.75	\$7.95	\$50.70
Ben Avon	ALCOSAN rates	\$42.75	\$0.00	\$42.75
Ben Avon Heights	ALCOSAN rates	\$42.75	\$0.00	\$42.75
Blawnox	ALCOSAN rates plus \$0.63 per thousand gallons	\$42.75	\$9.45	\$52.20
Emsworth	Flat \$50.00 fee per quarter (includes 12,000 gallons), \$4.50 per thousand gallons above 12,000	\$42.75	\$20.75	\$63.50
City of Pittsburgh	ALCOSAN rates plus \$1.25 per thousand gallons	\$42.75	\$18.75	\$61.50
Etna	\$4.75 per thousand gallons (minimum 6,000 gallons)	\$42.75	\$28.50	\$71.25
Fox Chapel	ALCOSAN plus: 0 - 100,000 gallons per quarter \$0.65 per thousand gallons; 100,000 - 1 million gallons \$0.55 per thousand gallons; 1 million - 3.5 million gal \$0.50 per thousand gallons; over 3.6 million gallons per quarter \$0.01 per thousand gallons	\$42.75	\$9.75	\$52.50
Franklin Park - Bear Run	ALCOSAN rates plus \$66.00 fee per quarter, plus \$2.25 per thousand gallons	\$42.75	\$99.75	\$142.50
Franklin Park-Lowries Run	ALCOSAN rates plus \$30.00 fee per quarter, plus \$2.25 per thousand gallons	\$42.75	\$63.75	\$106.50
Indiana	ALCOSAN rates plus \$0.60 per thousand gallons	\$42.75	\$9.00	\$51.75
Girty's Run Joint Sewer Authority	\$2.10 per thousand gallons (minimum of 5,000 gallons per quarter)	\$0.00	\$31.50	\$31.50
Kilbuck	ALCOSAN rates plus \$14.75 fee per quarter plus \$1.50 per thousand gallons	\$42.75	\$37.25	\$80.00
McCandless	\$12.50 quarterly service debt charge plus \$4.38 per thousand gallons	\$42.75	\$35.45	\$78.20
Millvale	ALCOSAN rates plus \$2.55 per thousand gallons	\$42.75	\$38.75	\$81.00

	(minimum 5,000 gallons per quarter)			
Neville	\$19.00 per quarter (includes 3,000 gallons), \$6.40 per thousand gallons above 3,000 gallons	\$42.75	\$53.05	\$95.80
O'Hara	ALCOSAN rates plus \$4.10 service charge per quarter plus \$0.95 per thousand gallons	\$42.75	\$17.79	\$60.54
Ohio	\$70.00 (includes 10,000 gallons), \$4.78 above 10,000 gallons	\$42.75	\$51.15	\$93.90
Reserve	ALCOSAN rates plus \$1.00 per thousand gallons (minimum 4,000 gallons per quarter)	\$42.75	\$15.00	\$57.75
Ross	ALCOSAN rates plus \$2.25 per thousand gallons (minimum of 5,000 gallons)	\$42.75	\$33.75	\$76.50
Shaler	ALCOSAN rates plus \$1.30 per thousand gallons (minimum 5,000 gallons per quarter)	\$42.75	\$19.50	\$62.25
Sharpsburg	ALCOSAN rates plus \$0.70 per thousand gallons	\$42.75	\$10.50	\$53.25
West View	ALCOSAN rates plus \$9.93 West View service charge per quarter plus \$0.81 per thousand gallons	\$42.75	\$22.08	\$64.83

