

THIS ISSUE

- P.1** Streams & Stormwater Video Competition
- P.1** Stormwater Foster-a-Stream Fall Clean-Up
- P.2** New Stormwater Regulation for Smaller Sites
- P.2** New & Improved Drainage Assistance for Raleigh Residents
- P.3** 5 Facts to Know About the Stormwater Utility Fee Increase



The City of Raleigh

URBAN WATERSHEDS



Around the City

Streams & Stormwater High School Video Competition/ Environmental Awards:

Submittals due February 14, 2017

Annual Loose Leaf Collection:

November 2016 – February 2017

Curbside Collection of Used Cooking Oil & Grease:

November 2016 to January 15, 2017

Register Today: Raleigh's Video Competition to Promote Stormwater Awareness



Attention high school students: Are you interested in bringing environmental awareness to your community? As part of the City of Raleigh's 2017 Environmental Awards celebration, the Stormwater Management Division encourages students to submit a 60-second video on how to prevent everyday actions that impact the ecosystem and pollute streams, lakes, and water. Here is a chance for you, as a Raleigh high school student, to have your voice heard and your message seen. Winners will receive a cash

prize up to \$500, which will be announced and presented at the Environmental Awards ceremony in April 2017! Registration continues to February 14, 2017.

For more information on the Streams and Stormwater Video Competition, visit raleighnc.gov or contact Carmela Teichman at carmela.teichman@raleighnc.gov or 919-996-4032.

Need ideas for your video? Check out the 2016 winners [here](#).

Fall Foster-a-Stream Clean-up

City of Raleigh employees and volunteers, including students from a North Carolina State University engineering fraternity, participated in the Stormwater Management Division's semi-annual Foster-a-Stream Cleanup event on October 22. The cleanup took place at Walnut Creek Wetland Center in an area that was significantly impacted by Hurricane Matthew.



Over a three-hour period, volunteers removed large amounts of trash and debris from the stream and floodplain along the Walnut Creek Trail, including more than 50 bags of trash, multiple tires, basketballs, bedding, and furniture.

These small efforts make a huge difference in preserving the health of streams and surrounding wetlands throughout the city. To learn more about the Foster-a-Stream program, to find information about participating in upcoming Stormwater Division volunteer opportunities, or to explore conducting your own stream cleanup event, visit raleighnc.gov; or contact Jen Schmitz at 919-996-4008 or email StormwaterVolunteers@raleighnc.gov.

What You Need to Know: New Stormwater Regulation for Smaller Sites

On November 1, the Raleigh City Council approved an amendment to the City's Unified Development Ordinance (UDO) to incorporate stormwater regulation standards for smaller sites undergoing development or redevelopment that were previously exempt. With this revision, development of previously exempt lots used for single family/duplex dwelling, single family/duplex subdivisions of less than one acre or less than half an acre used for any other purpose that exceed new impervious area limits are required to provide an evaluation to determine how development will impact stormwater downstream. The ordinance change took effect on November 27.

The UDO will now require smaller sites to follow the impervious limits, created per zoning district, when under construction. Limits can be exceeded if development allows for stormwater volume to be controlled onsite or if an analysis demonstrates that the exceeding impervious area does not impact downstream water flow. Lots that have an established stormwater master plan are not affected.

The intent of the regulation change is to keep waterways healthy and reduce flooding in parts of Raleigh that are experiencing continued growth and development. The City Council's approval includes additional study on how to further enhance these regulations from an environmental and public health standpoint.

New & Improved Drainage Assistance for Raleigh Residents

Over the past two years, the City of Raleigh's Stormwater Management Division has implemented several strategic enhancements to the Stormwater Management Program, particularly in areas related to drainage concerns.

