

# City of Hoyt Lakes

The City of Hoyt Lakes Council has passed a significant preliminary levy and utility bill increase for the 2025 year. Property tax levy increase will be 26% and utility bill increase will be to \$180.00 per month for residential services (for the bill mailed out in February 2025).

A significant property tax increase was approved due to several factors, including the Hoyt Lakes Wellness and Recreation Center project (arena), contractual increases, and the rising costs of operation. No utility service (water, sewer, refuse) can be supported by taxpayer dollars - 100% of tax dollars support public services such as the library, public works, police, fire, administration, recreation, and economic development.

## What does that include in Hoyt Lakes?

### The skateboard park

Located behind the Community Building by the tennis courts.

Equipment at the park includes: grindrails, stairs, streetspine, funbox and quarter pipe.



### Sand Volleyball Court

Located by the Colby Lake Beach.



### Tennis Courts

Located in the Midway Recreation Area, the tennis courts were resurfaced in 2024.

### Pickleball Courts

Located in the Midway Recreation Area



### Disc Golf

Located in the Midway Recreation Area

Disc golf is played like golf except, instead of a ball & clubs, players use a flying disc with the object of completing each hole in the fewest throws.

Make your way to our wonderful Library to check out a set of discs & instructions!

### Water Tower Playground

The Water Tower playground is located on the corner of Kennedy Memorial and Hampshire Drives by the Water Tower.

### Suffolk Playground

The Suffolk Playground is located on the corner of Suffolk Drive and West Fairfax Road.



### Fisherman's Point Playground

The playground at Fisherman's Point is located towards the center of the campground.

### Beach Playground

Birch Cove playground is located by the City's beach on Colby Lake.



### Many other amenities including:

covered picnic tables, shelters, manicured public areas, dog park, sledding hills, beach, boat launch, fishing docks...

### Basketball Courts

Located at the corner of Kennedy Memorial Drive & Westover, Suffolk Park, & Fisherman's Point Campground.



## Frequently Asked Questions regarding City Utility Bills

### Can I pay my bill online or set up auto-payment of my bill?

The City's secure online payment portal is available to pay your monthly utility bill. Please visit our website at [www.hoytlakes.com](http://www.hoytlakes.com) and click on Pay Your Bill Online.

It is strongly recommended you set your auto-pay date for the 15th of the month.



### Why does my utility bill increase?

The Public Utilities Department costs increase every year, much like every other service cost. The City pays more for chemicals to treat the water and waste water, labor costs, maintenance costs, and so on. Additionally, the City is required to raise the bill by a certain amount to receive grant monies from the State and Federal Governments. Without the grant monies, your monthly utility bill would be significantly higher. For 2023 and 2024, the City Council approved a smaller increase than initially planned to help residents temporarily. However, that means the water, sewer, and refuse departments are operating with a negative balance for the years.

### What revenue contributes to the utility departments? How does the City determine charges for services?

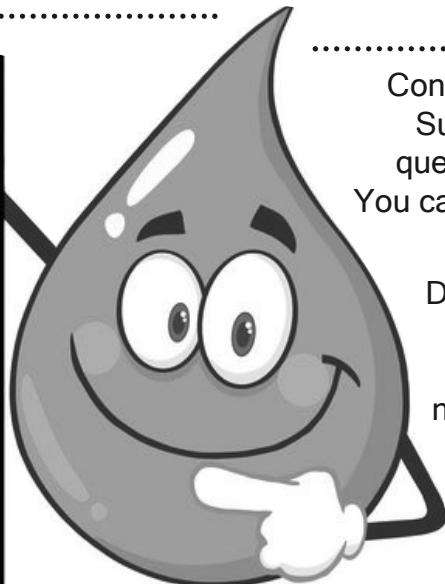
The water, sewer, and refuse departments are supposed to be self-sustaining, much like a private business. This means the City must charge residents what it costs to operate the departments. The City cannot use property tax dollars to support the water, sewer, and refuse departments; all revenue for these utilities comes directly from the monthly billing.



Your drinking water comes from a surface water source:

Surface water drawn from **Colby Lake.**

Hoyt Lakes works hard to provide you with safe and reliable drinking water that meets federal and state water quality requirements.



Contact JACOB H BERNDT, Public Utilities Supervisor, at 218-225-2812 if you have questions about Hoyt Lakes's drinking water.

You can also ask for information about how you can take part in decisions that may affect water quality.

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.