

## Carrboro Stormwater Utility Rate Structure FAQs

### Why is an increase in the stormwater fee needed?

In brief, more funding is needed for: additional staffing; addressing the increase in the intensity and frequency of storm events; accelerating the implementation of infrastructure improvements; enhancing service delivery to the community; and responding to new and anticipated federal and state regulatory requirements. More information is provided in the September 10<sup>th</sup> and November 12<sup>th</sup> Board agenda items.

### How does/will the stormwater management program benefit residents, businesses, etc?

The stormwater management program includes various services and activities. These services will be expanded with the additional capacity that the increased revenue will provide. The following are some of the primary services and activities:

- Public drainage and storm sewer maintenance, repair, and improvement
- Street sweeping
- Coordination with FEMA & [National Flood Insurance Program \(NFIP\) participation](#)
  - flood mitigation activities (e.g., elevation, acquisition)
  - Public Assistance
- Water quality regulatory and nonregulatory activities
  - NPDES permit/MS4 administration
  - [Bolin Creek Watershed Restoration Team](#) participation
  - Protecting and improving water quality in Jordan Lake
- Stream repair and restoration
- Public education and participation
- Support for enforcing stormwater related provisions in the [Land Use Ordinance](#)
- Residential Assistance Program (future initiative currently under development)
- Supporting the [Stormwater Advisory Commission](#), an appointed group assigned with advising the Town about all matters related to stormwater.

### Who does and doesn't have to pay the fee?

In general, property owners with more than 500 square feet of impervious surface area have to pay the fee. Public streets and other publically dedicated rights-of-way and easements, railroad rights-of-way, land parcels with fewer than 500 square feet of impervious surface area, HOA undeveloped open space or land with engineered stormwater control measures, and Town-owned property are exempt.

### How can I find out how much it will cost for my specific property?

The draft rate structure can be found at <http://townofcarrboro.org/2289/Draft-Rate-Structure> . Inquiries can also be provided to [stormwater@townofcarrboro.org](mailto:stormwater@townofcarrboro.org).

### How are fees billed?

The fees are included on the annual property tax bill (sent out in summer), with payments due by December 31.

### What kind of public oversight does the utility have?

The Town Code established a [Stormwater Advisory Commission](#) (SWAC) that provides this function.

### What opportunities are there for input into the new fee and rate structure?

A public hearing has been scheduled for January 21st. Citizens can also email input to [stormwater@townofcarrboro.org](mailto:stormwater@townofcarrboro.org) – emails will be included in the Public Hearing record. Drop in sessions to learn more have been scheduled for December 12<sup>th</sup> and January 9<sup>th</sup> from 5:00pm-6:30 pm at Town Hall.

## Links to additional information

Carrboro Stormwater homepage: <http://www.townofcarrboro.org/287/Stormwater>

Carrboro Stormwater Utility page: <http://www.townofcarrboro.org/1136/Stormwater-Utility>

Stormwater Advisory Commission page: <http://www.townofcarrboro.org/1119/Stormwater-Advisory-Commission>

Town Code provisions for Stormwater Utility: <http://www.townofcarrboro.org/DocumentCenter/View/4631>

Board of Aldermen Stormwater Retreat, 2017:

<https://carrboro.legistar.com/MeetingDetail.aspx?ID=534576&GUID=2BF7B80B-BD61-481A-82C8-1373C00E0B15&Search=>