

Welcome to Carrboro's Stormwater Utility



Our Mission

Our core stormwater management goals are to ...

- Reduce impacts to our creeks and downstream waterbodies, including Jordan Lake; protect and restore our watersheds
- Mitigate flooding
- Sustainably manage the Town's stormwater infrastructure
- Achieve, and exceed where possible, Town and State performance standards



Our Services

With your support, we

- Maintain a stormwater conveyance system
- Regulate stormwater runoff from new development
- Protect and restore streams
- Comply with State and Federal stormwater regulatory requirements
- Reach out and collaborate with community partners





To deliver these services,
it takes

- A comprehensive and adequately staffed stormwater management program
- Sufficient and dedicated funding
- Community awareness, participation, and support



Why adopt a stormwater fee?

Stormwater Management Needs....

- Carrboro's stormwater system requires maintenance that cannot be accomplished without dedicated funding, which:
 - provides capacity to respond to drainage and flooding problems.
 - allows the Town to more confidently meet State/Federal regulatory requirements.
- A stormwater fee is a recognized Best Practice; over 70 jurisdictions in NC have one

Equity and Fairness

- Until now, the stormwater program has been funded without consideration of a property's contribution to runoff and pollution.
- Property owners will pay based on their impervious area, a metric that accounts for contribution to stormwater management needs.

Other Benefits

- It creates future possibilities such as fee reduction opportunities, technical assistance, and potentially financial assistance to help with implementing stormwater management practices



Proposed Stormwater Utility Fee



If approved, the stormwater fee will appear on property tax bills later in 2018. Each parcel's fee will depend upon the amount of impervious area. The proposed rates are described below. ERU stands for Equivalent Residential Unit and is equal to 2800 square feet.

Residential (1 ERU).....	\$75
Non-residential:	
Tier 1 (1 ERU).....	\$75
Tier 2 (5 ERUs).....	\$375
Tier 3 (11 ERUs)	\$825
Tier 4 (17 ERUs)	\$1275
Tier 5 (25 ERUs)	\$1875
Additional Tiers (+10 ERUs)*	add \$750 from the immediately adjacent lower tier



What is “impervious area”?

Impervious areas include pavement, buildings and other areas that restrict stormwater from being absorbed into the ground, thus increasing runoff.

What is an ERU ?

The stormwater fee will be based on the Equivalent Residential Unit (ERU). One ERU is equivalent to 2,800 sq. ft. of impervious area. This represents the average impervious area of all single family residential parcels in Carrboro.





What is a “non-residential” property?

Non-residential properties include all non-exempt properties that are not single family residential. This includes, but is not limited to, commercial, industrial, institutional properties, and unsubdivided apartment and condominium complexes.

How is the fee determined for non-residential parcels?

Every non-residential parcel is assigned to a tier that is based on the number of ERUs of impervious area. (For condominium properties, the tiers are assigned by equally proportioning the total impervious area to each condo owner.)



What will the revenue collected from the fees be used for?



About 70% of the revenue will be used for the ongoing operations of the stormwater program. The stormwater operational budget will roughly double with the revenue provided from the fees. This will allow the Town to increase the capacity needed to run the program and services provided to the community. About 30% of the budget will allow for future capital improvements, or larger projects that enhance and improve infrastructure, better manage runoff, and protect and restore streams and downstream waters.

