

## Understanding Sewer rates

Sewer rates range widely among utilities and depend on numerous factors (including

- economies of scale
- access to loans
- Federal environmental mandates
- aging infrastructure and need for capitol improvements
- rising cost for operation and treatment

In most cases throughout the commonwealth the costs for processing wastewater has far outpaced the process for drinking water. Sewer rates and charges are required to be set at the local level and are calculated in Old Lycoming Township on the basis of the bullets above.

There are currently seven tributary communities that discharge sanitary sewer to the Williamsport Sanitary Authority and are responsible for the treatment costs and upgrades required to their facilities based on the percentage of discharge from that municipality:

City of Williamsport = 68.1%

Loyalsock Township = 15.4%

South Williamsport = 8.1%

Old Lycoming Township = 6.2%

Duboistown Borough = 2.0%

Armstrong Township = 0.2%

As treatment costs rise, Old Lycoming Township will be responsible for payment of the metered sewage conveyed to the sanitary authority as well as the calculated 6.2% of the federally mandated treatment plant capitol improvements.

Waste water facilities must maintain their infrastructure (including treatment plants, pumping stations and sanitary sewer mains) in a manner that provides safe, reliable service and complies with all state, federal and environmental requirements.