



PRESS RELEASE

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TO: Local Media
FROM: Worcester County Commissioners
DATE: April 8, 2025
FOR RELEASE: Immediately
TOPIC: Worcester County to Host Information Sessions on Proposed FY26 Water and Sewer Rate Changes
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Worcester County to Host Series of Information Sessions on Proposed FY26 Water and Sewer Rate Changes

Snow Hill, Maryland (April 8, 2025) – This April, the Worcester County Commissioners will host a series of information sessions about proposed Fiscal Year 2026 (FY26) water and sewer rate changes. At each meeting, administration and finance officials will deliver a brief presentation, along with a handout, regarding the 11 water and wastewater sanitary service areas (SSA) in the county. After the presentation, county staff will be available to answer questions.

Sessions will take place at diverse locations in Northern Worcester. Each meeting will focus on specific SSAs. Residents are welcome to attend any or all of the following sessions:

- Monday, April 21, at 6 p.m. in the Berlin Library Meeting Room – This informational meeting will focus on the Newark, River Run, Edgewater Acres, and Lighthouse Sound SSAs.
- Thursday, April 24, at 6 p.m. at Stephen Decatur High School – This informational meeting will cover the West Ocean City, Mystic Harbour, Landings, Assateague Point, and Riddle Farm SSAs.
- Wednesday, April 30, at 6:30 p.m. at St. Paul United Methodist Church on Flower St. in Berlin – This informational meeting will cover the Briddletown SSA.

Commissioners Chip Bertino and Jim Bunting will host a town hall meeting on this topic, with a focus on the Ocean Pines SSA, on Wednesday, April 23, at 6 p.m. in the Ocean Pines Library Meeting Room.

These sessions will present accurate, detailed information that addresses proposed water and sewer rate changes. Sessions will also cover the root causes of deficits within numerous water and sewer SSAs, some of which include aging infrastructure, increased chemicals and capital equipment costs, and pumping and hauling charges affiliated with the Riddle Farm Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) failure.

A public hearing on the requested FY26 Water and Wastewater Enterprise Fund Budget will take place May 6 at 6 p.m. in the Worcester County Government Center.

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