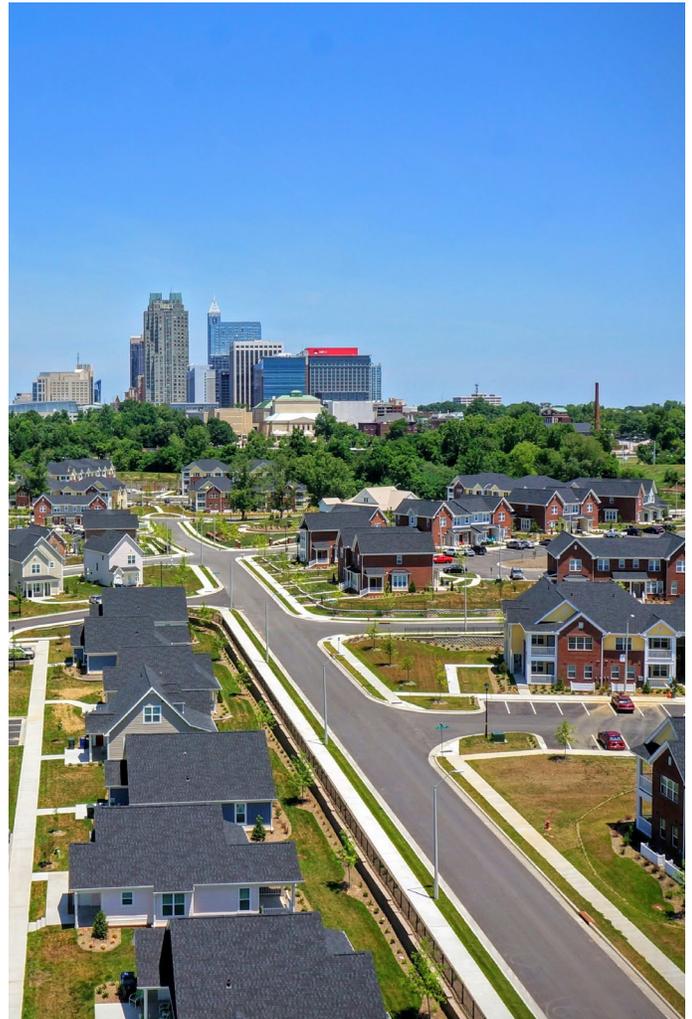
The City's Drainage Assistance Program (formerly known as the Drainage Petitions Program), which is part of the Stormwater Division's Capital Improvement Program, has drastically transformed. It offers a unique opportunity to directly address stormwater issues on private properties across the city.

How it Works

Raleigh's public stormwater infrastructure, which is considered to fall within the City's rights-of-way and publicly maintained streets, is only a portion of Raleigh's drainage system. Most of the City's drainage system is actually located on private property - next to houses, below driveways and in backyards. For that reason, the City offers support to citizens through the Drainage Assistance Program to help private property owners and stormwater rate paying customers alleviate drainage issues. Many of the drainage concerns are, in part, caused by public runoff.

What's New

Until recently, this program has been a cost-share program where citizens pay a portion of the costs for the repair work on their property. Now, qualifying and priority drainage issues are fully funded through a new policy, jointly established by the Division's Stormwater Management Advisory Commission (SMAC) and the Raleigh City Council. The new policy does include a requirement for property owners to dedicate a Permanent Public Drainage Easement over the improvements. These changes make the program more accessible to rate paying customers under qualifying



scenarios, including structural flooding (flooding of homes, businesses, finished floors, crawl spaces, etc.), failing drainage infrastructure on private property, and severe erosion, particularly that impact or threaten a habitable structure.

Projects are objectively assessed, scored, and ranked according to severity and priority. Selected projects are also periodically funded through the program based on its relative prioritization to other qualifying drainage projects across the city.

For more information on the program or to inquire about drainage assistance qualifications, contact 919-996-3940 or email RaleighStormwater@raleighnc.gov. Information is also available at raleighnc.gov.

5 Facts to Know About the Stormwater Utility Fee Increase

In July, the City of Raleigh adjusted its stormwater utility fee with a \$1 increase per Single Family Equivalent Unit (SFEU), a measurement that is used for appropriately billing the stormwater fee. It serves as the standard measure for impervious surface area of residential and commercial properties.

