

# Stormwater Utility Fee Credit Manual for Non-Residential



**KEEP IT CLEAN,  
HARRISONBURG**  
STOP POLLUTED RUNOFF



City of Harrisonburg, Virginia  
Public Works Department  
320 East Mosby Road  
Harrisonburg, VA 22801  
540-434-5928

[www.harrisonburgva.gov/stormwater-utility](http://www.harrisonburgva.gov/stormwater-utility)

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*This credit manual is applicable only to non-residential properties defined as any property that does not have a single-family, duplex, or townhome dwelling and is used for multi-family residential, commercial, industrial, or other non-residential purpose.*

## 1 INTRODUCTION

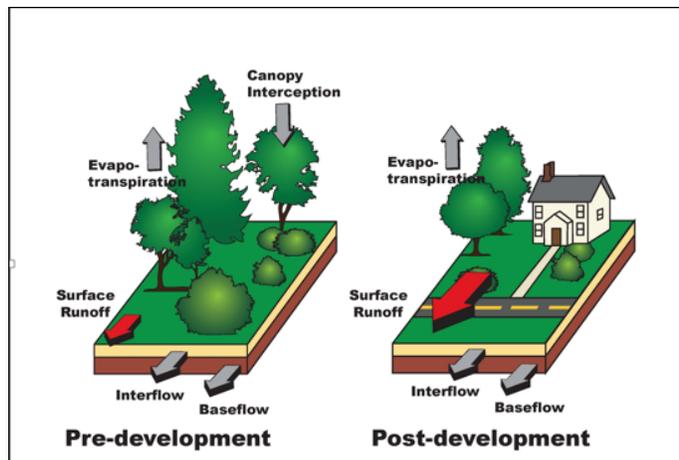
Stormwater runoff is the rain and snowmelt that flows over the ground and into the city's storm sewer system or directly into Blacks Run and other waterways. In undeveloped areas such as grasslands and forests the surface flow of water is slowed by vegetation, allowing some of the water to seep into the ground. In urban areas, buildings, roads, parking lots, and other impervious surfaces do not allow for rain and snowmelt to soak into the ground. This results in faster flow of runoff. Stormwater runoff picks up pollutants such as oil, sediment, chemicals, and lawn fertilizers and carries them to Blacks Run and local waterways where they harm water quality.

## 2 STORMWATER UTILITY FEE

### **WHAT IS A STORMWATER UTILITY FEE?**

The City of Harrisonburg has adopted a stormwater utility fee to provide an adequate and stable source of funding for its stormwater program. A stormwater utility fee is a fee for service based on the amount of impervious surface area on a property. Impervious means surface area composed of material that significantly impedes or prevents natural infiltration of water into soil such as roofs, driveways, walkways, etc.

This program is similar in concept to how the City distributes the cost for sanitary sewer and drinking water services. This approach has several advantages. First, it fairly distributes the cost of the city's stormwater services across all eligible properties based on the amount of impervious surface. Second, under the



Code of Virginia, revenue from the stormwater utility must be placed in a special fund that can only be used for stormwater management; therefore, revenue is established as a dedicated funding source to accomplish the goals of the City's stormwater program. Finally, the Code of Virginia requires the City to provide credits to property owners who have implemented

stormwater management facilities to reduce their stormwater utility fees. Per the City Stormwater Utility Ordinance, the stormwater utility fee shall be billed so that half the fee is billed two times per year to the property owner with the real estate tax bill.

***HOW WILL THE STORMWATER UTILITY FEE BE USED?***

The stormwater utility fee is a dedicated fund source that shall only be used for the City’s stormwater program. The stormwater program’s primary purpose is to provide pollution reductions by effectively managing polluted runoff. The funds collected will be used to support the following:

1. Development of a city-wide Stormwater Improvement Plan to identify, select, and prioritize capital projects to manage stormwater, reduce pollution, and protect our drinking water sources

2. Design and construction of stormwater capital projects including retrofits and community greening projects to reduce pollution and improve water quality. This includes projects on city owned properties and partnerships (such as grants or cost-share) with private property owners



3. Coordination of pollution reduction efforts including staff training, pollution prevention and good housekeeping practices for municipal operations, pollution detection and elimination program, and public education and outreach
4. Maintenance and operation of city-owned stormwater drainage and stormwater management facilities

### 3 STORMWATER UTILITY FEE CALCULATIONS

Impervious areas such as parking lots, rooftops, and driveways cannot absorb water. Stormwater moves quickly over these surfaces into nearby storm sewers and streams resulting in a greater flow of water (i.e. a greater demand) on the urban drainage system. Therefore, the greater the impervious surface on your property, the greater the demand on the system.

For all properties in the city, the stormwater utility fee is based on square footage of impervious surface. For billing purposes, the fee is based on each 500 square feet of impervious area identified on each parcel and rounded to the nearest whole number.

All calculations will be performed by the City of Harrisonburg and will be available for review by the property owner.

