

# WINTER AVERAGING

The Town of Northlake uses a practice called **WINTER AVERAGING** to keep wastewater rates low throughout the year.

## WHAT IS WINTER AVERAGING?

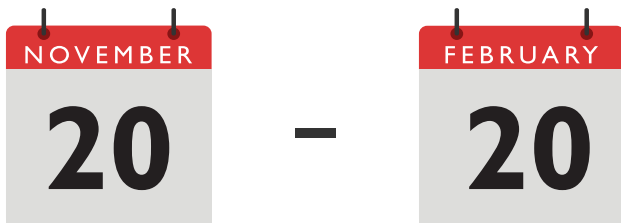
Under this practice, residential water use during the months of December, January and February (typically the three lowest consumption months) is averaged to determine the maximum rate at which a residential account will be charged for wastewater for the upcoming year.

## WHY IS IT NECESSARY?

There is no meter on a wastewater line; therefore, the only way for the Town to determine an account's wastewater use is by the amount of water used that month. To help keep utility bills low, the Town averages water consumption over the three months of the year – December, January and February – when residential water consumption is lowest and outdoor water use is rare. This average is then used to determine the maximum amount the Town will charge a residential account for wastewater over the coming year.

## WHEN DOES WINTER AVERAGING BEGIN?

The winter averaging period typically begins on or around November 20 and concludes February 20.

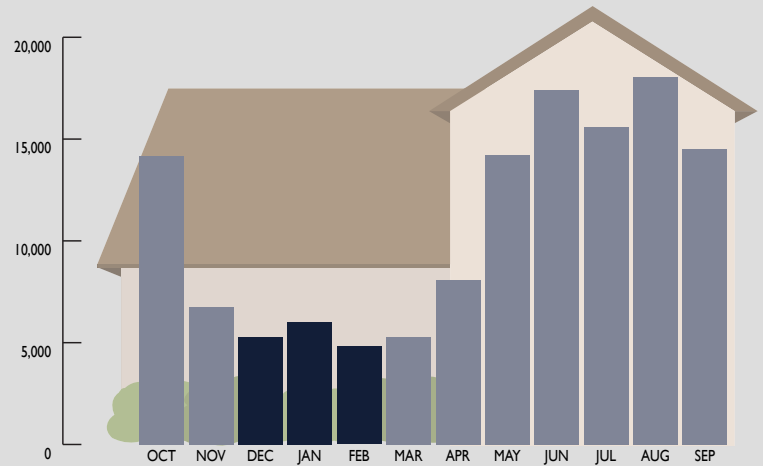


## WHAT IF I'M NEW TO NORTHLAKE?

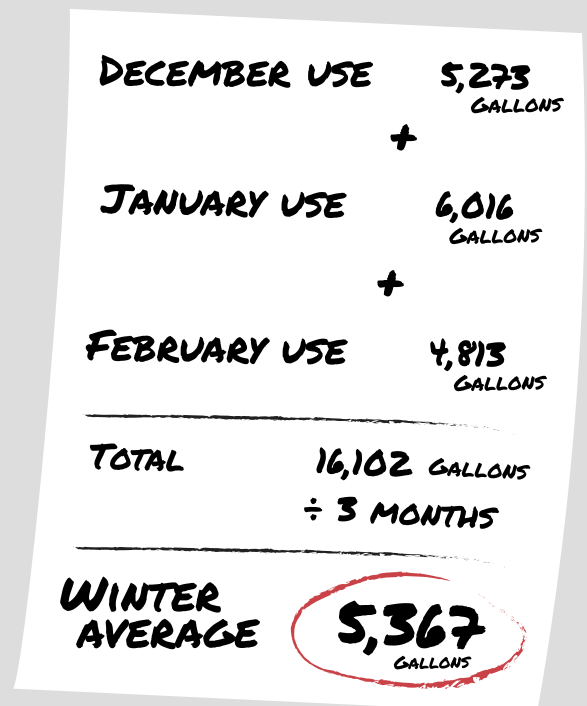
New residents who have not completed a full winter averaging period will not be charged for more than 8,000 gallons of wastewater use. Once a residential account has completed one full winter averaging period, a new rate will be assessed based upon the account's average water use in the months of December, January and February.

## HOW DOES WINTER AVERAGING WORK?

The Town gathers water consumption data from your account over the three lowest consumption months on average: December, January and February.



Once the data has been gathered, the Town uses those numbers to determine average consumption over the winter averaging period.



Your winter average determines the maximum rate the Town will charge you for wastewater in the upcoming year.

