



Have you ever been to the top of a water tower? Kyle has! Check out his story at [york.ca/wateris](http://york.ca/wateris)

Clean, safe water is an investment most of us take for granted. But it's one of the best investments we continue to make.

Our water system is all around us, yet rarely seen. If you'd like an insider's look at where your water comes from, how it's treated and how it gets to your taps, visit [york.ca/wateris](http://york.ca/wateris).

You can watch videos that will open the door to our "hidden" world. We think you'll be amazed.



If you have questions about your water bill or water rates, please contact Access Vaughan  
 905-832-2281  
[accessvaughan@vaughan.ca](mailto:accessvaughan@vaughan.ca)  
[vaughan.ca/water](http://vaughan.ca/water)

For more information about this brochure, contact [wateris@york.ca](mailto:wateris@york.ca) or 1-888-967-5426.

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# WATER IS

## SAFE, CLEAN AND AFFORDABLE



HOW YOUR WATER DOLLARS ARE INVESTED IN VAUGHAN

[york.ca/wateris](http://york.ca/wateris)  
 Keeping our water safe



### IS TAP WATER EXPENSIVE?

**No.** Although water rates have been increasing, when you compare the approximate average annual cost of water to other average annual household expenses, tap water is one of the lowest costs. Also, tap water is still the least expensive beverage we drink. **One litre costs less than one cent.**

TAP WATER



< \$0.01

BOTTLED WATER



UP TO \$2.50+

SOFT DRINKS



\$1.25

ORANGE JUICE



\$1.50

MILK



\$2.25

WINE



\$12.00

## THE COST OF YOUR WATER

In 2017 it will cost York Region \$495 million to run a reliable water system that provides clean, safe drinking water to more than 1.1 million residents. To cover that cost, York Region will receive \$308 million from its nine cities and towns through the sale of treated drinking water and wastewater services. The additional \$185 million will come from development charges and \$2 million from other fees and charges.

Due to a water rate increase, this year the average household in the City of Vaughan will pay an additional \$1.29 per month for water and wastewater services.

## WHY OUR WATER COSTS INCREASE

 Infrastructure ages and has to be monitored, maintained and replaced.

 As our population increases, we need to build new capacity into our water system at existing facilities, and add new pipes, pumping stations and treatment plants to manage our water needs.

 The cost of buying water from Toronto and Peel is rising.

 Stricter water regulations drive more complex and expensive treatment processes and increase sampling costs.

 Planning ahead, we are building up our savings account for future water system upgrades. Saving money now minimizes debt and financing costs in years to come, keeping our water affordable for future generations.

## UNDERSTANDING YOUR BILL:

### How your water dollar is spent

#### \$0.29 Vaughan Portion

##### Vaughan Breakdown:

\$0.13 Savings for Future  
\$0.16 Operating Costs

#### \$0.71 York Region Portion

##### Regional Breakdown:

\$0.20 New Construction  
\$0.15 Operations and Maintenance  
\$0.10 Buying Drinking Water  
\$0.10 Savings for Future  
\$0.08 Wastewater Treatment  
\$0.08 Debt Repayment



## WHERE YOUR MUNICIPAL WATER DOLLARS GO

### York Region

Purchases treated drinking water from Peel Region and the City of Toronto and uses advanced technology to treat wastewater. Managing 333 million litres of water per day, York Region's \$6.3 billion water system includes:

- Over 675 kilometres of pipes
- 45 reservoirs and water towers
- 40 wells
- 21 water pumping stations
- 3 water treatment plants
- 21 wastewater pumping stations
- 8 wastewater treatment plants

### City of Vaughan

Purchases its water and wastewater treatment from York Region and provides these services to its residents. The City also operates and maintains:

- 1 water pumping station
- 1 pressure elevating system
- 9 wastewater pumping stations
- Over 1,800 kilometres of pipes

