

WHAT IS A STORMWATER UTILITY?

A stormwater utility is a method of financing the administration, planning, implementation and maintenance of stormwater infrastructure and management programs. The utility is funded by a service charge or utility fee.

A utility fee will be charged against all parcels within the Borough, including tax-exempt properties, based on the premise of "contributors pay". The fee is based on how much stormwater runoff is contributed by a particular parcel. This consistent, dependable revenue source provides a dedicated fund to manage the drainage system and water quality improvements without increasing property taxes or assessments. The fee will be known as the Lititz Borough Stormwater Management Fee.

WHY IS A STORMWATER UTILITY FEE NEEDED?

Lititz Borough requires additional funds to meet the following stormwater management challenges:

- Storm sewer system and drainage features replacements, maintenance, and upgrades for public infrastructure
- Protection of drinking water sources
- Meet regulatory requirements for the issued Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) Permit

These activities require a significant Borough expenditure that continues to increase. This expenditure requires appropriate financing. The fee was calculated to pay for the anticipated system replacement costs and to meet the Borough's ongoing obligation.

QUESTIONS?

If you have additional questions concerning the creation of this storm water management fee, you may contact:

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Stormwater Management Fee Informational Handout

BOROUGH OF LITITZ, PA

WHY MUST WE MANAGE STORMWATER?

Stormwater facilities and related improvements are built and maintained to control the quality and quantity of runoff. We manage runoff in order to:

- Protect people, property, and infrastructure
- Reduce street flooding and provide for safe traffic flow
- Enhance the environment and protect drinking water supply

BOROUGH'S REGULATORY RESPONSIBILITIES

Lititz Borough is subject to an issued Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) Permit adhering to the terms and conditions of both state and federal regulations. The permit requires the Borough to meet certain criteria to ensure the quality of stormwater discharges to local streams are not negatively impacting the waterways.

The Borough has developed a Stormwater Management Program (SWMP) and updated the Stormwater Management Ordinance (SWMO) to support and ensure the terms and conditions of the MS4 Permit are met.

WHAT IS MY SHARE OF THE COST?

Beginning in the first quarter of 2020, the Borough is implementing the stormwater utility fee. All properties in the Borough will be billed quarterly. The fee will be included as an itemized charge on your sewer/water/trash bill or a separate bill will be provided.

WHAT IS THE BASIS FOR DETERMINING FEES?

All property has been assigned a certain number of Residential Equivalency Factors (REFs). One (1.0) REF represents the amount of runoff from a typical residential property up to 1/4 acre of land. Residential properties between 1/4 acre to 1/2 acre will be assigned 2.0 REFs to their property. More runoff is generated from properties with uses other than residential (e.g. commercial, industrial, etc.), and these properties are assigned multiple REFs based on calculated run-off. There are over 9,000 REFs assigned in the Borough. All properties in the Borough are assigned at least 1.0 REF. One (1.0) REF will equal a charge of \$62.41/year.

HOW WILL FUNDS BE USED?

The funds generated by this fee will be used on a variety of stormwater related activities, facilities, and infrastructure. Fund expenditures will be used on the following:



System Improvements

Includes upgrading existing facilities to eliminate current flooding or drainage problems, replacement of deteriorated facilities, development and implementation of a comprehensive drainage plan for future facilities, and water quality improvement facilities.



Infrastructure Protection

Includes natural and physical system upgrades for protection of roads, bridges, businesses, homes, etc.

Aquifer recharge (for drinking water supply)



Maintenance

Includes street sweeping, cleaning of storm sewers and catch basins, ditch and swale cleaning, and general maintenance and repair of facilities.



Regulatory Compliance Measures

Meeting state and federal stormwater requirements.

