

BACA GRANDE WATER AND SANITATION DISTRICT



Winter / 2025 / ISSUE 5



A QUASI MUNICIPAL
CORPORATION
AND POLITICAL
SUBDIVISION OF
THE STATE OF
COLORADO

Welcome

The District's mission is to provide high quality, reliable, sustainable water and treatment of wastewater in a manner that reduces the District's carbon footprint while balancing commitment to the highest standards of environmental protection and customer service in the most efficient and economical manner possible.

Welcome to the April Baca Grande Water & Sanitation District Newsletter!

We're pleased to bring you the latest updates, service tips, and news on recent events to keep you connected with all that's happening in the District.

Office Hours: Monday–Thursday, 8:00 AM–5:30 PM

Closed for lunch: 12:00-1:00 PM

IN THIS ISSUE

2025 ELECTION

UPDATED WATER
TIERED RATES

OPERATIONS PROJECTS

AVAILABILITY OF
SERVICE (AOS) FAQ'S

Notice of Updated Water Tiered Rates Effective February 1, 2025

At the Baca Grande Water & Sanitation District, we are committed to providing high-quality and cost-effective water and sewer services. To continue meeting this goal, the Board of Directors has adopted a new fee resolution at the December 11th, 2024 Board Meeting. This resolution includes an adjustment to the water tiered rates, effective February 1, 2025.

Please note, the base rates for water and sewer will remain unchanged at \$48.13 for water and \$40.73 for sewer, for total base rate of \$88.86. The water base rate covers usage from 0 to 4,000 gallons per month.

Below, you will find detailed tables outlining the current 2024 water tiered structure and charges, as well as the updated 2025 water tiered structure and charges.

[\[Click here to view the full breakdown of rates in PDF format.\].pdf](#)

If you have any questions or concerns about these changes, please feel free to contact the District Manager, Diego Martinez, at **719-256-4310**.

Thank you for your understanding and continued support.

Sincerely,
Baca Grande Water & Sanitation District

Projects and Capital Improvements

The District plans to do summer maintenance to include fire hydrant Maintenance, valve exercising and main line sewer inspections. The District is in the process of design and engineering for a water system improvement project. The District is also working to do some improvements at the wastewater plant.

**February 17, 2025 -
President's Day**

The District office will be closed on **Monday, February 17, 2025**, in observance of **President's Day**.

For water or sewer emergencies, please call 719-256-4310, and an operator on call will be dispatched to assist you.

You can make payments anytime by phone using our 24/7 IVR line at **888-504-0548**.

Important Dates

Next Board Meeting:
February 19th 9:00am

Utility Billing Due Date:
February 28th

AOS Billing Due Date:
June 30th

Customer Service Reminder

Have questions about your bill or water usage? Contact us at **719-256-4310** or info@bacawater.com.

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR BACA GRANDE WATER AND SANITATION DISTRICT

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN, and particularly to the electors of the Baca Grande Water and Sanitation District of Saguache County, Colorado.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a regular election will be held on Tuesday, May 6, 2025, between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. At that time, three (3) Directors will be elected to serve a four-year term.

Eligible electors of the District interested in serving on the Board of Directors may obtain a Self-Nomination and **Acceptance form from the District Designated Election Official (DEO):**

Judy Egbert, DEO

719/580-9357

GovPro@outlook.com

By appointment

**Baca Grande Water and Sanitation District office
57 Baca Grant Way S., Crestone CO
Monday through Thursday 8:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.
info@bacawater.com**

The deadline to submit a Self-Nomination and Acceptance form is 3:00 p.m. on February 28, 2025

Did You Know? Your Water Usage Adds Up!

Here are some surprising facts about everyday water use:

- A Running Faucet – can waste up to 2.5 gallons per minute. Turn it off while brushing your teeth!

-Shorter Showers – reducing your shower time by just 2 minutes can save 5 gallons per use.

- Dishwashing Smarts – running a full dishwasher uses half the water of washing by hand.

[Small changes make a big impact.](#)

Join Us for Monthly Board Meetings – Your Voice Matters!

We encourage you to participate in our monthly Board of Directors meetings to stay informed about District projects, future plans, and to share your input. Your voice plays a vital role in shaping the future of our water & sanitation services.

