

Your Stormwater Utility Fee

The requirements of NR 216 permitting have substantially increased the cost of Stormwater Management. As a result, the City Council adopted a Stormwater Utility to enable the City to better meet its stormwater needs. A Utility allows the City to bill property owners for their fair share of storm water runoff, and to properly and safely manage stormwater. Charges for the Utility began October 2001 and will appear on your quarterly Utility bill starting January 2002.

What Will the Stormwater Fees be Used For?

Stormwater fees will be used for:

- Compliance with the new DNR stormwater permitting requirements (NR 216), which includes increasing the frequency of cleaning debris accumulating in the storm sewer, cleaning City streets and construction and maintenance of ponds and other facilities to clean stormwater.
- The reduction of the City's many flooding problems.
- Reconstruction, repair, cleaning and inspection of the City's inlets, catch basins, manholes, culverts, ditches, outfalls and storm sewers; sweeping of City streets; and the construction of detention basins, mini-sewers, and storm sewers.

How are Stormwater Fees Determined?

Charges for stormwater are based on an "Equivalent Runoff Unit"(ERU) which represents the cost for dealing with the impact of a single family home on stormwater quantity(flooding) and quality (pollution). For New Berlin, an ERU is defined as 4,000 square feet - the average impervious area of a single-family home. (Impervious areas are areas that do not allow stormwater to soak into the ground. They include areas paved with concrete, asphalt, compacted soils or gravel, or areas covered by buildings.) A monthly fee of \$5.00 will be charged per ERU (\$15 per billing cycle). As shown in the table below, the Utility charge for all single-family homes will be 1.0 ERU with duplexes being charged 0.7 ERU per unit. The charge for a condominium is calculated by dividing the total impervious area of the development by 4,000 square feet, then dividing equally by the number of dwelling units in the complex.

The Stormwater Utility defines non-residential customers as all developed commercial, industrial, multi-family residential, governmental, institutional, and agricultural properties. Non-residential rates will be based on the number of ERUs calculated for each parcel. This is calculated by dividing the customer's total impervious areas by 4,000 square feet. The table below shows examples of typical stormwater fees. Undeveloped properties will pay no stormwater user fees until they are developed.

Fee Example for Different Property Types

Property Type	Total Impervious Area	Total Number of ERU's	Monthly Charge	Quarterly Bill
Single Family Home (Average)	4,000 Square Ft	1.0	\$ 5.00	\$ 15.00
Duplex (Average Per Unit)	2,800 Square Ft	0.7	\$ 3.50	\$ 10.50
Condominium (Average Per Unit)	1,200 Square Ft	0.3	\$ 1.50	\$ 4.50
Non-Residential (Typical)	16,295 Square Ft	5.4	\$27.00	\$ 81.00

Where Do I Go for More Information?

Much of the information about the new utility is based on a draft report prepared for the City by Earth Tech, which is available for public review at City Hall. Information can also be found online at www.newberlin.org For more information about the Stormwater Management Utility, or if you have specific concerns about stormwater management issues, please contact the Engineering Department at (262) 797-2450.