



City of Rocky Mount Administrative Policy

Policy: Stormwater Utility Rate Schedule

Section: Fees and Charges **Policy No. X.8.7**

Prepared By: Jonathan Boone, Director of Public Works & Water Resources

Approved By: City Council

Effective Date: 7/1/14

Page: 1 of 4

Supersedes: 7/1/10

Section 1. Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to establish the monthly service charge for the City's stormwater utility and how the charge will be applied.

Section 2. Application

This policy shall apply to all developed property in the city limits of Rocky Mount.

Section 3. Definitions

Impervious surface shall mean any built upon area that impedes the infiltration of water into the soil. This includes but is not limited to developed land areas covered by concrete, asphalt, rooftops, stone and other building materials.

Equivalent Residential Unit (ERU) means two thousand five hundred nineteen (2,519) square feet of impervious surface or any fraction thereof. Two thousand five hundred nineteen (2,519) square feet is the statistical average for impervious area on a single-family lot in the City of Rocky Mount.

Section 4. Rate Structure

4.1 Bill Calculation

Billing Unit (ERU) = 2519 square feet of impervious area (IA)

Rate = \$5.00 per ERU

Bill Amount = RATE x ERU

4.2 Single Family Residential Parcels

Single Family Residential Parcels will be charged one (1) ERU per lot. The service charge will be billed to the current utility customer.

4.3 Duplex Residential Parcels

Duplex Residential Structures will be charged one (1) ERU per dwelling unit. The service charge will be billed to the current utility customer of each unit.

4.4 Multiple Family Residential Parcels

The stormwater service charge for Multiple Family Residential Complexes, including condominiums and their common area, will be distributed among the individual units and billed to the current utility customer.

In order to accommodate the limitations on billing fractional units, the bill for individual units will be calculated as follows.

$$\text{Billing Units} = \frac{(\text{Impervious area for Complex})}{(\text{ERU}) (\# \text{ Dwelling Units})} \times 10$$

$$\text{MF Billing RATE} = \frac{\text{RATE}}{10} = \$0.50$$

$$\text{Bill Amount} = \text{RATE} \times \text{ERU}$$

If individual tenants are not currently being billed for city utilities, the stormwater service charge will be billed to building owner as determined by the tax records or his designated agent.

4.5 Nonresidential Parcels with a single premise ID. (Single Tenant)

Nonresidential Parcels with a single utility customer will be billed to current utility customer.

4.6 Nonresidential Parcels with multiple utility customers. (Multiple Tenant)

Nonresidential Parcels with multiple utility customers will be BILLED TO THE PROPERTY OWNER as determined from the tax records, or his designated agent.

Where multiple accounts exist for a single parcel, the PROPERTY OWNER MAY REQUEST PER ACCOUNT BILLING by completing an application provided by the City of Rocky Mount. The application shall include the proposed division of the stormwater service charge between accounts on the property. The applicant shall provide written notice of the application to each affected customer. The City shall approve the per account billing unless the billing plan (i) will result in a charge of less than one (1) ERU for one or more accounts, and/or (ii) does not equitably allocate the service charges between accounts. Accounts that are unpaid by the tenant shall become the liability of the owner.

Applications for modifications of the account distribution due to changes in occupancy shall be the responsibility of the owner.

The City of Rocky Mount, however, reserves the right to distribute and assign stormwater fees to any particular tenant within a multi tenant property based upon the percent of impervious area used by the tenant. Assignment of these fees to a current tenant by the City does not relieve the property owner of the liability for payment of unassigned portions of the fee or past due fees and charges.

4.7 Parcels with impervious area and not receiving other utility services

Any parcel (residential or nonresidential) with impervious area that is not receiving other utility services from the City will be BILLED TO THE PROPERTY OWNER as determined from the tax records.

4.8 Payments

Bills are due when rendered and delinquent if not paid within twenty-eight (28) days from the billing date, if a residential customer, or twenty-one (21) days from the billing date, if a nonresidential customer. The City will impose a late payment charge of one and one-half (1 ½) percent per month on any bill not paid within seven (7) days after becoming delinquent.

4.9 Delinquent Accounts

Delinquent utility accounts are subject to the payment and penalty policies set forth in the City of Rocky Mount Utility Customer Service Policy. Possible remedies include, but are not limited to: denial of service, Small Claims Court action, Debt Setoff Program to garnish income tax refunds, or reports to Credit Bureau.

5.0 **Limitation of Liability**

The City does not guarantee or warrant that services provided through the stormwater service charge will prevent property damage due to flooding, erosion, stormwater pollution, or other causes. The City shall use reasonable diligence within the limits of funds available from the service charge to provide and maintain the storm drainage system and having done so will not be liable to any customer for damage resulting from excessive rainfall, failures in the system, or other causes.