

The financial benefits of a water tank solution



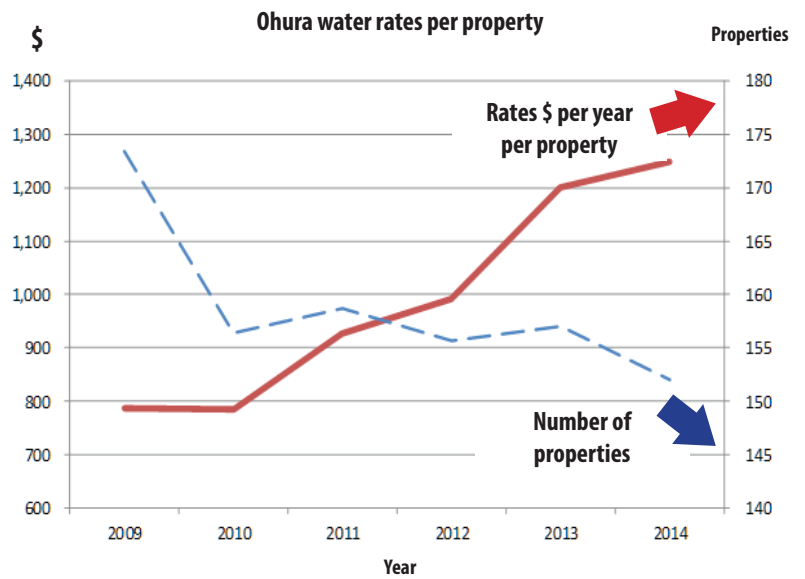
- Future water rates vs tank costs
- Example of costs for a tank system
- Frequently asked questions on tanks

Water rates vs the cost of installing a water tank

The Ohura Water Treatment Plant and Scheme is unsustainable in its current form with the cost of providing clean drinking water to Ohura being two to three times higher than for any other scheme in the District.

This will only get higher as Ohura's population continues to fall. Ohura water rates are now amongst the highest in NZ with a significant number of Ohura residents finding their rates severely unaffordable.

About a third of Ohura rates are not being paid in any given year which is passing the burden onto all other ratepayers.



How much will I be paying in rates if nothing changes?

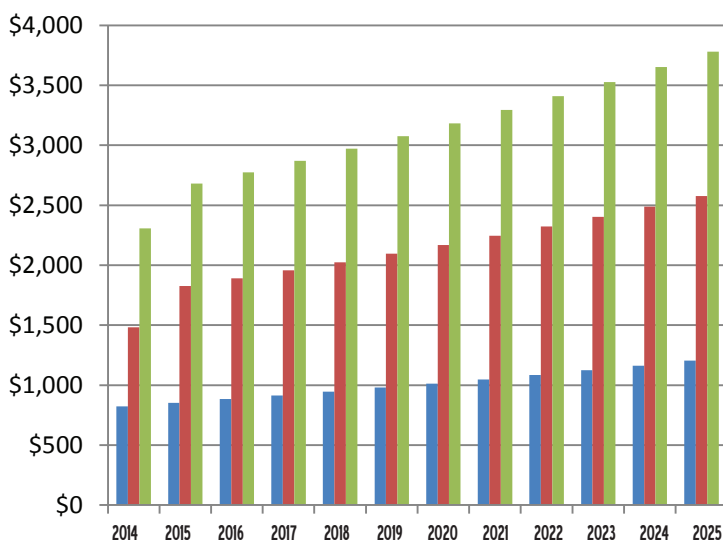
If Ohura residents and ratepayers **do not** vote 'yes' and agree to the closing of the Water Treatment Plant and Scheme total **average rates per household will increase to a minimum of \$3,779 over the next 11 years (by 2025).**

The estimated water rate increases shown includes an allowance for maintaining the current Water Treatment Plant and Scheme (depreciation) but not for any improvements (capital) being made.

Rate increases have been calculated at 3.5% per year.

Estimated household rate increases per year if Water Treatment Plant & Scheme not closed

Year	Other rates	Water rates	Total
2014	\$824	\$1,449	\$2,273
2015	\$853	\$1,792	\$2,645
2016	\$883	\$1,856	\$2,739
2017	\$914	\$1,922	\$2,836
2018	\$946	\$1,990	\$2,936
2019	\$979	\$2,061	\$3,040
2020	\$1,013	\$2,136	\$3,149
2021	\$1,048	\$2,212	\$3,260
2022	\$1,085	\$2,290	\$3,375
2023	\$1,123	\$2,371	\$3,494
2024	\$1,162	\$2,456	\$3,618
2025	\$1,203	\$2,543	\$3,746



How much will I be paying in rates if I install a tank? *

* Based on \$12,000 water tank installation purchased through Ruapehu District Council (RDC) with the first three years interest free then 5% interest on the balance.

