



The Village of
Port Sanilac

56 N. Ridge St. • Box 628 • Port Sanilac, MI 48469-0628 • Ph. (810) 622-9963 • Fax (810) 622-7801

September 17, 2025

Dear Village of Port Sanilac Residence,

We are writing to inform you of an upcoming change in the way water bills are calculated. In December 2025, we will begin to receive water from Lexington and charged monthly by **volume** of water delivered. Consequently, we will need to begin our quarterly billing based on the volume of water used beginning October 1, 2025. Below is the history of the transition from producing our own well water to purchasing lake water.

Historical Background

- **October 2018** our main well had a casing failure and EGLE determined that the well could not be repaired, in part due to a plume of groundwater contamination from leaking underground storage tanks (LUSTs) that were located at the Fire Hall in the early 1990's.
- The State setback requirements for a replacement well need to consider a degree of separation from the primary well, sites of existing underground storage tanks (UST) and known sources of groundwater contamination, which are the 173 N. Ridge St. USTs and a previous LUSTs at gas station that was located where the Dollar General is now.
- The BSCC property was considered but rejected because:
 - The State geologists rating of our existing aquifer susceptibility to contamination is "fairly high"
 - A new well, pump house, pipeline to the treatment plant and replacement of the aging treatment plant filter media would need to be accomplished
 - The well would produce water with a hardness rating between 400-450, a continuing source of citizen complaints related to water.
- Other options included connecting with either Harbor Beach or Lexington
 - The Harbor Beach option benefits included softer lake water with a 100 hardness rating eliminating the need for residential water softeners and relatively cheap water due in part to a water system subsidized by Sensient Flavors, a large industrial user
 - Harbor Beach costs were an expensive pipeline from Snover Road, a booster pump station and time to construct the pipeline with numerous creeks that would need to be bored
 - Lexington water benefits also include soft lake water and an opportunity for a quick connection

- Lexington downsides included buying in to the 11-mile Sanilac Township pipeline and booster station cost sharing. In addition, buying into the Lexington plant treatment capacity and the higher cost of Lexington water
- **August 2, 2019** EGLE sent VPS a Significant Deficiency Violation Notice with the following condition, "The village must also complete corrective action of the Significant Deficiency by meeting Firm Capacity within 120 Days of this letter; (bring the Village into compliance by November 30, 2019) or be in compliance with a corrective action plan and schedule approved by this office. Failure to meet either the 30-day notification to the department, or the 120-day compliance deadline is a treatment technique violation, subject to additional requirement and penalties."
- **March 11, 2020** Notice of Intent to Bond the water project was published in the Sanilac County News
- **March 24, 2020** Covid Shutdown
- **January 21, 2021** Council determined that the option that would meet the agency demands was constructing an interconnect with the Sanilac Township water main that lies adjacent to our water tower and entered into an Interlocal Agreement with Lexington and Sanilac Township to meet our water supply requirements. The agreement was executed **January 21, 2021**.
- **April 6, 2021** public hearing regarding and adoption of Resolution #02-2020 As Amended, Notice of Intent to Issue Bonds for VPS Water Distribution System Revenue Bonds
- **July 2024** The USDA RD funding process dragged on until **July 2024**, in part due to covid and funding delays. Meanwhile, we prepared the Preliminary Engineering Report, project design work and bid documents for the three related projects.
- **October 2025** Construction of the Interconnect was completed **March 2021**, the Lake Street Water Main is substantially complete and the Booster Pump Station is expected to be completed early **October of 2025**.
- **January 2026** The switch to Lexington water will include a "soft start" where the water from the two systems will be blended to avoid a sudden change in water chemistry beginning December with a full switch to Lexington in **January 2026**
- Project Costs were funded by a grant of \$3,794,000 and loan of \$1,269,000

Attached are examples of bills at the new rate that are based on the amount of water used and the meter size. Meter size is considered as part of the cost of service because the larger a meter is, the greater burden the service is on the water system which then increases the cost of a water system to operate.

A resident may choose to purchase and install a smaller meter. You may contact the Village Office for more information.

Village of Port Sanilac

24/25 Rates

Annual Bond Reserve	5.10
Water Bond #2	23.00
Water Bond #3	2.20
Water Bond #4	27.50
Water RRI	9.80
Sewer Bond	52.00
Trash	80.00
Sewer	60.00
Water	97.55
Residential Base Rate	357.15
Water RTS	65.83
Sewer RTS	32.70
Water Per 1000	1.15
Sewer Per 1000	1.15

3/4" Meter

Annual Bond Reserve	5.10
Trash	80.00
Sewer RTS	60.00
Water RTS	122.18
Water Bond #4	27.50
Water Bond #2	23.00
Water Bond #3	2.20
Water RRI	9.80
Sewer Bond	52.00
Subtotal	381.78
Plus Usage (5.35/1000) ie 8000	42.80
Total	\$424.58
Sewer Per 1000/Gal	1.15
Water Per 1000/Gal	5.35

1 1/2" Meter

Annual Bond Reserve	5.10
Trash	80.00
Sewer RTS	60.00
Water RTS	691.54
Water Bond #4	27.50
Water Bond #2	23.00
Water Bond #3	2.20
Water RRI	9.80
Sewer Bond	52.00
Subtotal	951.14
Plus Usage (5.35/1000) ie 8000	42.80
Total	993.94
Sewer Per 1000/Gal	1.15
Water Per 1000/Gal	5.35

Gallons Used Amount

1,000.00	5.35
2,000.00	10.70
3,000.00	16.05
4,000.00	21.40
5,000.00	26.75
6,000.00	32.10
7,000.00	32.10
8,000.00	42.80
9,000.00	48.15
10,000.00	53.50
15,000.00	80.25
20,000.00	107.00

1" Meter

Annual Bond Reserve	5.10
Trash	80.00
Sewer RTS	60.00
Water RTS	270.22
Water Bond #4	27.50
Water Bond #2	23.00
Water Bond #3	2.20
Water RRI	9.80
Sewer Bond	52.00
Subtotal	529.82
Plus Usage (5.35/1000) ie 8000	42.80
Total	572.62
Sewer Per 1000/Gal	1.15
Water Per 1000/Gal	5.35

2" Meter

Annual Bond Reserve	5.10
Trash	80.00
Sewer RTS	60.00
Water RTS	1281.77
Water Bond #4	27.50
Water Bond #2	23.00
Water Bond #3	2.20
Water RRI	9.80
Sewer Bond	52.00
Subtotal	1541.37
Plus Usage (5.35/1000) ie 8000	42.80
Total	1584.17
Sewer Per 1000/Gal	1.15
Water Per 1000/Gal	5.35

