

TO CITY OF FOWLER UTILITY CUSTOMERS:

From time to time, we hear from customers that they did not receive their monthly utility (water) bill in their US Mail. The City wishes to provide information on the monthly utility billing process to assist our customers in avoiding a late fee that might accrue due to this circumstance.

Utility bills are mailed on the first business day of each month. For instance, if the first day of the month falls on a Saturday, the billing is mailed on the first <u>business</u> day of the month, which would be Monday, the 3rd. If the first of the month falls on a weekday, it is mailed on that business day. Though the City of Fowler has no control over U.S. Mail delivery, generally you should receive your bill by the first week of each month.

Please note the following excerpts from the Fowler Municipal Code:

FMC Section 6-4.707 - Due dates—Payment

(a) Water charges shall be due and payable at the office of the Water Department on the date of mailing the bill as designated in the application and shall become delinquent on the fifteenth (15th) of the month. (Note: If the 15th of the month falls on a weekend, the due date is the following Monday).

FMC Section 6-4.710: Failure to receive bills—Effect.

Failure to receive a bill shall not relieve the consumer of liability. Any amount due shall be deemed a debt to the City, and any person failing, neglecting, or refusing to pay such indebtedness shall be liable to an action in the name of the City in any court of competent jurisdiction for the amount thereof.

If you have not received your bill by the first week of the month, <u>please do not hesitate</u> to contact the Utility Billing Department. They want to help, and will gladly give you information on your balance due: PH. (559) 834-3113 ext. 100, or by email: <u>ecavazos@ci.fowler.ca.us</u> or <u>bmolina@ci.fowler.ca.us</u>. You may also use this contact information for other billing and water usage questions. Also, please visit the Utility Billing Department page on the City's website at <u>www.fowlercity.org</u>

The City has recently put in a debit card/credit card payment system to make payment of utility bills more convenient. There is a 24 hour payment drop box (no cash) in the door next to the flagpole at the front of City Hall, 128 S. 5th Street. There is also a convenient payment drop box in the City Hall Administration office. The City's Finance Department is currently working on an online water bill payment system, and will inform customers as soon as it becomes available.