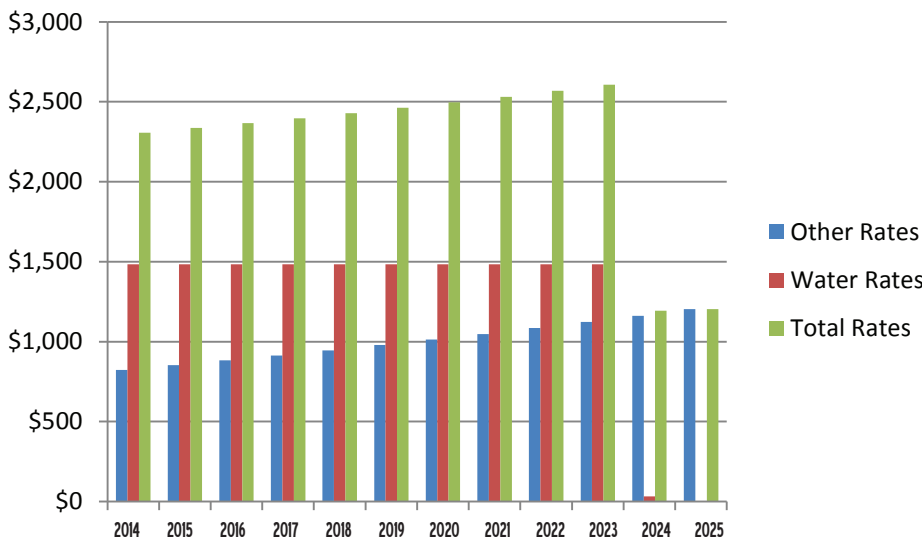
Estimated household rate increases per year if Water Tank installed based on \$12,000 install costs

Year	Other rates	Water rates	Total
2014	\$824	1,483	\$2,307
2015	\$853	1,483	\$2,336
2016	\$883	1,483	\$2,366
2017	\$914	1,483	\$2,397
2018	\$946	1,483	\$2,429
2019	\$979	1,483	\$2,462
2020	\$1,013	1,483	\$2,496
2021	\$1,048	1,483	\$2,531
2022	\$1,085	1,483	\$2,568
2023	\$1,123	1,483	\$2,606
2024	\$1,162	32	\$1,194
2025	\$1,203	0	\$1,203

RDC has visited every property (98) currently taking water from the Ohura Water Treatment Plant to determine the work required and estimated cost of installing a roof fed water tank.

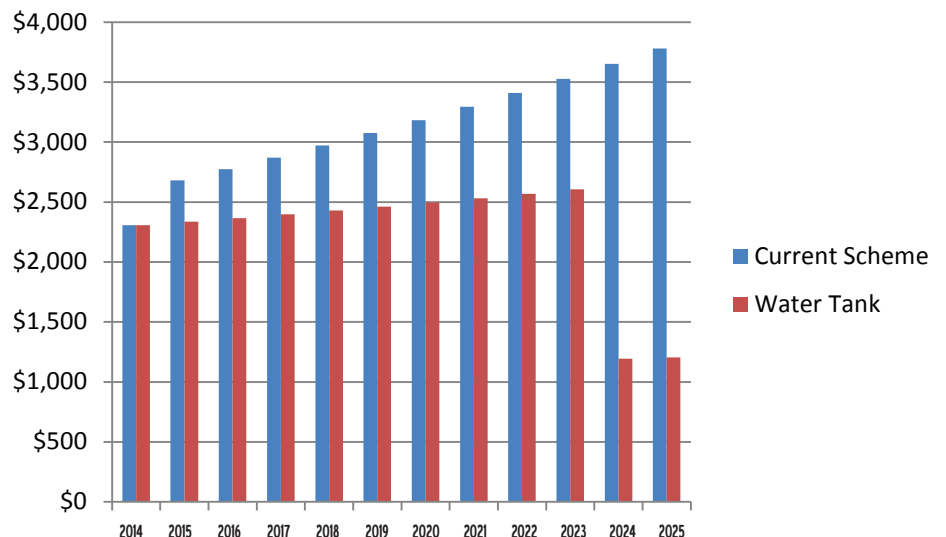
The average cost was \$12,000 per property. As this is an average individual costs will vary depending on circumstances.