Proposed **Annual** Utility Fee Calculation:



For this example, the impervious area on this parcel is approximately 466,200 square feet (sf).

Step 1: Divide the parcel's impervious area in square feet by 500 sf to determine the number of billing units.

$$466,200 \text{ sf} \div 500 \text{ sf} = 932.4 \text{ billing units}$$

Step 2: Round the answer in step 1 to the nearest whole number of billing units.

$$466,200 \text{ sf} \div 500 \text{ sf} = 932.4 \rightarrow \text{round to } \mathbf{932 \text{ billing units}}$$

Step 3: Multiply the whole number of billing units found in step 2 with the billing unit rate.

$$932 \times \$6.00 = \$5,592 \text{ per year}$$

## 4 INSTRUCTIONS TO APPLY FOR A CREDIT

Owners of non-residential properties are encouraged to install approved stormwater Best Management Practices (BMPs) to reduce stormwater runoff volume and/or pollutant levels from their property. Refer to Section 8 for information regarding types and optimal locations for approved BMPs. BMPs can be constructed onsite or as regional facilities and/or treat off-site impervious areas; refer to Section 5 for additional information regarding credit calculations for regional and/or off-site treatment BMPs.

There are four (4) categories eligible for a credit.

A. Virginia Stormwater Management Program (VSMP) Required On-Site BMPs Providing Water Quantity **OR** Quality Controls

These are BMPs installed as required to comply with VSMP standards and specifications, the General VPDES Permit for Discharges of Stormwater from Construction Activities Regulations, and the City of Harrisonburg Stormwater Management Ordinance *effective at the time of the initial permit registration statement for the project*. This category includes BMPs installed as a part of new development or redevelopment as well as pre-existing BMPs.

B. VSMP Required On-Site BMPs Providing Water Quantity **AND** Quality Controls

These are BMPs installed as required to comply with VSMP standards and specifications, the General VPDES Permit for Discharges of Stormwater from Construction Activities Regulations, and the City of Harrisonburg Stormwater Management Ordinance *effective at the time of the initial permit registration statement for the project*. This category includes BMPs installed as a part of new development or redevelopment as well as pre-existing BMPs.

C. Voluntary Water Quality BMPs

These are BMPs constructed that were not/are not constructed as a requirement of the VSMP regulations, the General VPDES Permit for Discharges of Stormwater from Construction Activities Regulations, and/or the City of Harrisonburg Stormwater Management Ordinance. In order to

- ✓ There is no fee for a credit application.
- ✓ Properties with one billing unit are not eligible to apply for a credit.
- ✓ The maximum credit a property owner can receive is 50%.
- ✓ Credits are valid for 5 years before re-application is necessary.
- ✓ Property owners must enter into a maintenance agreement with the city, which includes periodic city inspections and a commitment from the property owner to maintain all components of the facility so it functions as designed.

receive a stormwater utility credit, the stormwater BMP must be installed to meet VSMP standards and specifications and/or Chesapeake Bay Program's Urban Stormwater Protocols (listed in Section 8) effective on the date of the start of construction and per the original construction plans and documents for the facility. This category includes BMPs that were built voluntarily to treat stormwater from a particular site for the purpose of improved water quality. Note that voluntarily-constructed water quantity only BMPs are *not* eligible as a part of this program.

D. VPDES Industrial Permit Coverage

Credits may also be granted to property owners for holding a current Industrial Virginia Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (VPDES) permit; refer to Section 5 for additional information.

*Optional Pre-Installation Review*

Property owners installing new stormwater BMPs have the option to complete the Stormwater Utility Fee Credit Application for Non-Residential prior to installation of the BMP for city review. This is a courtesy review offered by the Public Works Department to assist property owners. No stormwater utility fee credit will be given until the stormwater BMP is installed and a Stormwater Utility Fee Credit Application for Non-Residential is submitted and approved. For a courtesy review, property owners may:

1. Submit the Stormwater Utility Fee Credit Application for Non-Residential to the Public Works Department, checking the box for "Pre-Installation Review"; the Public Works Department will return comments within 45 days.

*Applying for a Credit*

Following installation of the BMPs, categories A, B, and C, applicants must complete and submit the following to apply for a credit:

1. Stormwater Utility Fee Credit Application Form for Non-Residential
2. BMP Maintenance Agreement
  - a. Refer to Section 6 for maintenance requirements.
3. Stormwater management calculations, original construction plans, and record drawings, as required.
4. Stormwater Utility Fee Credit Calculations and Pollutant Removal Calculations
5. Pictures of each stormwater BMP installed. Photos must be no more than 60 days old from date of application.

6. Most recent inspection forms completed by a professional engineer.

For VPDES Industrial Permit Coverage, applicants must complete and submit the following to apply for a credit:

1. Copy of Virginia DEQ General Permit Coverage Letter
2. Copy of Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP)
3. Copy of latest Discharge Monitoring Report (DMR)
4. Stormwater Utility Fee Calculations

The property owner shall submit the application and the items listed above to the address below. Applications may be submitted by mail or email.

