



CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS  
*WATER AND SEWER DEPARTMENT*

KATJANA BALLANTYNE  
MAYOR

*JOHN DELUCA*  
DIRECTOR

July 2017

**Re: New Senior Citizen Discount Program for Water and Sewer Services:**

- You have been deemed eligible for the new Senior Citizen Discount Program.
- The discount is retroactive to July 1, 2016.
- Your account will automatically be credited with your retroactive discount.
- Please see the reverse side for information on how to remain eligible for future discounts.

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Dear Water and Sewer Customer:

Mayor Joseph Curtatone and the Board of Aldermen have collaborated to introduce and approve a new senior discount for water and sewer charges. The Senior Citizen Discount Program allows income-eligible Somerville seniors to receive a 25 percent discount on their water and sewer bills.

You are receiving this notice because we have determined that you currently meet the eligibility requirements. You will be automatically receiving a credit to your account in the amount of your retroactive 25 percent discount. As long as you remain eligible, you will continue to receive a 25 percent discount on all water and sewer bills going forward.

Your retroactive discount will be equal to 25 percent of your *total* charges billed for the past 12-month period (from July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2017). A credit in that amount will be applied to your upcoming water and sewer bill(s) starting with bills issued after July 25, 2017. Once the discount is applied, we will mail you a letter with a detailed accounting of the credited amount.

—————▶ *Please see reverse side* —————▶



Eligibility for the Senior Citizen Discount Program is based on the same requirements used for two property tax exemptions available to qualifying seniors: the 41C or 17D statutory exemptions. You were deemed currently eligible for the water and sewer discount because you applied for and received either the 41C or 17D exemption during the last 12 months.

**Please note: To remain eligible for water and sewer discounts, you must reapply each year either for the 41C or 17D exemption.** To make it easy for you to continue to receive the water and sewer discount, if you apply *and qualify* for either 41C or 17D, you will also automatically be given the water and sewer discount. Applications for either exemption are available from the Assessor's Office, which is happy to assist you with the application and answer your questions. Applications are available starting July 1 of each year and are due in early April the following spring. You may request an application then, or for your convenience, the Assessor's Office mails applications to past year recipients after Labor Day each year. The next deadline for both 41C and 17D is April 2, 2018.

Finally, we are currently upgrading our billing software. Once complete, we will be able to apply your future senior discount to your bill during each billing cycle rather than retroactively. We will keep you informed of our progress.

The Water and Sewer Department strives daily to provide Somerville with the highest quality water and sewer service as well as excellent customer service. Should you have further questions about this or any water and sewer matter, please feel free to contact us at 617-625-6600 x5850.

Sincerely,

John DeLuca  
Director, Water and Sewer Department