If the vote is 'yes' to the closing of the Water Treatment Plant and Scheme RDC will work with property owners who wish to purchase a tank through us to develop a solution that fits their needs.



Direct total rate comparison - current scheme vs water tanks

Year	Current	Water Tanks
2014	\$2,273	\$2,307
2015	\$2,645	\$2,336
2016	\$2,739	\$2,366
2017	\$2,836	\$2,397
2018	\$2,936	\$2,429
2019	\$3,040	\$2,462
2020	\$3,149	\$2,496
2021	\$3,260	\$2,531
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2025	\$3,746	\$1,203



Example of costs for a water tank system

RDC has visited every property (98) currently taking water from the Ohura Water Treatment Plant to determine the work required and estimated cost of installing a roof fed water tank.

The average cost was \$12,000 per property. As this is an average individual costs will vary depending on circumstances. If the vote is 'yes' to the closing of the Water Treatment Plant and Scheme RDC will work with property owners who wish to purchase a tank through us to develop a solution that fits their needs.

The following is an actual example of costs for a water tank system based on the average. This will be provided for every property including any add-ons for that property.

BASE COST	Constants for every home	\$
TANK:	25,000ltr landed in Ohura	3,500.00
PUMP:	"Hyflow" brand hydrostatic 20 yr guarantee	700.00
PLACE TANK:	Level site - scrape site, place tank, spread soil	400.00
CONNECT TO HOUSE:	Pump under house)	
Plumber: Materials & Labour		350.00
Electrician: Materials & Labour		500.00
SUPPLY & FIT UNDER-BENCH FILTER:		350.00
CONNECT DPs TO TANK:	From house	
Allow 3 DPs @ 3.5m @ \$27/m		300.00
Under house to tank - allow 30m @ \$47/m		1,410.00
	SUB TOTAL	7,510.00
VARIABLE ADD-ONS		
1. SLOPING SITE	Bench site	
2. OVERFLOW REQUIREMENTS	\$47/m	1,000.00
3. RE-ROOF	\$70/m2	
4. RE-SPOUT	\$27/m2 - DPs \$100 ea	
5. PAINT ROOF	Average \$2,600	
6. CLEAN ROOF	Average \$600	
7. MISC TRENCHING	\$100/30m	100.00
8. PUMP HOUSE	Average \$150	
9. FLOOD TIE DOWN		
10. SOAK HOLE		
11. CONTINGENCY		<u>1,500.00</u>
	Sub:	10,110.00
	GST:	<u>1,516.50</u>
	TOTAL:	<u>11,626.50*</u>

*example only

Mayor Don Cameron will be out and about in Ohura in the run-up to the referendum. More details will be advised as soon as they are confirmed.

The next public meeting is **Wednesday 29 October - 4.00pm - Ohura Club.**

In the interim if you would like to meet with Council staff or organise to see Mayor Don please contact us. Alternatively if you have a specific question you need answered please do not hesitate to contact council directly.



You can **email** a question to: info@ruapehudc.govt.nz with 'Ohura referendum' in the subject line



Phone **Pauline Welch** at council on **07 895 8188**



Water collection tanks & safe household water

Frequently asked questions?