Stormwater Utility Credit  
Harrisonburg Public Works Department  
320 East Mosby Road  
Harrisonburg, VA 22801  
Email: [stormwater@harrisonburgva.gov](mailto:stormwater@harrisonburgva.gov)

The Stormwater Utility Fee Credit Application for Non-Residential and Stormwater Utility Fee Credit Manual for Residential can be found at the website below:

[www.harrisonburgva.gov/stormwater-utility](http://www.harrisonburgva.gov/stormwater-utility)

Upon receipt of the application, the Public Works Department staff will review all documentation and the applicant will be notified in writing when an application is approved or denied. If additional information is needed for review, city staff will contact the applicant.

The City shall approve or deny credit applications and reapplications within 45 days of submittal. Any credit denial shall include comments from the City within 45 days of submittal.

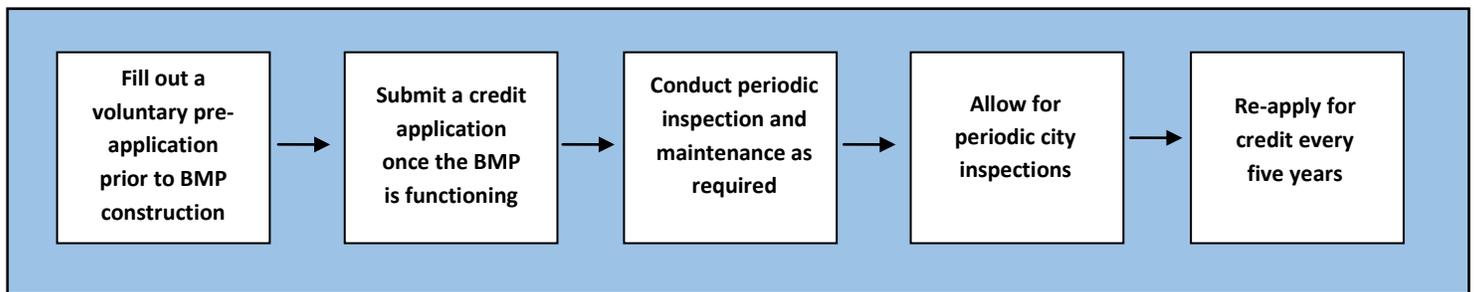
#### *Appeal Process*

If the applicant is not satisfied with the response of the Public Works Department and/or an application is denied, an appeal may be made to the Stormwater Advisory Committee and Director of Public Works. The Stormwater Advisory Committee (SWAC) is comprised of five (5) members and one City Council representative serving as an ex-officio member. This Committee provides guidance, oversight and recommendations to City Council and staff in the implementation of a Stormwater Management Program. The SWAC meetings take place at the Department of Public Works Office, 320 East Mosby Road, Harrisonburg, VA 22801. The Committee meets once per quarter on the first Wednesday of February, May, August, and November unless otherwise noted.

The Applicant requesting appeal must submit a written request to city staff 30 days prior to the next scheduled SWAC meeting. The appeal can be sent to [stormwater@harrisonburgva.gov](mailto:stormwater@harrisonburgva.gov) or Harrisonburg Public Works, ATTN: Stormwater Utility Program, 320 East Mosby Road, Harrisonburg, VA 22801. The SWAC meeting schedule and *Rules of Procedure* can be found at <https://www.harrisonburgva.gov/swac>.

At the meeting, SWAC will make a recommendation to the Director of Public Works. The Director shall make a determination within 45 days of receipt of a formal motion from the SWAC. The Director of Public Works' decision on a stormwater utility fee adjustment petition is a final decision from which the aggrieved party may appeal to the Rockingham County Circuit Court within 30 days of such decision.

**Table 1. Stormwater Utility Fee Credit – Property Owner Action Plan:**



## 5 CREDIT CRITERIA

The amount of credit earned for a property is determined by the number and type of stormwater BMP(s) installed and is applied to the percentage of the site's total impervious surface area that is treated by (or draining to) the stormwater BMP, **not the total amount of impervious area on the site.**

**CREDIT EARNED = [(XX% Credit) x (XX% of impervious area treated)] x (Original Stormwater Fee)**

In no case shall the total credit exceed 50% of the annual stormwater utility fee charged to the parcel owner.

### **DESIGN CRITERIA**

Existing BMP retrofits and voluntary BMPs meeting the land disturbing criteria for the Construction General Permit (greater than 1 acre) are not required to meet the VSMP water quality criteria. The pollutant reduction should be calculated using Appendix K, L and M. Applicants are still required to obtain a Construction General Permit if thresholds are exceeded and additionally follow any stormwater and erosion and sediment control requirements.

