Welcome
to Newark’s Stormwater Utility

Our Mission
Our core stormwater management goals are to ....

- Mitigate flooding
- Reduce pollution in our creeks and rivers
- Protect natural resources in our watershed
- Enhance our community’s safety and health
- Sustainably manage the City’s stormwater infrastructure now and into the future

Our Service to You
With your help and support we ....

- Maintain and operate a complex drainage system
- Rehabilitate and improve our drainage system
- Manage land use and development
- Perform stream and habitat restoration
- Implement green solutions and best practices
- Comply with all State and Federal stormwater regulatory requirements
- Collaborate with community partners

To Sustain a Beautiful and Safe Newark
It takes ....

- Community awareness and support
- Cost effective, sustainable and dedicated funding
- Fair and equitable rates for all customers
- Comprehensive stormwater management program
**Why adopt a stormwater charge?**

**Stormwater Management Needs**

The stormwater system requires maintenance, repair, enhancements and replacement to meet existing and future needs, including flood mitigation and water quality protection. The City has already made a significant investment into stormwater related infrastructure.

The City is also subject to the requirements of the Federal Clean Water Act and is required to maintain and manage stormwater discharges in accordance with permit requirements.

Stormwater utilities are authorized by the State of Delaware. Other communities in Delaware and across the nation have adopted stormwater fees to recover stormwater management costs.

**Equity and Fairness**

The City has been recovering all of the stormwater management costs through water charges, without any consideration of a parcel’s contribution of runoff and pollution to the City’s stormwater system.

**Key Benefits**

- Provides a dedicated funding source for stormwater management.
- Uses impervious area as the basis for assessing the stormwater charge, which increases fairness in cost recovery.
- Offers fee reduction opportunities to properties that implement stormwater management practices which go above and beyond local ordinance requirements.
- Offers stormwater grants to residential customers.
Proposed Stormwater Utility User Charge

The stormwater user charge is scheduled to appear on utility bills from the City of Newark beginning in January of 2018. Each parcel's monthly charge will depend upon the estimated amount of impervious area measured in square feet. The proposed rates are described below. ESU stands for Equivalent Stormwater Unit and is equal to 1620 ft².

Residential

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TIER</th>
<th>IMPERVIOUS AREA (SQ FT)</th>
<th>ESU FACTOR</th>
<th>MONTHLY FEE</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>0 TO 1,289</td>
<td>0.60</td>
<td>$1.77</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>1,290 TO 1,950</td>
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<td>$2.95</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>1,951 TO 2,610</td>
<td>1.30</td>
<td>$3.84</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>2,611 OR MORE</td>
<td>1.80</td>
<td>$5.31</td>
</tr>
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</table>

Non-Residential

$2.95 PER ESU PER MONTH

Example Calculation for Non-Residential

Retail store on 5000 ft² parcel (gross area)
Stormwater Class: Commercial
Stormwater Runoff Factor: .95
Effective Impervious Area: 5000 ft² × .95 = 4,750 ft²
Parcel ESU: 4,750 ft² / 1620 ft² / ESU = 2.93 ESU
Monthly Change: 2.93 ESU × $2.95 = $8.64
**What is Impervious Area?**

Impervious area includes hard surfaces such as pavement, buildings and other areas that restrict stormwater from being absorbed into the ground (thus causing run-off). Properties with more impervious area contribute more to stormwater runoff and pollution.

**What is an ESU?**

The monthly Stormwater User Charge will be based on the Equivalent Stormwater Unit (ESU). One ESU is equivalent to 1,620 sq. ft. of impervious area. This represents the median impervious area of all single family residential parcels in the city.

**How are ESUs determined for my parcel?**

For **residential** customers, a parcel's total impervious area is computed based (i) actual footprint of the building, (ii) any attached structure, and/or (iii) detached structure.

Every **non-residential** parcel is assigned to a specific stormwater class. The Run-off Factor of that specific stormwater class is applied to the total parcel's lot size to estimate a parcel's Impervious Area. The total number of ESUs is then calculated as the total amount of impervious area (in sq. ft.) divided by 1,620.

For **condominium** customers, the impervious area associated with the entire condominium complex is individually determined using the Geographic Information System (GIS) tool, based on county parcel information and aerial imagery.
Residential Stormwater Grants and Customer Programs

In conjunction with the stormwater fee, the City has established a grant program for residential customers. The program offers:

- Rain Barrels
- Design Service Support
- Stormwater Project Cost Sharing

Non-Residential Credit Program

The program provides non-residential property owners an opportunity to reduce their monthly stormwater fee up to 25%. In addition, the program recognizes efforts that go beyond the City’s current stormwater management requirements.

Two types of credits are available through the program:

- **Quality Credit** is based on the capture and infiltration of runoff. If the technical criteria is met, a maximum 15% reduction in the stormwater fee is possible.

- The **Quantity Credit** is reductions in peak stormwater discharge rates. If the technical criteria is met, a maximum 10% reduction in the stormwater fee is possible.
The utility will raise $1.4 million each year to improve the City’s stormwater system, including the failing infrastructure shown below.