

Benefits

Revenue generated from the storm water user fee will improve the Borough of Coraopolis in some of the following ways:

- Supplement roadway drainage improvement
- Provide long term maintenance for existing stormwater detention
- Minimize off-site sediment from construction sites
- Provide education to the residents on water quality
- Routine testing of storm water outfalls
- Enforce illicit discharges into waterways
- Shoreline and ditch bank stabilization
- Reduce sediment into our waterways
- Fish and wildlife enhancement
- Reduce flooding
- Wetland protection



The legal documents to support this unfunded mandate can be found:

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency – Phase II of the National Pollution Discharge Elimination System program authorized by the 1972 amendments to the Clean Water Act.

Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection
www.dep.pa.gov



STORMWATER UTILITY FEE



1301 4th Avenue Suite 1
Coraopolis, PA 15108
412-264-3002
Coraopoliswater.org

The Coraopolis Water and Sewer Authority (Authority) is responsible for operation and maintenance of the Borough of Coraopolis' (Borough) public stormwater infrastructure. This infrastructure must be maintained to manage impact of stormwater runoff and minimize the potential negative effect of runoff to public and private property for the public good throughout the Borough. To this effect, the municipal storm sewer system (MS4), consisting of storm drains, inlets, pipes, etc., operates as a public utility serving each property owner, or user of the MS4, throughout the Borough.

Additionally, the Authority and Borough are co-permittees of a Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PADEP) issued MS4 NPDES Permit that regulates the discharge of stormwater to our streams and rivers. Increased regulatory requirements associated with the most recent permit issued in 2018 will require significant capital investment by the Authority to achieve water quality goals established by PADEP.



Funding for operation and maintenance of storm sewer infrastructure and compliance with MS4 Permit requirements has traditionally been budgeted as part of the Authority's Sanitary Sewer Fund. The Authority is creating a new Stormwater Utility Fee to more equitably collect and allocate revenues to address the MS4 Permit requirements and continued maintenance of the aging storm sewer infrastructure.

Establishment of a fee will create a dedicated funding source, similar to those which have been previously established for sanitary sewer and potable water public utilities also operated by the Authority. Contribution of stormwater runoff, and subsequently, a property's impact or use of the Authority's storm sewer system is based on the amount of impervious cover contained on the property. Impervious cover (parking lots, driveways, rooftops, etc.) prevents the infiltration of stormwater into the ground and generates more runoff to be managed when compared to a natural, undeveloped condition. As development occurs and natural land cover is replaced with impervious cover, rates and volumes of runoff increase while water quality decreases. All of which must be managed by the storm sewer system and increased water quality goals in the NPDES Permit.

The Authority has conducted an analysis of properties throughout the Borough to establish an equitable fee structure. All properties with impervious area(s) are subject to the fee. The analysis has established an Equivalent Residential Unit (ERU) used as the basis of fee assessment. One ERU equates to 1,900 square feet of impervious area. This ERU has been



established to best represent the average impervious area (and subsequently the proportionate impact to the MS4) for a typical single-family residential property within the Borough. This will act as the basis for consideration of a flat fee for most single-family properties. To achieve an equitable assessment of fees, this ERU will be used as the benchmark for evaluation of non-residential properties to assign a proportionate fee. For example, a non-residential property consisting of 19,000 square feet of impervious area will be assessed a fee at the rate of 10 ERUs. The impervious area of non-residential properties is determined using data from the Allegheny County GIS database.

Pending final review and approval of the Authority Board, the anticipated monthly fee equates to \$7.00/ERU/month or \$84.00/ERU annually. It is anticipated that initial stormwater utility bills will be issued to property owners starting in the first quarter of 2019.