### **CREDITS FOR ON-SITE STORMWATER MANAGEMENT FACILITIES**

#### **A. VSMP Required On-Site BMPs Providing Water Quantity OR Quality Controls**

If a stormwater BMP has been built as a requirement by the Virginia Stormwater Management Program (VSMP) and the City of Harrisonburg Stormwater Management Ordinance for new development or re-development (effective at the time of the initial permit registration statement for the project), *and* provides stormwater quantity **or** quality controls, then a **15% credit** is allowable. The 15% credit will be approved based on the criteria outlined in Table 2.

If the applicant is applying for a Stormwater Utility Fee credit for required on-site BMPs, complete Appendix K entitled *On-Site Required BMP Spreadsheet for Determining Loading Rates and Removal Rates for Pollutants of Concern*. If the applicant is applying for a Stormwater Utility Fee credit following a BMP retrofit or a newly constructed oversized BMP, complete Appendix L entitled *Retrofitted BMP Spreadsheet for Determining Loading Rates and Removal Rates for Pollutants of Concern*. One of these two spreadsheets is required as a part of the Stormwater Utility Fee Non-Residential application package for BMP Type A and B.

If a stormwater BMP is built, or has been built, to meet VSMP and City ordinance requirements *and* has additional water quality pollutant removal beyond the required pollutant removal, a **25% credit** is allowable. This includes retrofits to existing facilities. The 25% credit will be approved based on the criteria outlined in Table 2.

**Table 2. Pollutant Removal Overage – Credit Removal Percentages**

Required Phosphorus (P) to be Removed (lbs. /yr.)	Minimum Percentage Increase of P Removal Above Required to Receive 25% Credit (%)
≤ 5	50%
5 < X ≤ 10	40%
10 < X ≤ 20	30%
Greater than 20	20%

**B. VSMP Required On-Site BMPs Providing Water Quantity **AND** Quality Controls**

If a stormwater BMP is built, or has been built, to meet the minimum VSMP and City of Harrisonburg Stormwater Management Ordinance requirements for new development or re-development (effective at the time of the initial permit registration statement for the project) *and* provides stormwater quantity **and** quality controls, then a **20% credit** is allowable.

If a stormwater BMP is built, or has been built, to meet VSMP and City ordinance requirements *and* has additional water quality pollutant removal beyond the required pollutant removal, a **25% credit** is allowable. This includes retrofits to existing facilities. The 25% credit will be approved based on the criteria outlined in Table 2. Removal rates must meet minimum percentage increase of TP removal to receive Stormwater Utility Fee credit as shown in Table 2.

If the applicant is applying for a Stormwater Utility Fee credit for required on-site BMPs, complete Appendix K entitled *On-Site Required BMP Spreadsheet for Determining Loading Rates and Removal Rates for Pollutants of Concern*. If the applicant is applying for a Stormwater Utility Fee credit following a BMP retrofit or a newly constructed oversized BMP, complete Appendix L entitled *Retrofitted BMP Spreadsheet for Determining Loading Rates and Removal Rates for Pollutants of Concern*. One of these two spreadsheets is required as a part of the Stormwater Utility Fee Non-Residential application package for BMP Type A and B.

C. Voluntary Water Quality BMPs

If a water quality BMP was installed voluntarily and *not* as a requirement of the City, VSMP, or other governmental agency, the value of impervious surface area that is treated by the stormwater BMP **will be removed from the site’s impervious area assessment**, not to exceed 50% maximum credit for the annual stormwater utility fee charged to the parcel owner. To qualify for credit, voluntary BMPs installed must have water quality treatment. An installed water quantity treatment only BMP will *not* qualify for credit as a voluntary BMP.

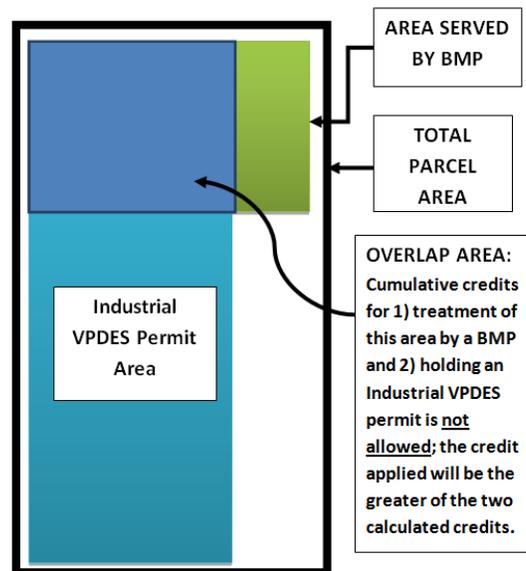
Voluntary BMPs shall be designed and constructed in accordance with the specifications of the Virginia DEQ Stormwater Design Specifications and/or Chesapeake Bay Program’s Urban Stormwater Protocols. Plans for BMPs must be approved by the City prior to construction, and an as-built certification will be required before the property’s impervious area will be reduced for fee purposes. Voluntary BMPs existing prior to adoption of the Stormwater Utility that were not previously reviewed and approved under the above standards will be considered on a case by case basis.

