# COLTON WATER DISTRICT

## Notice of Water Rate Changes – Effective April 22, 2025

Colton Water District rates will increase on April 22, 2025. You'll see this rate increase on your May bill.

### Explanation for the Rate Increase

The Colton Water District Board has approved a rate increase for 2025 to ensure the long-term sustainability, reliability, and safety of our water system. This decision was made after careful consideration of the District's financial needs, operational costs, and planned infrastructure improvements.

#### Key Reasons for the Rate Increase:

#### **Rising Operational Costs:**

• Like many utilities, the District has experienced increases in the costs of essential supplies, equipment, and services. From treatment chemicals to system maintenance, inflation has impacted our operating budget.

#### Infrastructure Upgrades and Maintenance:

To provide safe and reliable water to our customers, investments in critical infrastructure improvements are needed. These improvements are essential to prevent service disruptions and maintain water quality. For example:

- Repairing aging pipelines and upgrading the water intake system.
- Modernizing water meters for improved accuracy and efficiency.

#### Compliance with State Regulations:

Regulatory requirements, such as seismic vulnerability studies and water quality standards set by the Oregon Health Authority, necessitate investments in our system to ensure compliance and public safety.

#### Building Reserves for Future Needs:

A portion of the rate increase will be allocated to reserve funds, allowing the District to prepare for unexpected repairs, emergencies, and long-term capital improvement projects.

#### Our Commitment to You:

We are committed to operating as efficiently as possible. The additional revenue generated by this adjustment will ensure that Colton Water District can continue to deliver safe, reliable, and high-quality water to our community now and into the future.