



Around the Well

May 2026 Vol 17 No 5

“Georgia’s Greatest Little Town”
Social Circle Community News

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UTILITY RATES

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

WATER	RATE	SEWER	RATE	GAS	RATE	GAS	RATE	GAS	RATE
First 2000 Gallons (Inside City)	\$37.76	First 2000 Gallons (Inside City)	\$36.46	Residential Base Charge	\$14.49	Industrial Base Charge	\$80.50	Very Large Industrial Base Rate	\$2,600.79
Each Additional 1000 Gallons (Inside City)	\$19.26	Each Additional 1000 Gallons (Inside City)	\$20.09	Residential Distribution Charge (per MCF)	\$6.84	Industrial Distribution Charge (per MCF)	\$5.78	Very Large Industrial Distribution Charge (per MCF)	\$3.33
First 2000 Gallons (Outside City)	\$56.60	First 2000 Gallons (Outside City)	\$54.68	Commercial Base Charge	\$24.15	Large Industrial Base Charge	\$453.46		
Each Additional 1000 Gallons (Outside City)	\$28.85	Each Additional 1000 Gallons (Outside City)	\$30.15	Commercial Distribution Charge (per MCF)	\$6.84	Large Industrial Distribution Charge (per MCF)	\$4.50		

Beginning July 1, 2026, utility customers of the City of Social Circle will see an increase in their utility rates. This rate adjustment is part of a previously approved 5-year rate plan, which was adopted last year. Monthly gas rates are not set by the City; they are established by the Municipal Gas Authority of Georgia (MGAG), and may vary based on market conditions. The City does, however, set a base meter fee that is applied to each monthly bill. This base fee will

increase on July 1, 2026, and will then remain the same until July 1, 2027. Outside of this annual adjustment to the base fee, changes in a customer’s gas bill are driven by a change in usage and/or changes in the per-therm rate set by MGAG.

To cover the upfront costs of necessary upgrades, the City secured a bond, which must be repaid over time. Utilities are not funded through taxpayer dollars. Instead, they rely upon customer rates. The upcoming

rate adjustments will help finance the repayment of the bond and several critical upgrades, including:

- **Water Line Replacements:** Replace aging water distribution lines to prevent leaks and improve overall reliability. Projects are already underway on Lakewood Drive and Cannon Drive.
- **Water Treatment Plant Renovations:** Upgrade and replace equipment to ensure high-quality drinking water.
- **New Wastewater Treatment Facility:** Replace the current facility, which was built in 1962. This will expand capacity and ensure compliance with environmental regulations for sustainable wastewater management.
- **New Water Tower Construction:** Add a new water tower to increase storage capacity and improve water pressure on the north side of town.
- **Other projects aimed at maintaining and improving the City’s essential services.**

Previous City Councils have deferred critical utility projects, resulting in a neglected system that requires a lot of costly emergency repairs. To avoid more of those costly emergency repairs, the current City Council has chosen to address the deteriorating utility infrastructure. By proactively investing in the utility system, the City aims to provide long-term benefits and reliable service to its residents.

For more information about the rate adjustments and planned projects, residents are encouraged to visit the City’s official website or contact City Hall.

Access Water System Information Online

Stay informed about your water quality! The City of Social Circle Water Quality Report is now available online. To view it, simply visit www.socialcirclega.gov and check out our Public Notice page, located under our Residents tab.

You can also access Service Line Inventory Results by visiting: <https://ga-epd.120water-ptd.com/>

Your health and safety are our top priorities - thank you for staying informed!

Meetings for City Council, Municipal Court, Commissions, and Boards

May 7 at 4:00 p.m. Mayor and Council will hold Work Session in the City Community Room, 138 E. Hightower Trl.
May 11 is the deadline to submit for the June 23 Planning Commission meeting.
May 12 at 9:00 a.m. Mainstreet Commission will meet in the City Community Room, 138 E. Hightower Trl.
May 12 at 6:00 p.m. Historic Preservation Commission will meet in the City Community Room, 138 E. Hightower Trl.
May 19 at 6:30 p.m. Mayor and City Council meet in the City Community Room, 138 E. Hightower Trl.
May 20 at 1:00 p.m. Municipal Court will be held at the City Community Room, 138 E. Hightower Trl.
May 26 is the deadline to submit for the June 9 Historic Preservation Commission meeting.
May 28 at 6:00 p.m. Tree Board will meet in the City Community Room, 138 E. Hightower Trl.
June 4 at 6:30 p.m. Mayor and Council will hold a Work Session in the City Community Room, 138 E. Hightower Trl.

City Hall will be Closed May 25 for Memorial Day

CITY LEADERS

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City Manager Eric Taylor

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Farmers Market

Join us every first and third Thursday of the month, through October, for the Social Circle Farmers Market in Friendship Park! Upcoming dates include May 7, May 21, and June 4. Be sure to keep an eye out for additional dates and details by visiting our website at www.socialcirclega.gov. Interested in becoming a vendor? E-mail events@socialcirclega.gov for more information.

Cinco in the Circle Concert!

Join us for the Cinco in the Circle Concert on May 9 from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. in Friendship Park. Bring your lawn chairs and enjoy an evening of music, community, and festive fun in downtown Social Circle.



City-Wide Yard Sale Weekend

YARD SALE

The City-Wide Yard Sale is coming soon! Get ready to shop or sell May 15-17. If you are planning to participate and want to be included in the public list of sales, please contact the Welcome Center at 770-464-1866 or email events@socialcirclega.gov. Don't miss this great opportunity to connect with the community and find some treasures!