For applicants applying for a voluntary BMP, complete Appendix M entitled *Voluntarily Installed BMP Spreadsheet for Determining Loading Rates and Removal Rates for Pollutants of Concern* as a part of the Stormwater Utility Fee Non-Residential application package for BMP Type C.

D. VPDES Industrial Permit Coverage

A **20% credit reduction** is allowable if a property owner has a current individual or general Industrial Virginia Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (VPDES) permit. The credit will be applied only to the area subject to the VPDES permit. The property owner must provide a copy of the VPDES permit, stormwater pollution prevention plan (SWPPP), and discharge monitoring reports (the latest submittal to DEQ in accordance with the semiannual reporting requirements) to be eligible for the credit.

If there is a BMP treating area within and/or outside the Industrial VPDES subject area and the property owner requests credit for the VPDES permit, the property owner shall not receive credit for the impervious area treated by the BMP within VPDES area. Credit will be given to whichever credit is greater.



### **CREDITS FOR ON-SITE SWM FACILITIES TREATING OFF-SITE IMPERVIOUS AREAS**

The owner of an eligible stormwater BMP that treats an off-site impervious surface(s) may receive credit for treating the off-site impervious surface(s). For the purposes of this manual, off-site impervious surface is defined as stormwater runoff that originates outside of the subject property. The off-site impervious area must not be treated by another stormwater BMP. The off-site credit amount shall be calculated in the same manner as if the stormwater BMP was located on the on-site parcel. However, in no case shall the total credit exceed 50% of the annual stormwater utility fee charged to the parcel owner. Refer to Section 9c for an example calculation.

**CREDIT EARNED** for On-Site BMPs Treating Off-Site Impervious Areas =  
[(YY% BMP Credit) x (ZZ%)] x (Original Individual Parcel Stormwater Fee)

Where **ZZ%** = % of impervious area treated by (draining to) BMP =  
(on and/or off-site impervious area treated by BMP) ÷  
(total on-site impervious area)

If the adjoining property owner installs an onsite BMP that treats the area previously credited to the neighboring owner, the credit for the neighboring property will be reduced accordingly.

### **CREDITS FOR REGIONAL BMPS**

Credits may be provided to individual properties served by a regional stormwater BMP. In circumstances where an applicant is attempting to claim credit for a BMP that is owned by a separate entity, proof that the applicant shares in the maintenance obligations and costs must be submitted with the application in order for credit to be applied. To receive credit for a regional BMP, the owner of the BMP and all property owners of the properties contributing to the stormwater BMP must complete and sign a Regional Stormwater BMP Agreement Form, which can be found in Appendix F.

**CREDIT EARNED** for Regional BMP for Individual Properties =  
[(YY% BMP Credit) x (ZZ% of impervious area on the individual parcel treated)] x  
(Original Individual Parcel Stormwater Fee)

### **NUTRIENT CREDITS PURCHASED OFFSITE**

Applicants may use excess nutrient credits from private development projects in exchange for stormwater utility fee credits on a case by case basis. Contact the Public Works department at 540-434-5928 to discuss.

## 6 MAINTENANCE REQUIREMENTS

In order for an applicant to continue to receive a stormwater credit, each stormwater BMP installed must be maintained to ensure continued function. Maintenance activities are required through a BMP Maintenance Agreement. Types of BMP Maintenance Agreements are outlined below.

The applicant is responsible for having all ongoing maintenance work completed in accordance with the appropriate Virginia DEQ Stormwater Design Specifications and/or Chesapeake Bay Program's Urban Stormwater Protocols (refer to Section 8) to ensure the facilities are functional.

- Required On-Site BMPs and Newly Constructed BMPs

Required on-site BMPs that were designed after 2008 should have a recorded maintenance agreement on file at the Department of Community Development and the Rockingham County Clerk of Court's office. This is an agreement that was/is required as part of the original development of the BMP and is filed and maintained outside of the Stormwater Utility Fee Program. The applicant should include a copy of this maintenance agreement as a part of their Stormwater Utility Fee Non-Residential Application package. See Appendix I entitled *Credit Application Guide for Existing Non-Residential BMPs* for more information.

- Required On-Site Existing BMPs Designed Before 2008

Required on-site BMPs that were designed prior to 2008 were not required at the time of construction to sign a recorded maintenance agreement. As a part of the Stormwater Utility Fee Application for Non-Residential, the applicant is required to enter into the *Stormwater Management/BMP Facilities Maintenance Agreement For Pre-Existing Stormwater Management/BMP Facilities Required to Satisfy Development Regulations*. This document should be signed and recorded at the Rockingham County Clerk of Court's office. See Appendix J entitled *Procedures for completing the Pre-Existing Stormwater Management/BMP Facilities Maintenance Agreement and Applying for a Stormwater Utility Fee Credit* for more information.

