

PRESS RELEASE

CONTACT: Joe Burtard
Public Relations Officer
Ute Water Conservancy District
970-242-7491 Office

DATE: December 18, 2007

Ute Water Rate Changes

Starting January 1, 2008, customers in the Ute Water Conservancy District will see changes to the amount of money they are paying for domestic water. On Wednesday, December 12, 2007 the Ute Water Board of Directors voted to increase water rates and District's tap fees and reduce the District's property tax mill levy.

Currently, the monthly minimum water rate for Ute Water customers is \$11.00 for 3,000 gallons. The District uses a multi-tiered, water rate system which means the more water a customer uses, over the initial minimum, the more they will be charged. Effective February 1, 2008, there will be a rate increase for both residential and commercial customers who are using over 3,000 gallons of water a month. Customers, who are using less than 3,000 gallons of water a month, will not see any changes to the amount they are charged for domestic water. "Our water rate system is a reflection of our continuing efforts to promote efficient water use in the Grand Valley," stated Joe Burtard, Public Relations Officer for Ute Water. Ute Water is a domestic water provider and discourages customers from using domestic water for irrigation purposes.

The District's Board of Directors voted a 5 percent increase in tap fees. A 3/4 inch tap is currently \$5,500. Effective January 1, 2008, the tap fee for a 3/4 inch tap will be \$5,800.

MORE MORE MORE

The Directors voted for a 50 percent reduction in the District's 2007 mill levy. This is the third reduction in the District's mill levy in the past four years. In 2005 the mill levy was two mills. As of January 1, 2008, the mill levy will be reduced from one mill to one half mill. According to Burtard "The reduction in the District's 2007 mill levy is equivalent to a reduction of nearly \$650,000.00 in tax payer's dollars to the District.

For additional information on water rates, tap fees or the organization you can contact Joe Burtard at 970-242-7491 or jburtard@utewater.org.

#