WEST BRANCH
WATER RECLAMATION DISTRICT

1S649 Shaffner Rd
Wheaton, IL 60189
630.668.1515
mywestbranch.org

RESIDENTIAL SUMMER USAGE SEWER CREDIT

Frequently Asked Questions | Updated November 2026

1. What is the Summer Usage Sewer Credit?

The program provides a potential sewer bill credit for eligible residential water usage during the summer, such as lawn watering, gardening, and filling a swimming pool. These activities can increase water use without sending all of that water into the sanitary sewer system.

2. Who is eligible?

The program is available to single-family residential customers with metered water usage, provided the property is their primary residence. Flat-rate customers are not eligible. The program does not apply to commercial properties, multifamily accounts, or properties that are not the customer's primary residence.

3. Is there an application fee?

No. There is no fee to apply for the residential Summer Usage Sewer Credit.

4. How often must I apply?

You only need to apply once while you remain at the same eligible property. If you move to another property, you must submit a new application for that service address. Enrollment remains subject to program eligibility requirements.

5. What is the application deadline and where do I apply?

Submit the application by December 31 for the applicable credit year. Visit mywestbranch.org and look for Sewer Credits or the Residential Irrigation Credit Application under billing information. You may also contact the District for assistance.

6. What months are used to calculate the credit?

The six-month non-watering season is November 1 through April 30. The six-month watering season is May 1 through October 31. The calculation uses consumption recorded for those applicable periods.

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7. How does the Irrigation Credit calculation work?

Residential customers may request a credit for the difference between usage in the six-month watering season (May 1 through October 31) and 120% of usage in the preceding six-month non-watering season (November 1 through April 30), subject to a monthly minimum for the non-watering season.

The monthly minimum for non-watering consumption is the usage equivalent of the standard multiple-occupancy flat rate in effect when the credit is issued. The current monthly minimum is 6 CCF for accounts measured in hundred cubic feet (CCF). For accounts measured in thousands of gallons, the monthly minimum is 4.5 (4,500 gallons). The worked example below uses CCF.

Example calculation

	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.
Actual	4	3	1	0	2	7	3	7	13	17	15	8
Calculated	6*	6*	6*	6*	6*	7	3	7	13	17	15	8

* Five non-watering months below 6 CCF are raised to the 6 CCF monthly minimum. All table values are in CCF.

A = Non-watering season total: 6 + 6 + 6 + 6 + 6 + 7 = 37 CCF.
B = Watering season total: 3 + 7 + 13 + 17 + 15 + 8 = 63 CCF.
A x 120%: 37 x 1.20 = 44.4 CCF.
Usage credit: B - (A x 120%) = 63 - 44.4 = 18.6 CCF.

The eligible usage credit is multiplied by the applicable sewer usage rate to determine the dollar credit. For accounts measured in thousands of gallons, use the separate 4.5 monthly minimum and consumption in thousands of gallons; do not mix the two units.

8. When will the credit appear on my bill?

If eligible, credits are calculated in December and applied directly to the customer's West Branch sewer account on the January bill, rather than issued as a separate refund check. To be eligible to receive a credit, the customer's account must be active and in good standing, and the property must remain their primary residence at the time the credit is applied. Customers who move out of the District or whose property is no longer their primary residence before the credit is applied are not eligible.

9. Is there a separate swimming pool credit?

No. The former pool credit has been incorporated into the Summer Usage Sewer Credit program. Eligible water usage for pool filling is considered under the same seasonal calculation; there is no separate pool credit application.

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10. Can I receive a credit if I rent my home?

A renter at an otherwise eligible single-family property may apply, subject to the account and program requirements. The credit is applied to the qualifying active West Branch account, not paid separately to the renter.

11. What if I have recently moved in or do not have a full winter usage history?

Please contact the District. West Branch will review the available consumption history and determine whether an appropriate baseline can be established. A credit is not guaranteed when sufficient comparable usage data is unavailable.

12. Who can answer questions about my application?

Contact West Branch Water Reclamation District at 630-668-1515, visit mywestbranch.org, or write to 1S649 Shaffner Road, Wheaton, IL 60189.

Program details and eligibility are subject to the District's current policies and applicable ordinances.