

For Immediate Release  
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## Applications Accepted for Utility Fee Credit Program

Harrisonburg, VA – Harrisonburg’s Public Works Department is now accepting applications from property owners for the Stormwater Utility Fee Credit Program.

With the approval of the stormwater utility fee ordinance on March 10, property owners are now able to apply for credits to this fee through the Stormwater Utility Fee Credit Program. This credit program encourages property owners to improve local stormwater quality and reduce the stormwater quantity leaving their commercial and residential properties. All efforts will also help the City meet local and regional pollution reduction goals in Blacks Run and the Chesapeake Bay.

“We wanted to provide property owners an opportunity to help out the environment while also reducing their stormwater utility fees,” said Kelley Junco, Stormwater Program Coordinator.

Recommended projects for credit:

- Rain gardens
- Downspout disconnections
- Vegetated filter strip
- Rain barrel or cistern
- Bioretention (non-residential properties)
- Detention ponds (non-residential properties)

Projects that have previously been constructed and implemented are also eligible for credit through this program. **All work must be completed and applications submitted to the Public Works Department by July 1 of each year.**

An online stormwater utility mapping tool has also been launched alongside this program which allows property owners to review their property information online, including the impervious area calculation and annual utility fee.

Property owners can expect to see the first half of this fee added to their real estate tax bill that will be due on December 5, 2015 and the second half will be due on June 5, 2016.

The program manual, sample pictures, and the stormwater utility mapping tool can be found at [www.HarrisonburgVA.gov/stormwater-utility](http://www.HarrisonburgVA.gov/stormwater-utility). All questions can be directed to Public Works at 540-434-5928.

*Did you know...the **Public Works Department** collects rain water harvested from their equipment storage building and utilizes the water for street sweeping and storm drain flushing? Let’s all be good stewards in our City!*



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