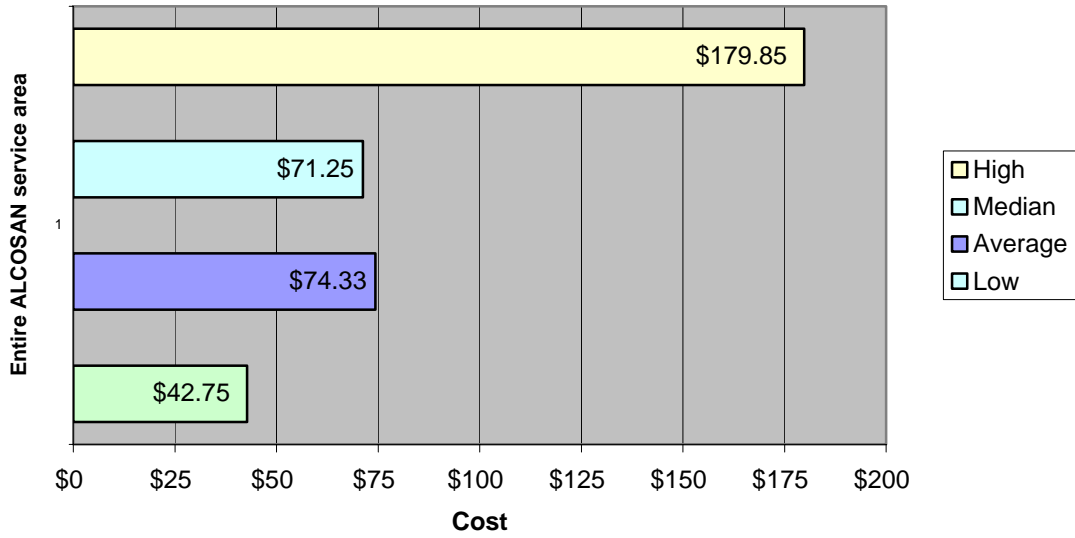
EASTERN BASIN

Community	Sewer Rate Formula	ALCOSAN Charge	Municipality Charge	Quarterly Charge for 15,000 Gallons
Braddock	ALCOSAN rates plus \$0.75 per thousand gallons	\$42.75	\$11.25	\$54.00
Braddock Hills	ALCOSAN rates plus \$1.50 per thousand gallons	\$42.75	\$22.50	\$65.25
Chalfant	ALCOSAN rates plus \$1.00 per thousand gallons	\$42.75	\$15.00	\$57.75
Churchill	ALCOSAN rates	\$42.75	\$0.00	\$42.75
City of Pittsburgh	ALCOSAN rates plus \$1.25 per thousand gallons	\$42.75	\$18.75	\$61.50
East McKeesport	\$4.75 per thousand gallons	\$42.75	\$28.50	\$71.25
East Pittsburgh	Not available			
Edgewood	ALCOSAN rates plus \$2.50 per thousand gallons	\$42.75	\$37.50	\$80.25
Forest Hills	ALCOSAN rates plus \$1.50 per thousand gallons	\$42.75	\$19.50	\$62.25
Monroeville Municipal Authority	ALCOSAN rates plus \$5.28 per thousand	\$42.75	\$21.94	\$64.69

