



## Improvements to the Regional Wastewater Treatment Facility in Edwards

The Regional Wastewater Treatment Facility in Edwards is essential infrastructure that treats wastewater solids for the entire service area of the Eagle River Water & Sanitation District — from East Vail to Edwards, including Minturn. Components of the facility are aging and must be upgraded and expanded by 2029 to comply with Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment's (CDPHE) Regulations, which aim to reduce nitrogen and phosphorus in state waters.

This project is a necessary investment. It safeguards our **environment**, protects public health, and ensures vital infrastructure keeps working for future generations. The real question isn't if we fund it, but how we make it happen.

### If upgrades are not made:

- The District could be in non-compliance with state and federal regulations, resulting in escalating penalties.
- The cost of emergency upgrades or deferring maintenance could be far greater in the long run.



The total project cost is **\$93 million** and the design is already 60% complete.

## Financing Options

- Special districts use bonds to pay for essential infrastructure projects. A Bond is similar to a loan or mortgage. The repayment of the bond comes from a time-limited increase in property taxes of residents who live in the taxing district — in this case, the District's service area or in rate increases paid by customers.

The District will ask voters in the **November coordinated election** to fund the project through a mill levy increase ([general obligation bond](#)). If voters do not pass the ballot measure, the District will fund the project through rate increases ([revenue bond](#)).

A general obligation bond impact will be different for each customer class. The typical

customer would pay 2.4X less through a general obligation bond compared to a revenue bond ([rate increase](#)).

### For example, under the proposed bond:

- A property owner of a **\$1M** home would see an **estimated \$112 annual** increase in property taxes starting in 2026, with the exact amount varying based on the assessed value of their home.

**In contrast**, if the District were to fund the same improvements through rate increases:

- The average residential customer would pay **approximately \$268 each year** in addition to their current monthly bill—depending on home size and usage.