**CITY OF TEKOA UTILITY & USEFUL INFORMATION**

The water rate for the first 5,000 gallons is **$46.50** and **$1.00** for every 1,000 gallons over the base amount. (If you live outside the city limits the water rate for the first 5,000 gallons will be **$53.00** and **$1.00** for every 1,000 gallons over the minimum amount).

The sewer rates are **$76.00** for residential as well as commercial per month. (If you live outside the city limits the sewer rate will be **$81.00**). ***(This amount can and most likely will go up in January of every year.)***

Garbage rates will vary depending on the can size and the number of cans. Example for residential service: one-32 gallon can with weekly pick-up is $23.77/mo., two-32-gallon cans with weekly pick-up is $31.71/mo., one-65-gallon cart with weekly pick-up is $33.78/mo., one-90-gallon cart with weekly pick-up is $42.02/mo. Pick-up is ***every Wednesday morning***. Please have garbage out the night before, garbage pick-up starts at about **5 A.M.** ***If you are supplying your garbage can, it cannot be more than a 32-gallon can.***

All water/sewer/garbage charges are due and payable by the 15th day of each month. Charges become delinquent and a late fee of $15.00 will be imposed on all city utilities if not paid by **11:59 P.M. ON THE 25TH DAY OF EACH MONTH**. Services will be shut off if not paid by the 15th day of the following month, and a $20.00 reconnection fee will be charged to the account holder.

The City of Tekoa has adopted a policy (Ord. 816 & 817) that all amounts due for water, sewer, and garbage services shall be the obligation of, and shall be due and payable by, the **owner** of the premises supplied with said services.

The City of Tekoa has a **Dog Ordinance-645-** which states that each person is required to register and license their dogs, regardless of whether or not the dog is in a kennel or fenced yard. **ALL** dogs are required to be on a leash, and at no time will be allowed to run loose. Licenses are due on January 31 of each year and ***payments for dog licenses need to be separate from utility payments.*** A spayed or neutered dog license is $10.00 and if not spayed or neutered, the license is $20.00. Our City Code Enforcement strictly enforces the dog ordinance.

Tekoa also has a **Zoning Ordinance-567-**which requires building permits for remodeling, improvements, or demolition. Demolition permits are $30.00. You must contact the building inspector, Steve Haxton, and Tekoa City Hall, before starting any project. Regular building permits are charged on the value of the construction or project. Plumbing and mechanical permits are also required within the city limits. Peddlers’ permits are required as well. Conditional use permits must be obtained from the city council if you want animals (other than dogs and cats) in an urban residential district. All conditional use permits are $25.00.

The city has **Sidewalk Ordinance-881-**which states that every owner, occupant, lessee, or person in charge of any property located within the city which is adjacent to a public sidewalk shall be responsible for the removal of snow and ice which may fall or accumulate on the sidewalk for the entire length along the owner or occupant’s property, and for the entire width thereof, within 24 hours after such snow or ice shall have fallen and accumulated thereon.

**Per Ordinance 767, Outdoor burning-**regular burning of yard debris is permitted during daylight hours, except during burn bans. Fire pit permits have to be **renewed yearly** and have to be purchased at Tekoa City Hall. No open, outdoor burning shall be conducted on any paved street or alley. Fire burning is allowed during daylight hours only, or up until midnight with a fire pit permit. You cannot burn dimensional lumber in a fire pit. For a copy of **Ordinance 767**, **Outdoor Burning**, please stop-by Tekoa City Hall to receive a copy.

For new telephone/internet customers call Ziply (866) 271-2359, Frontier (866) 699-4759, WiFiber (509) 284-2200, or First Step (208) 882-8869.

Avista Utilities is the only electrical service provider here in Tekoa. You may contact their office at 1-800-227-9187.

**GARBAGE GENERAL INFORMATION:**

**~** Regular garbage can service shall not exceed 32 gallons, or 65 pounds **(including its contents)**. Regular garbage cans must have watertight lids, two handles, and a tapered bottom. You will be charged an **extra $5.44** for overweight cans, extra bags, extra cans, or extra boxes. All garbage is to be placed in a garbage bag before being put into trash for pick-up.

~Empire Disposal is not responsible for replacing a customer’s 32-gallon can.

~65-gallon cart service shall not exceed 100 pounds (including its contents).

~90-gallon cart service shall not exceed 125 pounds (including its contents).

~**Customers are held liable for damage or misuse of the cart. Do not place tires, hot ashes, dirt, bricks, dead animals, building material, grain, or hazardous or corrosive chemicals in the cart. You will be charged an extra $4.90 for overweight carts. If the lid is not completely closed, you will be charged $4.90 as an extra.**

~All collection begins at **5:00 A.M. every Wednesday**. It is advisable to have trash out the evening before collection day.

~**Holidays Observed**: New Year’s Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day, and Christmas Day. Service will be **ONE day late** following holidays.

~**Collection missed due to weather or road conditions will be picked up the following week. No added charge or credit is allowed.**

~Animals need to be confined on collection day. Empire Disposal has the right to refuse any customer service if an animal is considered, or feared, to be vicious and is loose.

~The garbage container will need to be placed where it is most easily accessed by the driver. If a container is blocked on collection day, they will not be able to get it until the following week. ***Absolutely NO exceptions will be allowed.***

--Rural customers on some county roads will bring their cans to the nearest paved road.

--Your understanding is asked when we do not drive onto private property when we judge that driveways or roads are improperly maintained or without proper turnaround or have any other unsafe conditions.

--**No credits are given if a customer does not have garbage out for collection every week.**

**This information is meant to help our citizens. If you have any questions, we welcome your call at Tekoa City Hall: (509)284-3861**