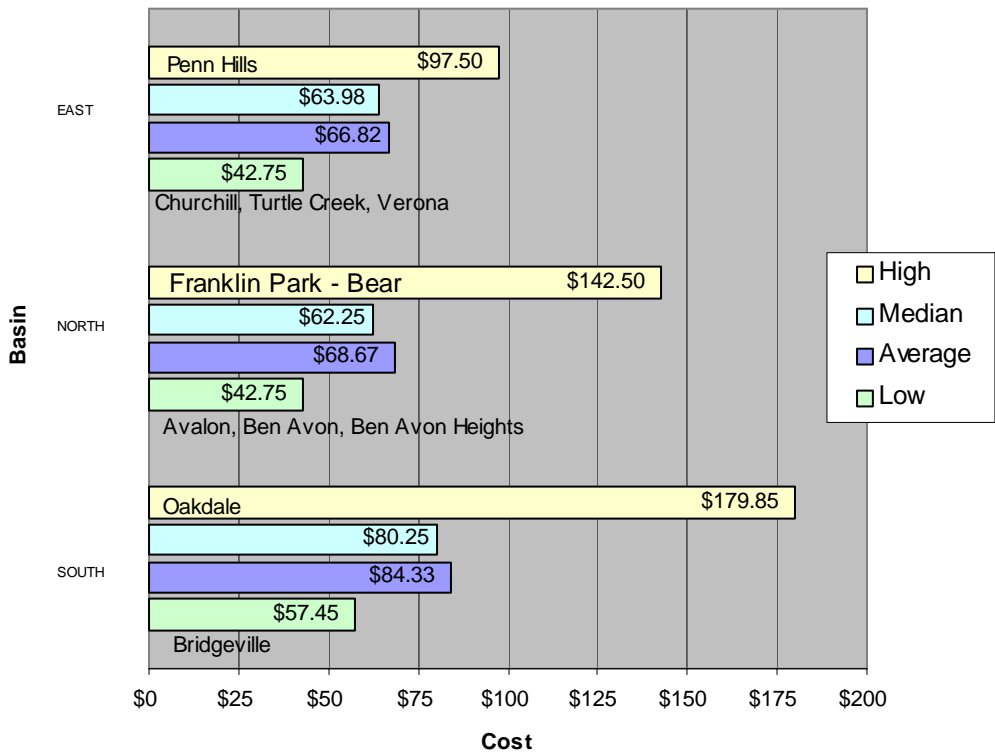
North Braddock	ALCOSAN rates plus \$1.00 per thousand gallons	\$42.75	\$15.00	\$57.75
North Huntingdon Township	Flat residential rate of \$31.55 per month	\$42.75	\$51.90	\$94.65
North Versailles	\$5.35 per thousand gallons (minimum 6,000 gallons)	\$42.75	\$37.50	\$80.25
Penn Hills	\$6.50 per thousand gallons	\$42.75	\$54.75	\$97.50
Penn Township	ALCOSAN rates plus \$22.09 fee per quarter plus \$1.57 per thousand gallons	\$42.75	\$33.43	\$76.18
Pitcairn	ALCOSAN rates	\$42.75	\$0.00	\$42.75
Plum Borough	\$69.00 fee per quarter (includes 5,625 gallons) plus \$2.20 per 750 gallons above 5,625 gallons	\$42.75	\$53.72	\$96.47
Rankin	ALCOSAN RATES plus 25%	\$42.75	\$10.69	\$53.44
Swissvale	ALCOSAN rates plus \$1.50 per month service charge plus \$1.50 per thousand gallons	\$42.75	\$24.00	\$66.75
Trafford	ALCOSAN rates plus \$2.50 per thousand gallons	\$42.75	\$37.50	\$80.25
Turtle Creek	ALCOSAN rates	\$42.75	\$0.00	\$42.75
Verona	ALCOSAN rates	\$42.75	\$0.00	\$42.75
Wall Borough	ALCOSAN rates plus \$1.13 fee per quarter plus \$1.34 per thousand gallons	\$42.75	\$21.23	\$63.98
Wilkins	ALCOSAN rates plus \$2.50 per thousand gallons (minimum 2,000 gallons)	\$42.75	\$37.50	\$80.25
Wilkinsburg	ALCOSAN rates plus \$1.00 per thousand gallons	\$42.75	\$14.75	\$57.50
Wilmerding	ALCOSAN rates plus 35% service charge	\$42.75	\$14.96	\$57.71