- Voluntary BMPs

All voluntary BMPs are required to enter into the *Stormwater Utility Fee Maintenance Agreement For use with Voluntarily Installed Non-Residential BMPs*. The applicant should include this maintenance agreement as part of their Stormwater utility Fee Non-Residential Application package.

Instructions on how to reinstate credits are in Section 7.

## 7 CREDIT EFFECTIVE DATE AND RE-APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

Once the stormwater BMP is installed and a credit application is approved by the Department, the credit will be applied to the stormwater utility fee for the next fiscal year following approval of the credit. For example, if a homeowner submits an application for a rain barrel on October 1, 2015 and is approved on October 30, 2015, then the credit will be applied to the fee on July 1, 2016. Be advised that review may take 45 days.

Credits will be valid for five (5) years from date of application approval or until transfer of ownership (i.e. sale of the property to another party), whichever is first. The owner will need to re-apply for the credit every five (5) years. Proper installation and maintenance is required to continue receiving credit. To re-apply, the applicant shall submit a completed Stormwater Utility Fee Credit Re-Application for Non-Residential (Appendix C).



The stormwater credit applies only to the applicant. Credits do not transfer with ownership changes. A new application and a copy of the maintenance agreement must be submitted by the new property owner to receive the credit. Upon transfer of ownership, the City encourages the current owners to share a copy of the application, maintenance records and photographs with the new owner. In the event this information is not provided to the new owner, the new owner may contact the Public Works Department to obtain previous records for the BMP (if available) and apply for the credit.

To reinstate a revoked credit, if within five (5) years of the original or most recent credit re-application, the applicant shall provide the Public Works Department with a completed copy of the Stormwater Utility Fee BMP Maintenance Record (Appendix E) and current photos (no more than 60 days old) of the BMP(s) showing the BMP deficiencies have been corrected as recommended by city staff.

If credits have been revoked or credits have expired (5) years after the latest approved application), the property owner must submit a new Stormwater Utility Fee Credit Application to reinstate the credits.

## 8 APPROVED STORMWATER BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

Non-residential property owners that implement stormwater BMPs to reduce the stormwater flow rate (volume) and/or pollutant load of runoff from their properties to the stormwater system or surrounding bodies of water can qualify to receive a reduction in their stormwater fee. The stormwater BMPs cannot be owned and/or maintained by the City.

Approved BMPs are as per the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) Stormwater Design Specifications or the Chesapeake Bay Program's Urban Stormwater Protocols.

DEQ Stormwater Design Specifications

<http://www.deq.virginia.gov/Programs/Water/StormwaterManagement/Publications.aspx>

(Click on 2013 BMP Standards & Specifications)

Chesapeake Bay Program's Urban Stormwater Protocol for Urban Stormwater Retrofit: Final CBP Approved Expert Panel Report on Stormwater Retrofit

<http://chesapeakestormwater.net/bay-stormwater/baywide-stormwater-policy/urban-stormwater-workgroup/retrofits/>

Chesapeake Bay Program's Urban Stormwater Protocol for Urban Stream Restoration: Final

<http://chesapeakestormwater.net/bay-stormwater/baywide-stormwater-policy/urban-stormwater-workgroup/urban-stream-restoration/>

## 9 CREDIT CALCULATIONS EXAMPLES

All credit calculations will be provided by the homeowner using the credit calculation worksheet (see Section 11) or as shown below. The calculations will be reviewed and approved by the City of Harrisonburg prior to receiving the credit.

The following examples illustrate the calculation of the annual credit for non-residential properties.

A: VSMP Required On-Site BMPs Providing Water Quantity **OR** Quality Controls Calculation:

- ✓ Selecting more than one stormwater BMP is encouraged.
- ✓ The maximum credit allowed per parcel is fifty percent (50%).
- ✓ Other stormwater management practices may be approved on a case by case basis.

For this example, the total impervious area on this parcel is approximately 466,200 square feet (sf), the original stormwater fee is \$9,786, and BMP provides only water quantity benefits.



**Step A1:** Determine the percent of impervious area draining to the BMP. For this example, assume 350,000 sf of impervious area is draining to the BMP.

$$\begin{aligned} & \% \text{ of impervious area draining to BMP} \\ & = \\ & \quad (\text{Impervious area draining to} \\ & \quad \text{the BMP}) \div (\text{total impervious area}) \end{aligned}$$

$$75\% = 350,000 \text{ sf} \div 466,200 \text{ sf}$$

**Step A2:** Calculate the credit earned for a VSMP required on-site BMP built to provide only water quantity controls using the percent impervious treated found in step A1.

$$\text{Credit Earned} = [(15\%) \times (75\%)] \times (\$9,786.00) = \mathbf{\$1,100.93 \text{ per year}}$$

**Step A3:** Calculate the total reduced annual fee by subtracting the original fee by the credit earned (step A2).

$$\text{Total Reduced Annual Fee} = \$9,786.00 - \mathbf{\$1,100.93} = \mathbf{\$8,685.07 \text{ per year}}$$

**B: VSMP Required On-Site BMPs Providing Water Quantity AND Quality Controls Calculation:**

For this example, the total impervious area on this new development parcel is approximately 60,000 square feet (sf), the original stormwater fee is \$1,260, and a BMP was constructed and complies with the VSMP and the City's ordinance for new development. The BMP provides an additional 2 pounds per year of phosphorous reduction over the required amount of 3.5 pounds per year.