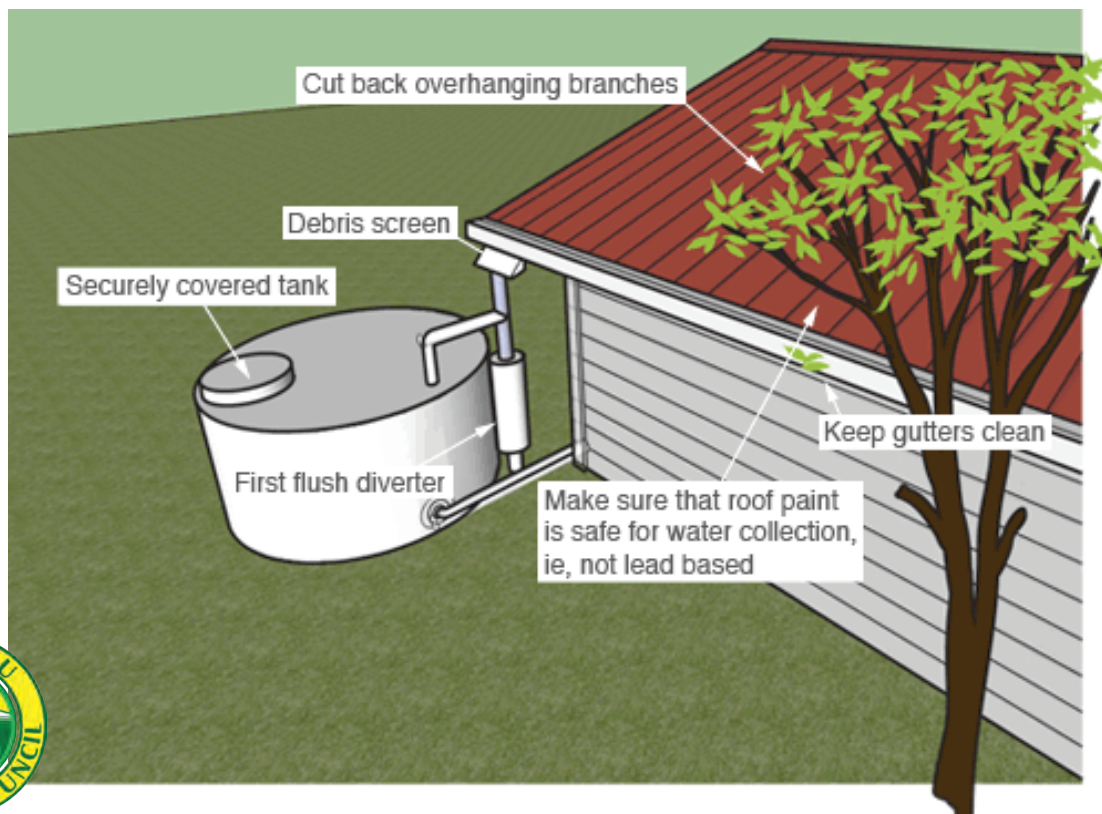
Water collected from your roof can be 100% safe and chemical free if the system is installed well and maintained correctly.

Safe drinking-water is vital for good health. If your water comes from a water collection tank, it is up to you to keep your water safe and reduce the risk of waterborne illness from contaminated tank water.

In order to optimize the quality of your roof-collected water, it is important that the entire system is installed correctly:

- Ensure the roof surface is suitable for collecting quality rainwater.
- Use safe roof paint:
 - check old paint for lead.
 - choose paint the manufacturer advises is safe for roof water.
- Use plastic pipes and gutters approved for rainwater collection.
- Include a fine mesh debris screen to prevent leaf litter from entering your downpipe and optionally a first flush diverter (a device that reduces contamination of the tank water by diverting the first flush of contaminated water when it rains).

HOW SAFE IS
THE WATER OFF
MY ROOF?



Q. Is it necessary to filter or treat your roof-collected water?

This is optional. A water filter helps prevent contamination of your household water. It can be used to treat all household water and placed where all water entering the house passes through it, or can be used for just one tap. It should be placed where you can get at it for inspection and cleaning. Alternatively a UV treatment system can be installed as an extra precaution.

Q. How complex is the installation?

Competent, handy people will be able to manage most parts of the installation job. However the final connection into your household main supply has to be made by a registered plumber and any electrical work has to be done by a registered electrician.

Q. Does the tank need to be right next to my house?

No, it can be sited anywhere on your property, within reasonable distance from the house.

Q. Can I bury my tank?

Only if you install a special concrete tank; plastic tanks are not designed for burying but can be recessed into the ground half a metre.

Q. What ongoing maintenance comes with being a tank owner?

- Frequency of inspections: Inspect the inside of your water tank at least annually. Inspect the inlet, overflow and outlet monthly for signs of build-up.
- Roof areas should be kept clear of overhanging vegetation to prevent leaves and debris falling on to the catchment. Overhanging branches also give rodents, cats and possums access to the roof and allow birds to roost above it.
- Cleaning should generally be limited to removing accumulated sediments, leaf litter, or other objects such as insects and animals that may have gained access to the tank.
- Siphoning of sediments if required can be done by using an inverted funnel in the end of a hose and moving it carefully across the bottom of the tank.

Q. What happens if my tank runs dry?

If you manage your water use in periods of dry weather, this should not be an issue. In case of severe drought, Ruapehu District Council will have contingencies in place and work with the community to make sure every resident has access to sufficient potable water.