COMPARING QUARTERLY CHARGES FOR 15,000 GALLONS OF WATER USED

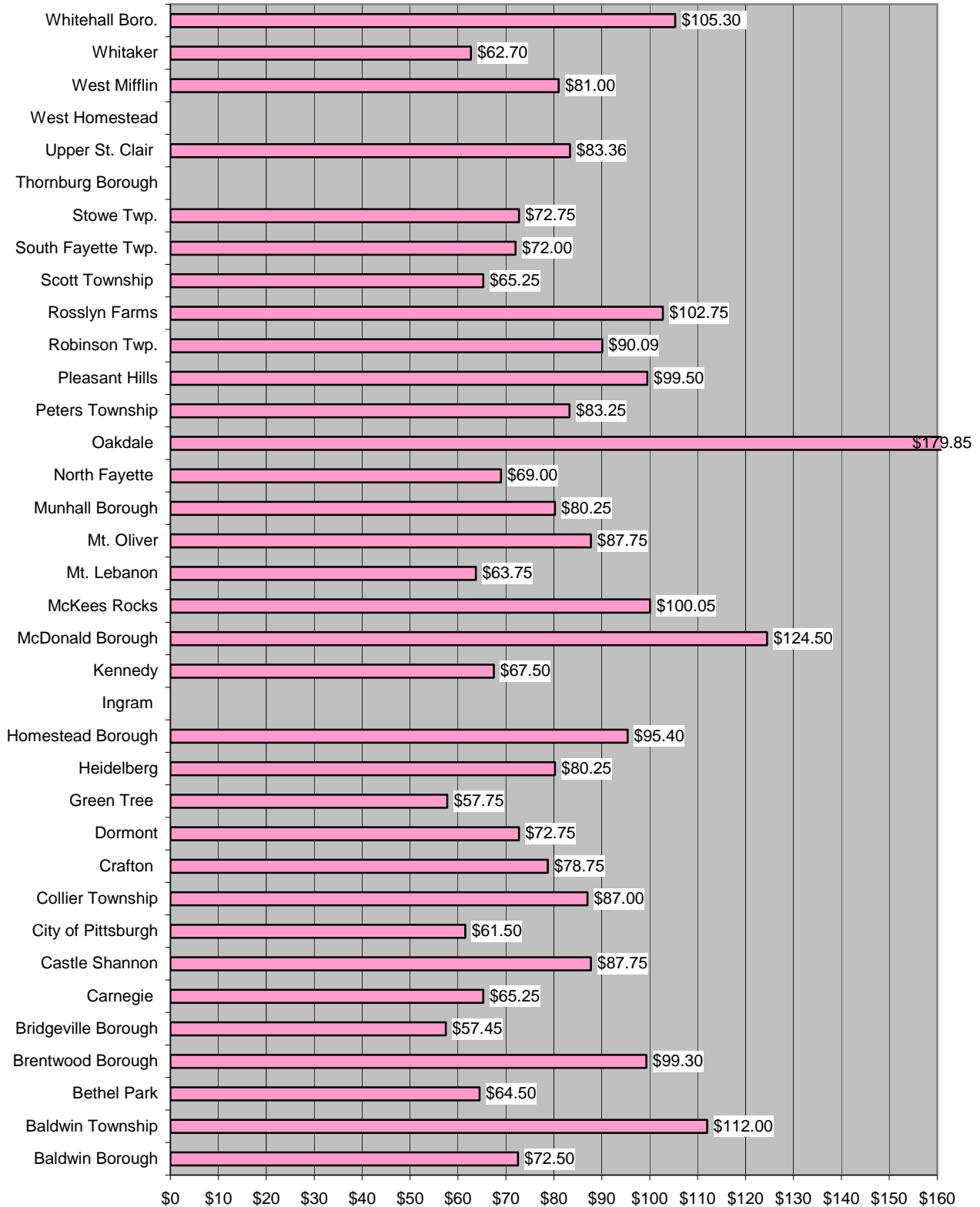