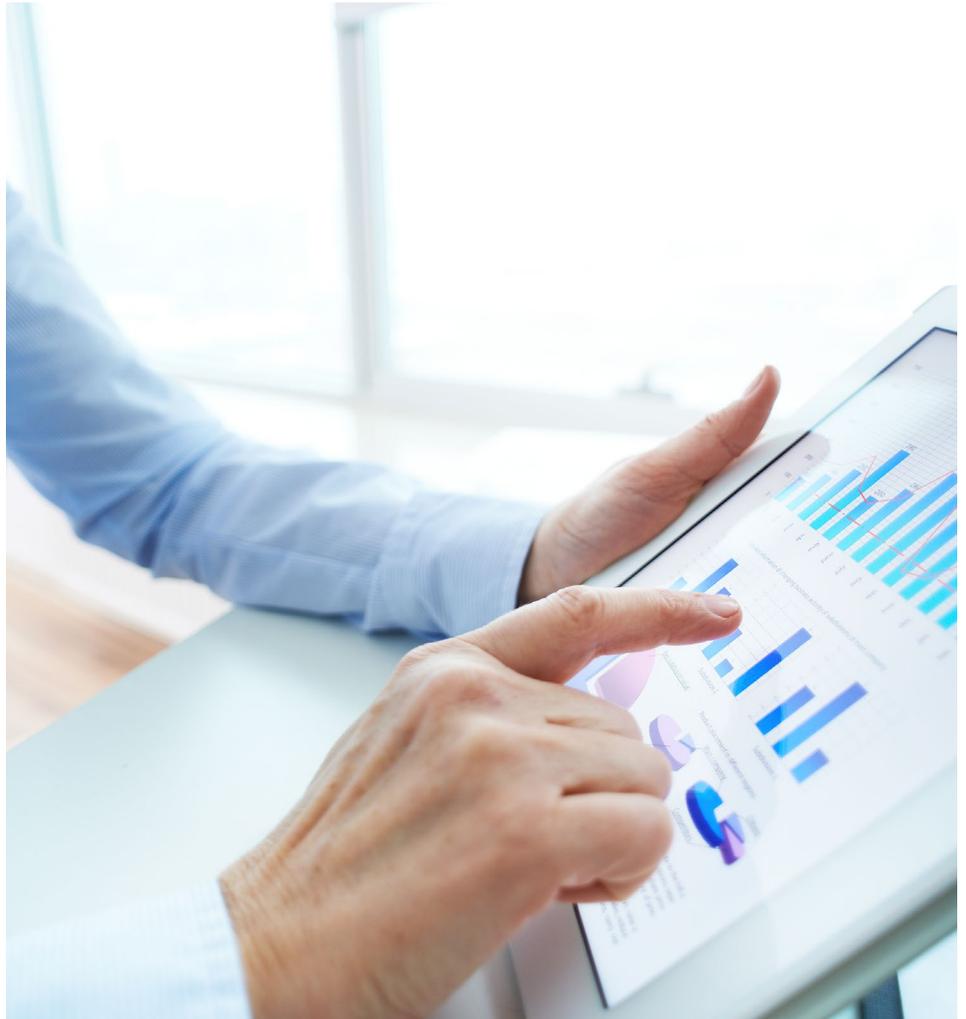
Here is what you need to know about the fee and its increase:

