

Stormwater Utility Program

Department of Public Works
Stormwater Advisory Committee
February 24, 2015





Stormwater Advisory Committee

Feb 2014 –
First
Meeting
(continues
meeting
once each
month)

Sept 2014 –
Council
Update

Nov 2014 –
Council
Update

Nov 12 &
Dec 2 –
Open House
Meetings

Meetings
with
community
organizations

Nov – Dec
20 – Public
Comment
Period

February 24,
2015 –
Public
Hearing

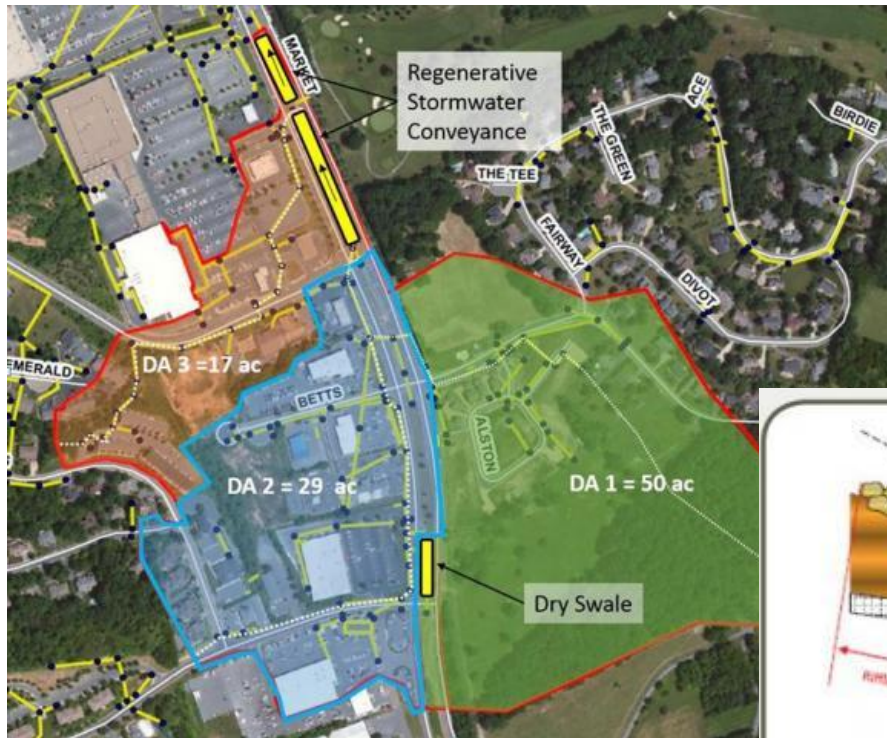
Stormwater Program

1. Develop a city-wide Stormwater Improvement and Polluted Runoff Reduction Plan to meet Chesapeake Bay TMDL requirements
2. Design and construct stormwater capital projects (including cost shares with private property)
3. Coordinate pollution reduction efforts, including a pollution detection and elimination program, pollution prevention and good housekeeping practices, and public education and outreach
4. Maintain and operate city-owned stormwater drainage and stormwater management facilities.



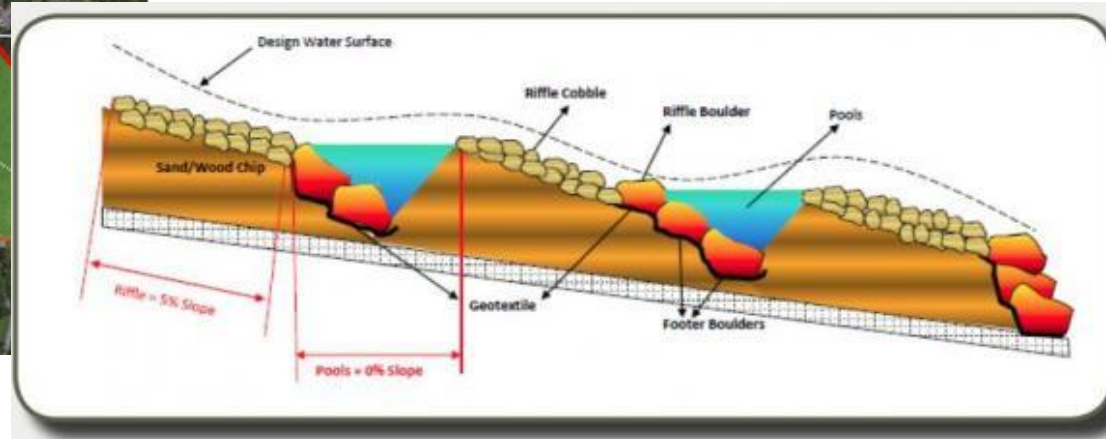
East Market Street Stormwater Regenerative Conveyance

