

Coalition of Watershed Towns
An Organization of Water Exporting Communities
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July 30, 2008

Dear Coalition of Watershed Towns Member,

At the regular meeting of the CWT on July 21, 2008 the Executive Committee adopted a new dues schedule for the coming years. This document is attached where you'll find your municipality name and new fee.

For some municipalities this has changed and others are the same. The Executive Committee has heard from some member organizations that the dues were unfair due to their size or population. Therefore, the new dues schedule was created, discussed for a couple of months, modified and adopted by the Executive Committee of the CWT. We feel this is much more equitable to our membership, which fully funds our efforts to provide a level playing field with the NYCDEP.

When the EPA issued the newest Filtration Avoidance Determination (FAD) there were several areas that the CWT felt were a detriment to our future, mainly land acquisition. Therefore, our legal filings and bills have gone up considerably. Our old dues structure was allowing us to collect about half of our yearly expenditures, leaving us to request more funds from our members, which graciously responded. With this new structure our revenues will be much closer to our expenditures.

Why not cut our expenditures? It is hard to predict what court cases cost and often our only means of defense is to take the DEP to court. We feel our future freedoms and ability to self-govern are worth this small increase.

Having said that we will still ask our state leaders for their financial assistance in our work to make sure that the DEP lives up to the agreements and laws that are in place. The CWT has had some successes in the courts in the last few years and it is because of the ardent support of all our members that this was possible.

Thank you for all that you have contributed to the CWT by dues or extra payments over the years. If you have any questions feel free to contact me or any member of the executive committee.

John W. Meredith
Acting Treasurer