# Notice to the public

Steinfort, 25th april 2025

## Increase in water prices from 1st July 2025

### Dear fellow citizens,

Each municipality in Luxembourg is required to set its own rates for drinking water and wastewater, taking into account the specific costs associated with its water services. These tariffs are calculated on the basis of a harmonised scheme applicable to all municipalities. Water prices can therefore vary from one municipality to another.

Since 2014, the price of water in our municipality has remained stable at €2.3/m<sup>3</sup> (excluding VAT). However, due to changing costs and legal requirements, it is now necessary to adjust our tariffs with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> July 2025.

#### Why the increase?

Firstly, the **purchase price of water** from our supplier, Syndicat des Eaux du Sud (SES), has risen steadily over the years. In 2011, the price was  $\leq 1.00/m^3$ , but it rose to  $\leq 1.20/m^3$  in 2018, then to  $\leq 1.50/m^3$  in 2022, and finally to  $\leq 1.90/m^3$  in 2023. This increase has a direct impact on the cost of water for our municipality.

In addition, the municipality has continuously invested in the **modernisation and maintenance of its infrastructure**. At the same time, our municipality has **experienced strong demographic growth**. Since 2013, the population has increased from 4,768 to 6,081 by 2025 (an increase of 27.54%), requiring more than 180 new connections to the network. This expansion will require our infrastructure to be continually adapted to meet growing needs.

Finally, **national legislation** requires the price of water to cover the real costs of its supply and treatment. All municipalities must comply with a harmonised calculation scheme, over which we have little influence.

#### Composition of the new rates

The **tariff**, which will come into force on 1<sup>st</sup> July 2025, includes a fixed charge and a variable charge. For drinking water, the fixed annual charge for households will be  $\in$  9.8 per meter diameter in millimetres (excluding VAT), while the variable charge, calculated on the basis of actual consumption, will be  $\in$  4.4/m<sup>3</sup> (excluding VAT). These adjustments reflect the real costs associated with production, distribution and management of water resources.



- **Production and distribution:** costs associated with the treatment, purification and distribution of drinking water. This includes investment in infrastructure such as treatment plants, reservoirs and distribution networks.
- Water resource management: protection of water sources and sustainable management of water reserves. The costs associated with water management, including protection of water sources and management of reserves, influence the price.
- Environmental regulations: meeting quality standards and minimising environmental impact.

In addition, a fourth sector has been added to the household, industrial and agricultural sectors: the **HORECA sector**, in order to tailor rates more closely to the different categories of user. This new rate, specific to hotels, restaurants and cafés, will also be applied from 1<sup>st</sup> July 2025, under the conditions prescribed by the municipality.

#### Wastewater treatment

The wastewater treatment tariffs also need to be adjusted to cover the real costs of this service. However, in order to avoid two increases in a short period of time, the municipality has decided to postpone this adjustment. The new wastewater tariffs will take effect on 1<sup>st</sup> January 2026. This decision reflects our desire to minimise the financial impact on our citizens while meeting our legal obligations. As with drinking water, the new tariff will include a fixed charge and a variable charge. For wastewater, the fixed annual charge for households will be  $\in$  34 per ehm (average population equivalent)/year, while the variable charge, calculated on the basis of actual consumption, will be  $\notin$  3.8/m<sup>3</sup>.

Municipal tax regulations



#### Responsible and sustainable management

The municipal administration is committed to managing these resources responsibly and sustainably, while complying with legal and environmental obligations. This tariff review will enable us to ensure a reliable, high-quality water supply for years to come.

Every drop counts! To help preserve this precious resource and reduce your bills, we invite you to take simple steps to save water every day. Discover our practical advice on our website:



https://bit.ly/economiser-eau-potable



#### Billing





As part of this tariff review, we would like to inform you that the number of advance invoices will be increased from two to three per year, on top of the annual statement. Billing details can be found on page 2 of your municipal tax bills. Our Billing & Customer Relations department (tel. 39 93 13 234 / 235 or e-mail: recette@steinfort.lu) is at your disposal for any assistance you may require.

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Thank you for your understanding and cooperation. The College of Burgomaster and Aldermen

Marianne DUBLIN-FELTEN Alderwoman

Sammy WAGNER Mayor **Guy ERPELDING** Alderman

