

## Citizens Seeks Water and Wastewater Rate Increases



Citizens Energy Group filed a petition with the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission (IURC) seeking increases in water and wastewater rates. If approved, residential customers would notice the following impacts on their bills starting January 1, 2014.

- Water bills will rise approximately \$3 per month.
- Wastewater bills will rise approximately \$10 per month and another \$4 per month starting October 1, 2014.

The rate increases are necessary to fund nearly \$560 million in system improvements between 2014 and 2015. Many of these improvements are mandated by the federal government.

- **Water System:** Nearly \$114 million is required to improve the water system by making updates that will prevent water main breaks, improve system flow and enhance the water treatment plants.
- **Wastewater System:** Nearly \$444 million is required to improve the wastewater system by constructing an underground tunnel system that will capture raw sewage, expanding wastewater treatment plants and by continuing the Septic Tank Elimination Program (STEP) to reduce dangerous E-coli bacteria in neighborhood ditches and groundwater.

If customers need assistance paying their utility bill or have questions about future rate increases, please call 317-924-3311. For more information about Citizens' commitment to clean water, please visit [IndyCleanWater.com](http://IndyCleanWater.com).

## March 15<sup>th</sup> Marks End of State Moratorium on Utility Disconnections

The state moratorium on utility disconnection ends Friday, March 15<sup>th</sup>. The moratorium is in effect between December 1<sup>st</sup> and March 15<sup>th</sup> each year. It protects customers who qualify for the Energy Assistance Program (EAP) from their gas service being disconnected for non-payment. Since this is a heating assistance program, EAP customers are still subject to disconnection for water/wastewater services during the moratorium. Customers not receiving EAP funds are subject to disconnection for non-payment throughout the year.

For those customers who are behind on bills, Citizens is offering flexible payment arrangements, including weekly and bi-weekly payment plans. Please contact Citizens at 924-3311 to make arrangements before your service is disconnected.



## March is Red Cross Month

Citizens Energy Group and the American Red Cross encourage you to **Be an Everyday Hero** during Red Cross Month. Make a disaster preparedness plan, sign up for a CPR or First Aid class, become a volunteer or give a donation. Call **888-684-1441** or visit [redcross.org/in/indianapolis](http://redcross.org/in/indianapolis) for more information.

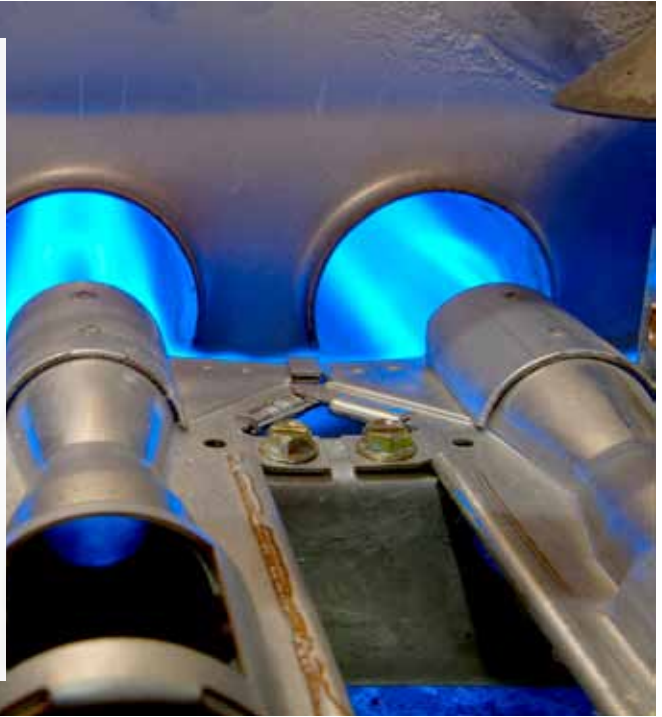


**American  
Red Cross**

## Save on Appliances through Citizens Energy Savers Rebates

Citizens Energy Group offers the following rebates towards the purchase of high efficiency natural gas appliances for your home. Before purchasing, visit [CitizensEnergySavers.com](http://CitizensEnergySavers.com) for the rebate application and complete details on appliance and service requirements.

- \$250 Gas Furnace
- \$500 Gas Boiler
- \$150 Tankless Gas Water Heater
- \$50-\$150 Tank Water Heater
- \$20 Programmable Thermostat



## Roman Egg-Drop Soup

From Chef Tony Hanslits from The Villa

To see a cooking demonstration of this recipe on Chef's Choice with Citizens Gas, go to [www.CitizensEnergyGroup.com](http://www.CitizensEnergyGroup.com). Each month Chef's Choice features a local chef/restaurant cooking some of their favorite recipes!

### Ingredients:

4 cups chicken broth  
1 egg scrambled  
¼ cup Parmigiano cheese  
2 Tbsp flat leaf parsley/minced  
Juice of ½ lemon  
Salt and pepper to taste

### Directions:

Bring the chicken broth to a boil in a large pot over medium-high heat then, reduce heat to a medium-low. Add Parmigiano and parsley. Slowly pour egg mixture into broth, stirring with a whisk. Season to taste with salt and pepper.

