

# Cooperative Extension Service – Bridging Knowledge, Community

**By: Vicki Shadrick  
Extension Agent  
for Agriculture  
and Natural Resources**

I have been asked over the years “what is the extension service and what do you do”. It sounds like a question that can easily be answered, right? Honestly, it is harder than you think but keep reading to learn more about Kentucky Cooperative Extension and we may be able to help you. The University of Kentucky Cooperative Extension Service is a vital component of the University of Kentucky’s land-grant mission, designed to bring practical, research-based knowledge to communities throughout the state. This organization connects the resources of the university with the needs of Kentucky residents to promote better living, foster community development, and support community and economic development. Operating as a partnership between federal, state, and local governments, the Extension Service focuses on addressing the unique challenges and opportunities facing Kentucky citizens. Established under the Smith-Lever Act of 1914, the Cooperative Extension Service is a collaborative effort between land-grant universities and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). In Kentucky, it is managed by the University of Kentucky College of Agriculture, Food, and Environment. Our mission is to extend the university’s research and knowledge into the everyday lives of individuals, families, farmers, and businesses across the state, helping them make informed decisions and improve their quality of life. The University of Kentucky Cooperative Extension Service provides a wide array of programs and resources, typically organized into key areas such as agriculture and natural resources, family and consumer sciences, 4-H youth development, and community and economic development. Each program area addresses specific needs within the state:

1. Agriculture and Natural Resources (ANR): Kentucky has a rich agricultural heritage, and the ANR program helps farmers and landowners opti-

state, Kentucky 4-H engages young people in hands-on learning experiences that build leadership, citizenship, and life skills. Activities range from STEM education and public speaking to agricultural projects and community service.

4. Community and Economic Development: This program supports local governments, businesses, and organizations

in fostering economic growth and improving community resilience. Extension agents often serve on local boards and committees within the communities they serve.

One of the Extension Service’s greatest strengths is its local presence. With offices in every county, the University of Kentucky Cooperative Extension ensures that its programs are accessible to

all residents, regardless of location. Each county office is staffed by trained agents who work closely with community members to identify needs and deliver tailored solutions. These agents serve as a vital link between the university and the public, bringing research-based knowledge directly to the people who need it most. The University of Kentucky Cooperative Extension

Service also collaborates with a variety of stakeholders, including schools, nonprofits, industry groups, and government agencies. This collaborative approach ensures that programs are comprehensive, effective, and aligned with the broader needs of Kentucky’s communities. The Webster County Extension Office staff includes Chaunda McCully (staff assistant), Ashley

Whitledge (program assistant), Vicki Shadrick (ANR agent), Wade Raymer (4-H agent) and Natalie Green (FCS agent). Give us a call if you want to learn more about the programs we offer or to help answer other questions you may have.

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## WEBSTER COUNTY WATER DISTRICT CUSTOMER NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the Webster County Water District filed an application with the Kentucky Public Service Commission on December 30, 2024 seeking approval of a proposed adjustment to its water rates. The proposed rates shall not become effective until the Public Service Commission has issued an order approving these rates.

CURRENT AND PROPOSED MONTHLY RATES Webster County Water District						
CURRENT RATE SCHEDULE			PROPOSED RATE SCHEDULE			DIFFERENCE PERCENT
<b>5/8" x 3/4" Meters</b>						
First	2,000 gallons	\$ 17.50 Minimum Bill	First	2,000 gallons	\$ 22.42 Minimum Bill	\$ 4.92 28.11%
Next	4,000 gallons	\$ 7.95 per 1,000 gallons	Next	4,000 gallons	\$ 10.18 per 1,000 gallons	\$ 2.23 28.05%
Next	94,000 gallons	\$ 6.95 per 1,000 gallons	Next	94,000 gallons	\$ 8.90 per 1,000 gallons	\$ 1.95 28.06%
Over	100,000 gallons	\$ 4.19 per 1,000 gallons	Over	100,000 gallons	\$ 5.37 per 1,000 gallons	\$ 1.18 28.16%
<b>1" Meters</b>						
First	10,000 gallons	\$ 77.10 Minimum Bill	First	10,000 gallons	\$ 98.76 Minimum Bill	\$ 21.66 28.09%
Next	90,000 gallons	\$ 6.95 per 1,000 gallons	Next	90,000 gallons	\$ 8.90 per 1,000 gallons	\$ 1.95 28.06%
Over	100,000 gallons	\$ 4.19 per 1,000 gallons	Over	100,000 gallons	\$ 5.37 per 1,000 gallons	\$ 1.18 28.16%
<b>1 1/2" Meters</b>						
First	15,000 gallons	\$ 111.85 Minimum Bill	First	15,000 gallons	\$ 143.27 Minimum Bill	\$ 31.42 28.09%
Next	85,000 gallons	\$ 6.95 per 1,000 gallons	Next	85,000 gallons	\$ 8.90 per 1,000 gallons	\$ 1.95 28.06%
Over	100,000 gallons	4.19 per 1,000 gallons	Over	100,000 gallons	\$ 5.37 per 1,000 gallons	\$ 1.18 28.16%
<b>2" Meters</b>						
First	20,000 gallons	\$ 146.60 Minimum Bill	First	20,000 gallons	\$ 187.78 Minimum Bill	\$ 41.18 28.09%
Next	80,000 gallons	\$ 6.95 per 1,000 gallons	Next	80,000 gallons	\$ 8.90 per 1,000 gallons	\$ 1.95 28.06%
Over	100,000 gallons	4.19 per 1,000 gallons	Over	100,000 gallons	\$ 5.37 per 1,000 gallons	\$ 1.18 28.16%
<b>3" Meters</b>						
First	30,000 gallons	\$ 216.10 Minimum Bill	First	30,000 gallons	\$ 276.80 Minimum Bill	\$ 60.70 28.09%
Next	70,000 gallons	\$ 6.95 per 1,000 gallons	Next	70,000 gallons	\$ 8.90 per 1,000 gallons	\$ 1.95 28.06%
Over	100,000 gallons	4.19 per 1,000 gallons	Over	100,000 gallons	\$ 5.37 per 1,000 gallons	\$ 1.18 28.16%
<b>4" Meters</b>						
First	50,000 gallons	\$ 355.10 Minimum Bill	First	50,000 gallons	\$ 454.85 Minimum Bill	\$ 99.75 28.09%
Next	50,000 gallons	\$ 6.95 per 1,000 gallons	Next	50,000 gallons	\$ 8.90 per 1,000 gallons	\$ 1.95 28.06%
Over	100,000 gallons	4.19 per 1,000 gallons	Over	100,000 gallons	\$ 5.37 per 1,000 gallons	\$ 1.18 28.16%
<b>Wholesale</b>						
		\$ 3.70 per 1,000 gallons			\$ 4.40 per 1,000 gallons	\$ 0.70 18.92%

