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Billing information for residents



*You 'otter know...
we all live downstream.*

WYOMING VALLEY SANITARY AUTHORITY

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About Your Bill

WVSA's Regional Stormwater Management Program




What is it?

The stormwater fee will be charged to **each developed property** in the Wyoming Valley Sanitary Authority's (WVSA) service area. The fee will be based on the amount of impervious surface on a property (rooftops, parking lots, driveways, etc.) that inhibits infiltration of rainfall into the soil.

Implementing a stormwater fee, instead of relying on general tax revenue, ensures that all property owners who contribute to the generation of stormwater runoff and who benefit from stormwater management, will contribute to paying for the solution.

Property owners will be billed a tiered flat rate in which the average single family residential property will be charged an estimated \$3.50 to \$5 per month. (Less impervious surface areas will incur lower charges.) Still, paying a regional fee to WVSA rather than a local municipality tax is expected to yield 70 -93% in cost savings.

The stormwater fees will be billed to residents in October, 2018. The cost will be clearly itemized as "stormwater" on your WVSA bill.



What does it pay for?

Your stormwater fee will be placed in a dedicated fund used only for WVSA's Regional Stormwater Management Program.

This program will fund operations, pollution reduction planning, increased maintenance of stormwater systems, system mapping, out-fall inspections, stream restorations, street sweeping, regulatory compliance, public information and education, administrative services, capital improvements—such as construction of community rain gardens, and additional stormwater management initiatives and projects.

Municipalities designated as MS4 (Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System) permit holders are required to complete all permit requirements. WVSA serves as the MS4 permit administrator, allowing municipalities to garner efficiencies in the use of trained staff, equipment, and knowledge of how to operate and manage a regional authority,

Because of the regional approach, communities will have savings accounts built on part of the fees and the money can be used for smaller scale infrastructure projects.



Why is it needed?

In 2016, the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) labeled approximately 19,000 miles of rivers and streams in Pennsylvania impaired for water supply, aquatic life, recreation, or fish consumption. Stormwater runoff is one of the biggest reasons for impairment.

In the United States, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is charged with regulating stormwater pursuant to the Clean Water Act (CWA). Under existing federal law, municipalities in Northeastern Pennsylvania must curb pollution in the Susquehanna River by as much as 10% in the next five years (by 2023).

Stormwater carries an enormous amount of pollution, including sediment, car oil, lawn fertilizers, pesticides and cigarette butts—all of which affect aquatic and recreational waters. As you might expect, this has many negative impacts on streams and rivers.

It's time for all of us to put water in its place!