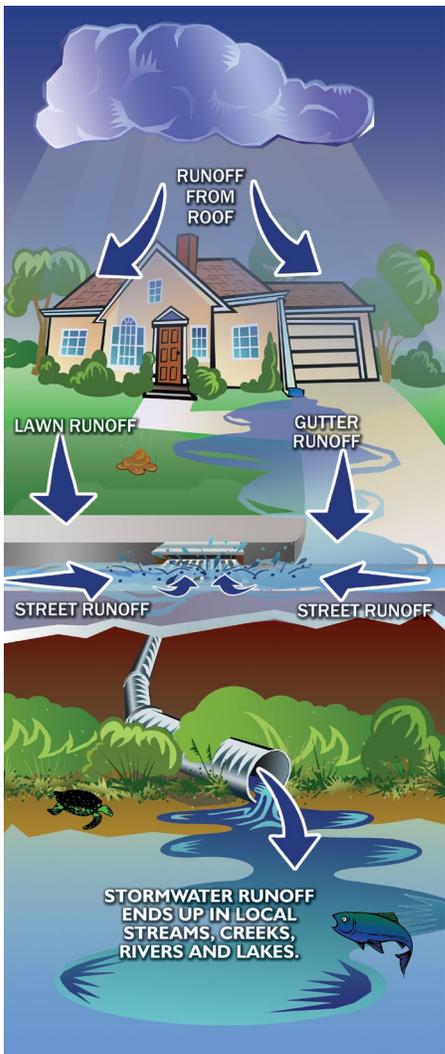
- This is the first utility increase for stormwater services since the official establishment of the program in 2004;
- The fee reflects the amount of runoff that each property contributes to the City's overall stormwater runoff. Properties that produce more runoff are assessed for a greater stormwater fee;
- All properties with less than 400 square feet of impervious surface do not contribute to the stormwater fee;
- The rate increase will support funding for the City's expanded Stormwater Capital Improvement Plan, which is dedicated to drainage system improvements, watershed planning, and flood mitigation projects; and,
- The new fee will also offer enhanced services for drainage complaint resolutions and stormwater infrastructure maintenance.

To learn more about the stormwater utility fee, visit raleighnc.gov. Questions can be directed to 919-996-3940 or StormwaterFee@raleighnc.gov.

To learn more about the stormwater utility fee, visit raleighnc.gov.

Questions can be directed to 919-996-3940 or StormwaterFee@raleighnc.gov





Stormwater Division Contacts

Stormwater Staff
 Stormwater Fee Inquiries
 Illegal Discharge Response
 Sedimentation and Erosion Control
 Floodplain Inquiries
 Drainage Concerns on Private Property
 Drainage Concerns in the Street

919-996-3940 or StormwaterFee@raleighnc.gov
StormwaterFee@raleighnc.gov
IllegalDischarge@raleighnc.gov
[Lauren Witherspoon](#)
[Ben Brown](#)
[Chris Stanley](#)
 919-996-6446

Raleigh's Stormwater Website Resources

City of Raleigh
 Stormwater Management Division
 Adopt-A-Stream Volunteer Program
 Storm Drain Marking Volunteer Program
 Stream Monitoring Volunteer Program
 Water Pollution
 Flood Information

www.raleighnc.gov
 keyword search "[stormwater management](#)"
 keyword search "[adopt a stream](#)"
 keyword search "[drain marking](#)"
 keyword search "[volunteer stream monitoring](#)"
 keyword search "IllegalDischarge@raleighnc.gov"
 keyword search "[flooding](#)"

Additional Educational & Volunteer Resources

Clean Water Education Partnership
 North Carolina Stormwater and
 Runoff Pollution
 North Carolina Watershed
 Stewardship Network
 Sound Rivers (Neuse Riverkeepers)
 River Guardian Foundation

www.nccleanwater.org
www.ncstormwater.org
www.ncwatershednetwork.org
soundrivers.org
www.riverguardfdn.org

THE STORMWATER MANAGEMENT MISSION

Manage stormwater to preserve and protect life, support healthy natural resources, and complement sustainable growth within a vibrant community.

ISSUE 20 WINTER 2016

A STORMWATER MANAGEMENT
DIVISION PUBLICATION

MORE INFO

raleighnc.gov

THIS ISSUE

- | | |
|---|--|
| <p>P.1 Streams & Stormwater
Video Competition</p> <p>P.1 Stormwater
Foster-a-Stream Fall
Clean-Up</p> <p>P.2 New Stormwater
Regulation for Smaller Sites</p> | <p>P.2 New & Improved Drainage
Assistance for Raleigh
Residents</p> <p>P.3 5 Facts to Know About the
Stormwater Utility
Fee Increase</p> |
|---|--|



The City of Raleigh