If the Public Service Commission approves the proposed water rates, then the monthly water bill for a customer using an average of 4,000 gallons per month will increase from \$33.40 to \$42.78. This is an increase of \$9.38 or 28.08%. The chart below shows the current and proposed rates for an average customer’s bill by meter size:

CURRENT AND PROPOSED BILLS Webster County Water District						
Gallons per Month*	Meter Size	Existing Bill	Proposed Bill	Change	Percentage	
4,000	5/8 x 3/4"	33.40	42.78	\$ 9.38	28.08%	
10,000	1"	77.10	98.76	21.66	28.09%	
15,000	1 1/2"	111.85	143.27	31.42	28.09%	
20,000	2"	146.60	187.78	41.18	28.09%	

helping them make informed decisions and improve their quality of life. The University of Kentucky Cooperative Extension Service provides a wide array of programs and resources, typically organized into key areas such as agriculture and natural resources, family and consumer sciences, 4-H youth development, and community and economic development. Each program area addresses specific needs within the state:

1. Agriculture and Natural Resources (ANR): Kentucky has a rich agricultural heritage, and the ANR program helps farmers and landowners optimize their operations while adopting sustainable practices. Specialists offer guidance on crop and livestock production, soil and water conservation, pest management, and farm management strategies.

2. Family and Consumer Sciences (FCS): FCS programs aim to enhance the well-being of individuals and families by providing education on nutrition, health, financial management, parenting, and housing. These programs are designed to equip families with the skills and knowledge necessary to lead healthier, more productive lives.

3. 4-H Youth Development: As one of the largest youth development programs in the

Over 100,000 gallons	4.19 per 1,000 gallons	Over 100,000 gallons	\$ 5.37 per 1,000 gallons	\$ 1.18	28.16%
<b>Wholesale</b>		<b>Wholesale</b>		\$ 0.70	18.92%
	\$ 3.70 per 1,000 gallons		\$ 4.40 per 1,000 gallons		

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20,000	2"	146.60	187.78	41.18	28.09%
30,000	3"	213.10	276.80	63.70	29.89%
50,000	4"	355.10	454.85	99.75	28.09%

The rates contained in this notice are the rates proposed by Webster County Water District. However, the Public Service Commission may order rates to be charged that differ from these proposed rates. Such action may result in rates for consumers other than the rates shown in this notice.

Webster County Water District has available for inspection at its office the application which it submitted to the Public Service Commission. A person may examine this application at the District's office located at 478 US-41 ALT, Dixon, KY 42409. You may contact the office at 270-639-9010.

A person may also examine the application at the Public Service Commission's offices located at 211 Sower Boulevard, Frankfort, Kentucky, 40601, Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., or through the Public Service Commission's website at <http://psc.ky.gov>. Comments regarding the application may be submitted to the Public Service Commission through its website or by mail to Public Service Commission, PO Box 615, Frankfort, Kentucky, 40602. You may contact the Public Service Commission at 502-564-3940.

A person may submit a timely written request for intervention to the Public Service Commission, PO Box 615, Frankfort, KY, 40602, establishing the grounds for the request including the status and interest of the party. If the Public Service Commission does not receive a written request for intervention within thirty (30) days of the initial publication of this notice, the Public Service Commission may take final action on the application.