

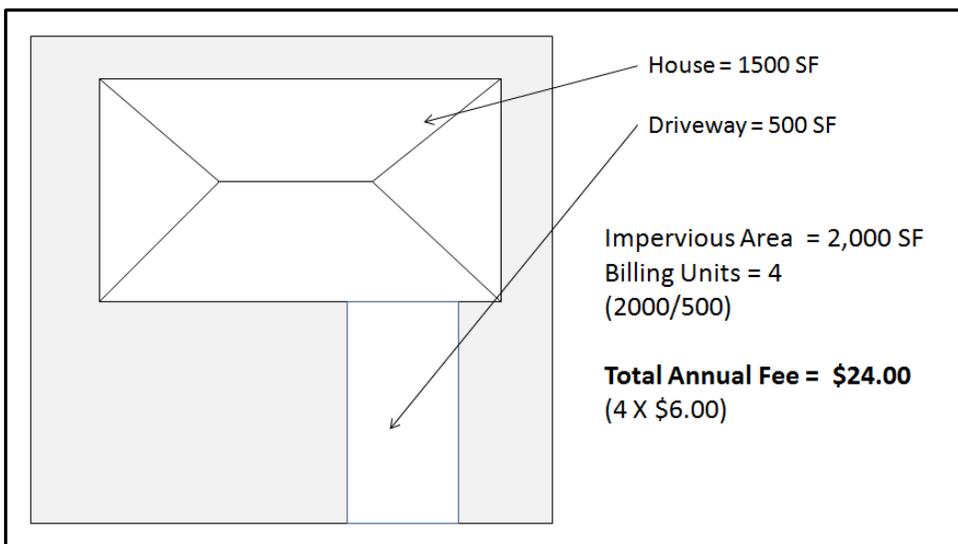
Impervious Area Calculations Fact Sheet

Last Updated: August 2016

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

On March 10, 2015, Harrisonburg City Council adopted the Stormwater Utility Fee Ordinance whereby a stormwater utility fee is assigned to every parcel of land in the city based on the amount of impervious area on the property. The City is following a nationally accepted standard in classifying what areas are defined as impervious. These areas are also supported in the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality Stormwater Management Handbook. The program establishes a billing unit of five hundred (500) square feet (SF) of impervious area and a billing rate per billing unit of \$6.00 per year (adjusted after August 9, 2016).

Example:



To notify the City of Harrisonburg of presumed errors to your property's impervious area assessment, please complete a Petition for Adjustment for and submit it to Harrisonburg Department of Public Works before July 1.

1. The following features are considered as impervious:

- a. Buildings
- b. Miscellaneous Structures; ex: sheds, gazebos, covered and uncovered decks
 - i. See letter (d.) for an explanation on uncovered decks
- c. Pavement (asphalt, concrete, gravel, or other hard surface) for the following uses:
 - i. Private roads
 - ii. Driveways
 - iii. Gravel driveways are compacted due to heavy vehicle travel. Compacted soil and gravel inhibits the infiltration of stormwater and therefore contributes to stormwater runoff.

- iv. Parking lots/spaces
- v. Sidewalk/ walkways
 - vi. City right of way should not be included in the impervious area mapping. If city sidewalk is included in the aerial mapping of your property, fill out a Petition for Adjustment Form found on the provided website.
- vii. Concrete pads
- d. Patios and decks, including elevated wood/composite decks
 - i. Decks commonly have gravel and/or exposed soil below them which contributes to stormwater runoff. All decks are considered impervious.
- e. Exposed bedrock

2. The following features are NOT considered impervious and are not billed:

- a. Open space
- b. Grass
- c. Gardens
- d. Sports fields (both natural and synthetic turf)
- e. Forest
- f. Crop or pasture land
- g. Exposed soil (including dirt driveways)
- h. Water bodies including ponds, lakes, and streams
- i. Riprap or other outlet protection associated with stormwater management facilities/BMPs
- j. Riprap or other protection associated with ditches and streams
- k. Riprap associated with erosion protection/property drainage
- l. Stone/gravel used as mulch in landscaped beds
- m. Tombstones
- n. Patio furniture, fences, wood piles
- o. Cul-de-sacs at the end of city owned streets that are for (temporary) turn around until the street is extended
- p. Stone sidewalk pavers
- q. Swimming pools