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Community Advocacy Network hints water utility bills could rise

> Posted by DAve DiPino on September 20, 2010 at 12:04 PM

The Community Advocacy Network is informing residents to expect higher water bills in the future due to a new set of Environmental Protection Agency mandates that are scheduled to start in October, according to attorney Donna D. Berger, executive director of the Community Advocacy Network. Berger wrote in an e-mail that the hike in water bills is a result of new mandates required by a lawsuit settlement between the federal government and environmental activists. She said the first set of Environmental Protection Agency mandates is scheduled to take effect in October and it is estimated it will cost the average Florida household an additional \$700 per year.

Why are the costs increasing? The new mandates will require utilities across Florida to make expensive, widespread retrofitting to water treatment systems. Berger also wrote that according to a study performed by Carollo Engineers, the capital costs for these projects could total \$50.7 billion and require an additional \$1.3 billion per year in additional operating costs.

Berger said that Florida Water Utilities will pass the cost of compliance to water customers. She also wrote that the state would be the only state singled out thus far by the federal government with these new mandates and Floridians will be the only ones burdened with these additional water costs.

For more information visit <http://condolaw.blogspot.com> or www.canfl.com. Berger may be reached at dberger@canfl.com or 954-315-0372.

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ABOUT THIS BLOG



Dave DiPino
David DiPino joined Forum Publishing Group in August 2006. As a reporter for the Delray Forum, David covers community news and writes a dining column twice a month that focuses on restaurants in South Palm Beach County.

Beach County.

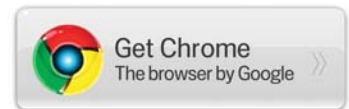
He also is one of the writers of the twice-monthly Hometown Downtown column that looks at events, celebrations, and organizations in Delray and Boynton Beach. He freelances for the Sun-Sentinel during high school football and basketball seasons.

David spent 12 years working in the restaurant industry, and did just about every job in the back of the house, including line cook, sous chef, and dessert chef. A Florida native who lives in Jupiter, he studied Multimedia Journalism at Florida Atlantic University, where he obtained a bachelor's degree. David enjoys playing the guitar, golf, boating and snorkeling during his free time.

Contact him at ddipino@gmail.com or 954-621-5000.



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