**Step B1:** Determine the percent of impervious area treated by the BMP. For this example, assume 40,000 sf of impervious area is treated by the BMP.

$$\% \text{ of impervious area treated by (draining to) BMP} = (\text{Impervious area treated by BMP}) \div (\text{total impervious area})$$

$$66.7\% = 40,000 \text{ sf} \div 60,000 \text{ sf}$$

**Step B2:** Calculate the percentage increase of phosphorous removal above the required phosphorous removal.

$$\% \text{ Increase} = 2.0 \div 3.5 = 57\%$$

As per the table in Section 5, since less than five (5) pounds per year of phosphorous was required to be removed and an additional 57% is provided over the required, a 25% credit is allowable.

**Step B2:** Calculate the credit earned for BMP that complies with the VSMP and the City's ordinance for new development using the percent impervious treated found in step B1.

$$\text{Credit Earned} = [(25\%) \times (66.7\%)] \times (\$1,260) = \$210.00 \text{ per year}$$

**Step B3:** Calculate the total reduced annual fee by subtracting the credit earned (step B2) from the original fee.

$$\text{Total Reduced Annual Fee} = \$1,260.00 - \$210.00 = \$1,050.00 \text{ per year}$$

C: On-Site Stormwater Management Facilities Treating Off-Site Impervious Area Calculation:

For this example, the total impervious area on this parcel is approximately 100,000 square feet (sf), the original stormwater fee is \$2,100, and BMP was voluntarily constructed providing both quality and quantity control and serves approximately 60,000 of off-site impervious area.

**Step C1:** Determine the percent of impervious area treated by the BMP. For this example, assume 60,000 sf of impervious area is treated by the BMP.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{\% of impervious area treated by (draining to) BMP} = \\ (\text{on- and/or off-site impervious area treated by BMP}) \div \\ (\text{total on-site impervious area}) \end{aligned}$$

$$60\% = 60,000 \text{ sf} \div 100,000 \text{ sf}$$

**Step C2:** Calculate the credit earned for BMP that serves approximately 60,000 sf of off-site impervious area using the percent impervious treated found in step C1.

$$\text{Credit Earned} = [(100\%) \times (60\%)] \times (\$2,100) = \mathbf{\$1,260.00 \text{ per year}}$$

**Step C3:** Calculate the total reduced annual fee by subtracting the credit earned (step C2) from the original fee.

$$\text{Total Reduced Annual Fee} = \$2,100 - \$1,260 = \mathbf{\$840 \text{ per year}}$$

*However, since the total reduced annual fee is less than 50% of the original fee (\$2,100.00 x 0.5 = \$1,050.00), the actual total reduced annual fee is \$1,050.00.*

## 10 DEFINITIONS

**Billing unit** means five hundred (500) square feet of impervious area.

**BMP or “Best Management Practice”** is defined as schedules of activities, prohibitions of practices, including both structural and nonstructural practices, maintenance procedures, and other management practices used to prevent or reduce the pollution of surface waters and groundwater systems.

**Developed property** means real property that has been altered from its “natural” state by the addition of any improvements such as buildings, structures and other impervious surfaces.

**Impervious** means surface area composed of material that significantly impedes or prevents natural infiltration of water into soil.

**Non- Residential Properties** are defined as any property that does not have a single-family, duplex, or townhome dwelling and is used for multi-family residential, commercial, industrial, or other non-residential purpose.

**Pervious Surface** means a surface composed of material that allows water to be absorbed into the ground, reducing runoff and filtering pollutants.

**Regional BMP** means a BMP that accepts and treats runoff from multiple separate properties. Regional BMPs are often owned by a Property Association or other entity responsible for regular maintenance and inspections.