When & Where

Meetings take place on the third Wednesday of each month at 9:00 AM. You can attend in person at 57 Baca Grant Way S., Crestone, CO 81131 or join us virtually via Zoom.

Meetings agendas are posted 24 hours in advance on our website, www.bacawater.com.

Stay Connected

Want to stay up-to-date? Request to join our email distribution list by contacting us at info@bacawater.com to receive meeting agendas via email.

What Does Administrative Services Do?

What do the employees in Baca Grande Water and Sanitation District's Administrative Services do? Lots of things!

Perhaps most important, we are available to help customers on the phone or in person during the office's hours of operation, Monday through Thursday 8:00 am to 12:00 pm and 1:00 pm to 5:30 pm. We take payments, answer questions and deal with concerns in a friendly and welcoming manner. If we can't answer your inquiry we'll track down the proper person to help you. You are also welcome to stop by just to say hi!

In addition, we handle many forms of paperwork. Baca Water is a division of the Colorado State Government, as are all Special Districts, so we must be meticulous in following the specified procedures. We also support the Board of Directors in any way needed, and we handle much of the communication of issues or concerns with the Utilities workers. The Administrative Services Supervisor is responsible for accurately keeping financial records and for payment of bills, with assistance from other members of the administrative services team.

Our small department creates work orders, keeps track of all property transfers in the district, does the utility billing and tracks payments, checks county websites for relevant information, and handles some aspects of elections. We process water-sewer hook-up applications and consolidations of lots. We maintain the website and communicate with users as needed. In addition, we are constantly looking for better ways to handle our processes, and cross-training on each other's jobs so that when anyone is out of the office we can still cover all of the work.

We are all committed to providing the best service we can to all of our customers as well as to the entire Baca Water team.

For any water or sewer emergencies, please call **719-256-4310**.

Help Us Help You! Keep in Touch

- Please give the district office at least 48 hours' notice of any turn ON/OFF non-emergency requests.
- If you rent or lease your home, please provide the District with a [Tenant form](#), which can be found on the District website.

Availability of Service Charges (AOS) FAQ's

What is the Availability of Service (AOS) Charge?

The AOS fee is an annual charge of \$200 per lot for unimproved properties with access to water and sewer infrastructure within 100 feet of the property line.

When is the AOS Fee Due?

The fee will be billed at the end of January and is due by June 30. A late fee of \$20.00 will apply if not paid by this date.

Why is there an AOS Fee if I'm not connected to the system?

The AOS fee helps repay debt incurred for the capital infrastructure. Even if you are not connected, your lot benefits from the enhanced value and availability of the water and sewer infrastructure.

Auto Pay: Sign Up Today...



AND NEVER MISS ANOTHER PAYMENT!

It is hassle-free—set it up once and never think about your bills again.

Login or create an account at www.xpressbillpay.com to sign up today!

xpress BILL PAY

Meet the BGWSD Team	
Board of Directors	District Staff
Vivia Lawson President	Diego Martinez District Manager
Rick Hart Vice President	Chad Tate Director of Utilities
Mike Smith Treasurer	Natalie DeBon Administrative Services Manager
David Karas Secretary	Johann McKee Administrative Assistant
Mike Plotnick Member at Large	Greg Hess Administrative Utility Assistant
	Roan Tikla Blankenship Administrative Assistant
	Bryan Howard Utility Maintenance Operator
	Mark Elliott Utility Maintenance Operator
	Cooper Goodhart Utility Maintenance Operator
	Tim Allen Utility Maintenance Operator
	Jim Vanderpool Utility Maintenance Operator

How Does a Water Storage Tank Work in a Public Water System?

Water storage tanks play a vital role in ensuring a reliable water supply for our community. These tanks store treated water and help maintain consistent pressure throughout the distribution system. During periods of high demand, such as mornings and evenings, the tank releases water to supplement supply. At night, when demand is lower, the tank refills, ensuring a steady reserve. Storage tanks also provide crucial water reserves for fire protection and emergency situations. By balancing supply and demand, they help keep our public water system running efficiently and reliably.