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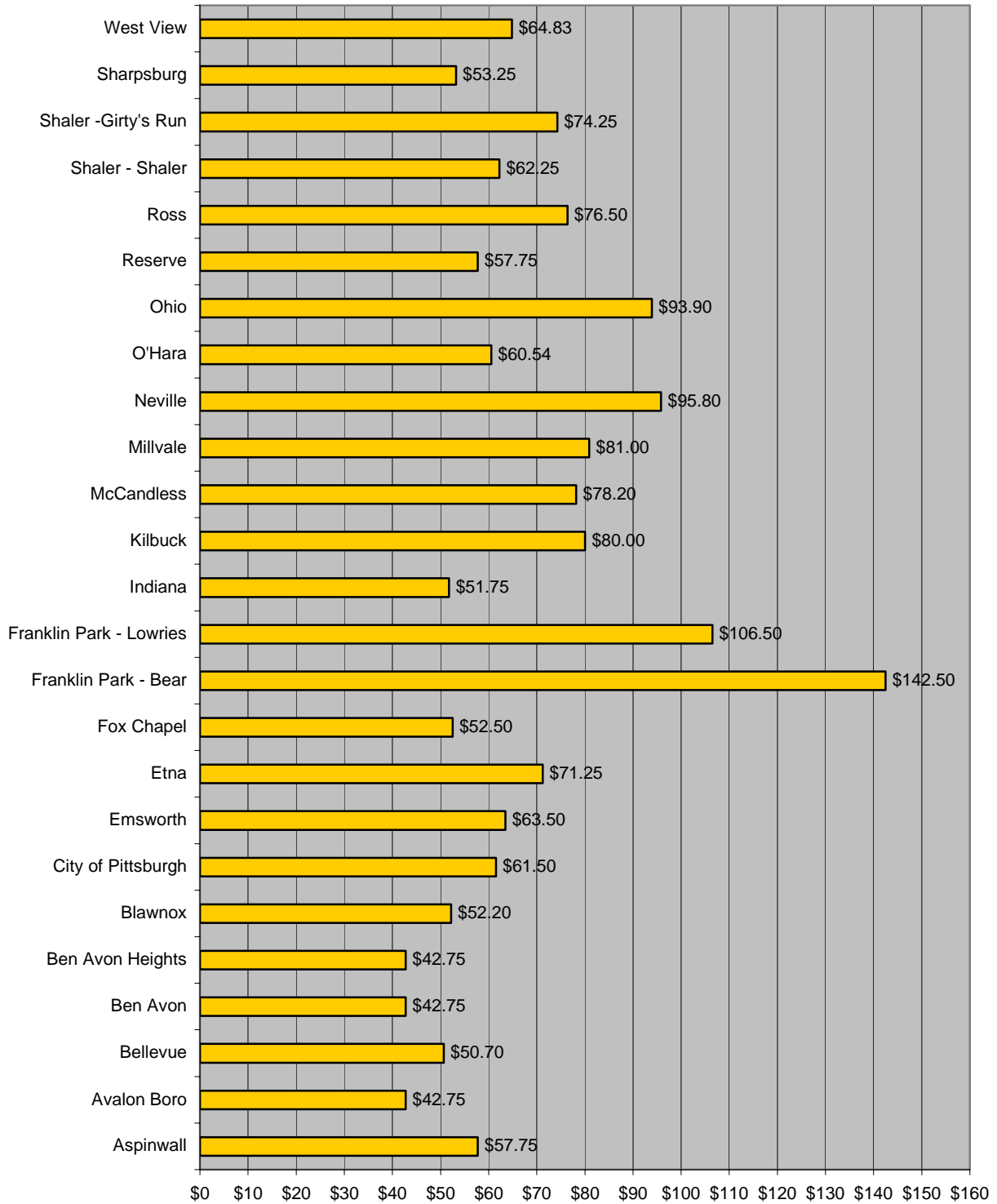
Range of Bills