- \$303,198 Grant from DEQ/ Stormwater Local Assistance Fund. (Plus \$303,198 Local Match)
- Removal of 18.56 lb Total Phosphorus/ year (\$32,672/ lb TP removal)



Project Schedule

- July 2015 – Design Begins
- Jan 2016 – Design Completed
- April 2016 – Construction Begins
- August 2016 – Project Completed



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- Stormwater Utility Fee Ordinance
- Stormwater Utility Credit Manuals
- Tall Grass & Weeds Ordinance Amendment
- Stormwater Advisory Committee Bylaws
- Summary of Public Outreach & Public Comments

Stormwater Utility Fee Ordinance

- Stormwater Utility Fee
 1. Applies to every parcel/ property
 2. Billing unit = 500 sf of impervious area, rounded to nearest whole number
 3. Billing rate = \$10.50 / billing unit / year
 4. Effective Date is July 1, 2015
 5. Property owners billed half the fee 2 times per year. Will appear on real estate tax bill in Dec and April.

Stormwater Utility Fee	Property Tax/ General Fund
Dedicated funding source to support stormwater program	Not dedicated funding source
More equitable – property owners are charged a fee based on their contribution to stormwater runoff	Not equitable – property taxes are based on the assessed property value, not on contribution to stormwater runoff
Charged to all properties	Tax-exempt properties don't pay property tax
Gives property owners the opportunity to reduce fees (credit program)	No opportunity to reduce fees
Higher implementation and administration costs	Lower implementation and administration cost

	FY14-15	FY15-16	FY16-17	FY17-18
Projected Stormwater Utility Expenditures	\$0	\$ 1,814,605	\$ 1,965,000	\$ 1,942,000
Projected General Fund Expenditures	\$777,000	\$ 535,000	\$ 561,000	\$ 585,000
Total Stormwater Expenditures	\$777,000	\$ 2,349,605	\$ 2,526,000	\$ 2,527,000

Utility Fee Credit Manuals

- Non-Residential Manual
 - VA DEQ Stormwater Design Specifications – disconnection, grass channels, vegetated roofs, rainwater harvesting, permeable pavement, bioretention, swales, constructed wetlands, extended detention, etc.
- Residential Manual
 - VA DEQ Stormwater Design Specifications – same as above
 - Chesapeake Bay Program: Homeowner Guidance – disconnection, rain garden, vegetated filter strip, rain barrels/ cisterns, urban tree planting, conservation landscaping, nutrient management, etc.
- Maximum credit allowed per parcel is 50% of annual fee
- Practices on private properties will be part of meeting City's pollution reduction requirements, as allowable by VA DEQ

Tall Grass & Weeds Ordinance Amendment

Section 16-6-58 Weeds, etc., on lots

- (a) Between April first and November first of each year, every owner of real estate situate in the city shall, at his sole expense, cause to be cut therefrom all grass, weeds and foreign growth, with the following exceptions:
- (1) Farm land, not including business gardens, on which crops are being grown or land used to pasture livestock.
 - (2) Acreage not farmed or pastured but which is not subdivided and of which no subdivision plat has been recorded. However, on such unused acreage, the owner shall mow a strip twenty-five (25) feet wide adjacent to any street or adjoining property on which a residence is located.
 - (3) Alleys and public streets that are not open to vehicular traffic and which are governed by the maintenance improvement plan to public alleys.
 - (4) Subdivided and recorded residential lots fronting undeveloped public street rights-of-way.
 - (5) Areas which the City has qualified as an approved and maintained Best Management Practice for stormwater regulatory compliance and/or stormwater utility fee credit purposes.

Stormwater Advisory Committee Bylaws

- Proposed amendments (highlights):
 - Article II: Purpose.
 - Specifies MS4 permit program and stormwater utility program
 - Article III: Responsibilities.
 - Adds: monitor implementation of stormwater utility program
 - Removes: evaluate viability of stormwater enterprise
 - Article IV: Membership.
 - Changes from 7 to 11 members to 5 members
 - Establishes term lengths of 3 years, staggered 2-2-1 format

Public Outreach & Comments

- Monthly Stormwater & Environmental E-Newsletter
- Met with 15 Organizations
- 2 Open Houses
- Press Releases and Media Coverage
- 42 Written Public Comments Received

Next Steps

Feb 24,
2015 -
Public
Hearing

March 10 –
Second
Reading

Mid-March
– web-GIS
available for
reviewing
impervious
area
calculations

Mid-March
– Mailers
sent to
property
owners and
credit
applications
available

July 1 –
Credit
applications
due

October 1 –
First
stormwater
utility bill
sent. Due
Dec 5.

April 1,
2016 –
Second
stormwater
utility bill
sent. Due
June 5.

www.harrisonburgva.gov/stormwater-utility