**Stormwater Quality** refers to the chemical, physical, and/or biological characteristics of surface water.

**Stormwater Quantity** refers to the flow rate or volume of surface runoff from a property.

**Utility fees** means any permit or local program fees as allowed by the Code of Virginia.

## 11 RESOURCES

City of Harrisonburg Stormwater Management Program  
Public Works Department

540-434-5928

<http://www.harrisonburgva.gov/stormwater-management-program>

City of Harrisonburg Stormwater Utility Program

<http://www.harrisonburgva.gov/stormwater-utility>

City of Harrisonburg Ordinance, Title 6, Chapter 5, Stormwater Utility

<Insert link>

CleanStream.org

Local water quality information

<http://www.cleanstream.org>

Department of Forestry

Information on Water Quality and rain gardens

Rain garden Technical Guide

<http://www.dof.virginia.gov>

434-977-6555

Shenandoah Valley Soil & Water Conservation District

Watershed education, low impact development information, backyard conservation, lawn and tree care tips, rain garden and rain barrel information

<http://svswcd.org/>

540-433-5853 x 3

Virginia Department of Environmental Quality

Watershed education, lawn care and pet waste information, land conservation

<http://www.dcr.virginia.gov>

804-786-1712

Chesapeake Bay Foundation

Water Quality, Lawn care tips, Bay education, rain garden & rain barrel information

<http://www.cbf.org>

804-648-4011

Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay

Bay education, Clean Stream projects, rain barrel and native landscaping information

<http://www.allianceforthebay.org>

804-775-0951

## 12 NATIVE PLANT REFERENCES

The information below is provided as a resource to assist property owners with selection of trees and plants on their properties.

Fairfax County, Rain Garden Design & Construction: A Northern Virginia Homeowner's Guide, <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/nvswcd/raingarden.htm>

Northern Virginia Soil & Water Conservation District, 10 Common Rain Garden Plants, <http://www.novaregion.org/index.aspx?NID=977>

Northern Virginia Soil & Water Conservation District, et al., Residential Low Impact Landscaping Handbook, <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/nvswcd/raingarden.htm>

Virginia Cooperative Extension, Urban Water-Quality Management: Rain Garden Plants, <http://pubs.ext.vt.edu/426/426-043/426-043.html>

Virginia Department of Conservation & Recreation, Native Plants for Conservation, Restoration, and Landscaping, [http://www.dcr.virginia.gov/natural\\_heritage/nativeplants.shtml](http://www.dcr.virginia.gov/natural_heritage/nativeplants.shtml).

Virginia Department of Forestry, Common Native Trees, Tree Identification Guide, <http://www.dof.virginia.gov/print/edu/Common-Native-Trees.pdf>

Virginia Department of Forestry, Rain Gardens Technical Guide, [http://www.raingardensforthebays.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/04/pub-Rain-Garden-Tech-Guide\\_2008-05.pdf](http://www.raingardensforthebays.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/04/pub-Rain-Garden-Tech-Guide_2008-05.pdf)

US Fish & Wildlife Service, Native Plants for Wildlife Habitat and Conservation Landscaping: Chesapeake Bay Watershed, <http://www.nps.gov/plants/pubs/Chesapeake/toc.htm>

Plant Invaders of the Mid-Atlantic Natural Areas, <http://www.nps.gov/plants/ALIEn/pubs/midatlantic/index.htm> (Non-native/invasive plants are not recommended)

## APPENDICES

- APPENDIX A. STORMWATER UTILITY FEE CREDIT APPLICATION FOR NON-RESIDENTIAL
- APPENDIX B. STORMWATER UTILITY FEE NON-RESIDENTIAL MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT FOR PRE-EXISTING STORMWATER MANAGEMENT/BMP FACILITIES REQUIRED TO SATISFY DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS
- APPENDIX C. STORMWATER UTILITY FEE MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT FOR USE WITH VOLUNTARILY INSTALLED NON-RESIDENTIAL BMPS
- APPENDIX D. NEW DEVELOPMENT BMP MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT
- APPENDIX E. STORMWATER UTILITY FEE CREDIT RE-APPLICATION
- APPENDIX F. STORMWATER UTILITY FEE PETITION FOR ADJUSTMENT FORM
- APPENDIX G. STORMWATER UTILITY FEE BMP MAINTENANCE RECORD
- APPENDIX H. REGIONAL STORMWATER BMP AGREEMENT FORM
- APPENDIX I. CREDIT APPLICATION GUIDE FOR EXISTING NON-RESIDENTIAL BMPS
- APPENDIX J. PROCEDURES FOR COMPLETING THE PRE-EXISTING STORMWATER MANAGEMENT/BMP FACILITIES MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT AND APPLYING FOR A STORMWATER UTILITY FEE CREDIT
- APPENDIX K. ON-SITE REQUIRED BMP SPREADSHEET FOR DETERMINING LOADING RATES AND REMOVAL RATES FOR POLLUTANTS OF CONCERN
- APPENDIX L. RETOFITTED BMP SPREADSHEET FOR DETERMINING LOADING RATES AND REMOVAL RATES FOR POLLUTANTS OF CONCERN
- APPENDIX M. VOLUNTARILY INSTALLED BMP SPREADSHEET FOR DETERMINING LOADING RATES AND REMOVAL RATES FOR POLLUTANTS OF CONCERN



**APPENDIX A. STORMWATER UTILITY FEE CREDIT APPLICATION FOR NON-RESIDENTIAL**

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MANAGEMENT/BMP FACILITIES MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT AND APPLYING  
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