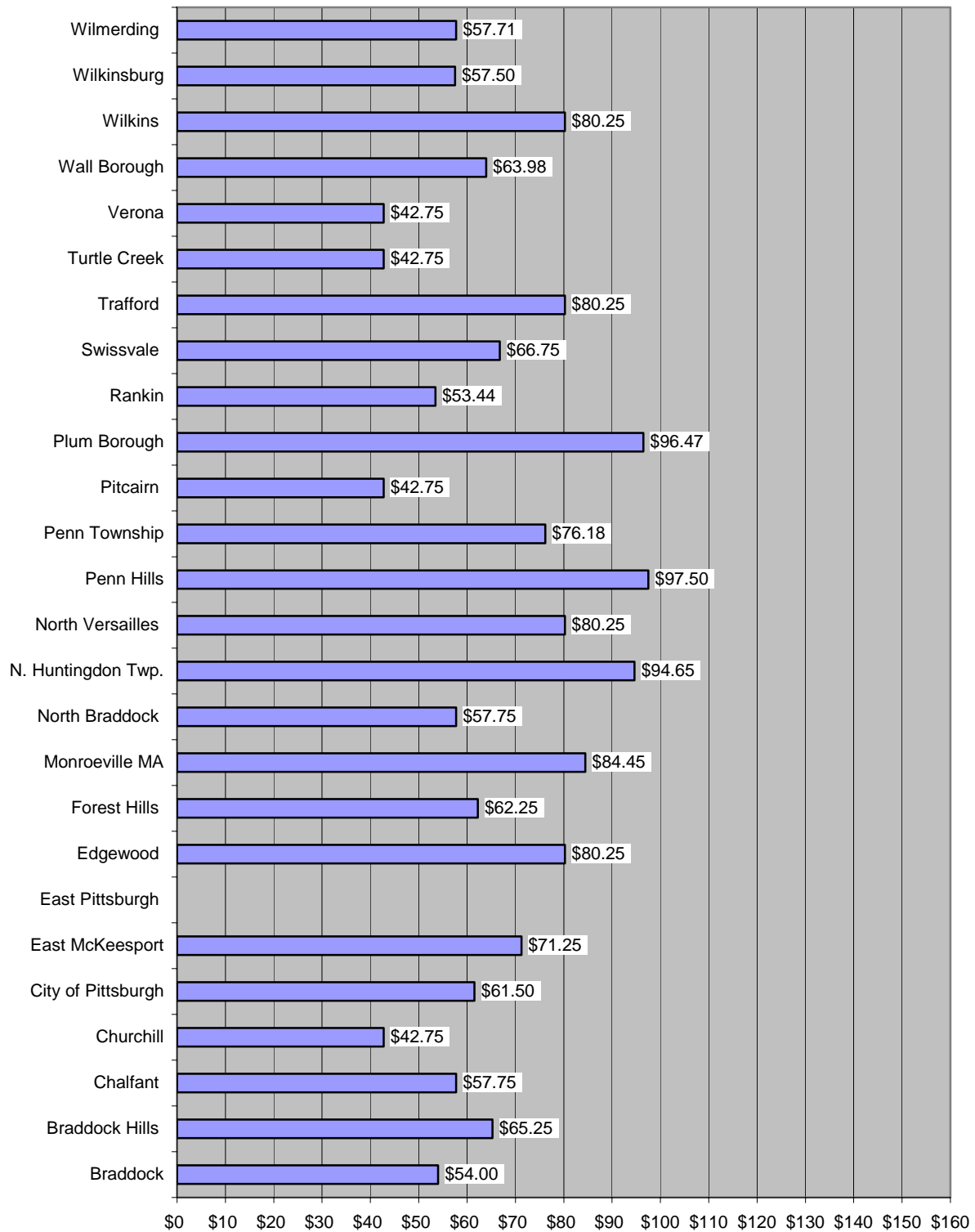
SOUTHERN BASIN



NORTHERN BASIN



EASTERN BASIN



APPENDIX 3 - WEBSITES

Below are a few examples of websites that are very informative on the issue of sewer rates. The sites may serve as a guide as you consider updates to your own websites.

North Fayette

<http://www.north-fayette.com/>

Ross Twp.

<http://www.ross.pa.us/pdffiles/18.pdf>

Shaler

<http://www.shaler.org/waterbilling.htm>

South Fayette

<http://www.authority.south-fayette.pa.us/>

Upper St. Clair

<http://www.twpusc.org/pwmain/pw.html>

West Mifflin

<http://www.wmssma.org/Main-03.htm>

Whitehall

<http://www.whitehallboro.org/finance.html#sewer>