

Frequently Asked Questions:

Q: Am I being billed for the storm sewer in front of my house?

A: No, the fee is for the management of stormwater runoff quality (pollution potential) and quantity (flooding potential) regardless of the type of stormwater facility (sewer vs. swale) adjacent to your property.

Q: Am I exempt from these fees if I live adjacent to a water body?

A: If you live adjacent to the Plover River or Wisconsin River, you may be eligible for a discount. Please contact the Utility office to learn more.

Q: Rainwater never runs off of my property, why do I have to pay for this?

A: Stormwater management in the City involves collecting, treating, storing, conveying, and discharging rainfall and snowmelt in a manner that is safe for the public and environment. It is very likely that conditions occasionally exist where stormwater will leave your property in some way, requiring proper handling.

Q: Is everybody paying a stormwater management fee?

A: Yes. In fact, public agencies are also now required to pay for stormwater management. This will distribute the costs more evenly across customers based on the relative amount of runoff from their property.

Q: If I put on an addition to my house or construct a patio, will my stormwater fee go up?

A: At this time, residential rates are based on the average square footage of a single family household. An addition will not result in an increased stormwater fee under our current rate structure.

Resources:

State of Wisconsin, Department of Natural Resources (DNR): www.dnr.state.wi.us/

City of Stevens Point Ordinances:
<http://stevenspoint.com/code/index.html>

City of Stevens Point Utilities Information:
stevenspoint.com/water

Stevens Point Water, Sewage Treatment
and Stormwater Departments
300 Bliss Avenue
Stevens Point, WI 54481

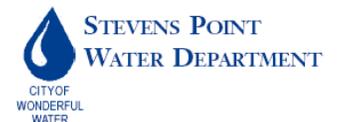
715-345-5260
stevenspoint.com/water

STORMWATER UTILITY INFORMATION



INSIDE:

- LEARN WHAT A STORMWATER UTILITY IS
- READ ABOUT CURRENT RATES AND CREDITS
- LEARN WHAT THESE FEES PAY FOR
- DISCOVER MORE BY READING THE FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS SECTION



Why do we have this utility?

The purpose of the utility is to fund the operation, construction, and maintenance of the stormwater facilities in the City of Stevens Point. These facilities include storm sewers, swales, ditches, reservoirs and ponds. Also funded by the utility are programs and efforts required through the permits required by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources.

What is an ERU?

An ERU (equivalent runoff unit) is the base unit used by the Utility to standardize the amount of impervious surface there is on a given parcel. Our ERU has been calculated to be equivalent to the average impervious surface area of a single family residence. Therefore, 1 ERU = 3,364 square feet.

What surfaces are impervious?

- House and garage roof surfaces
- Driveways and other paved surfaces
- Patios and private sidewalks

Are any credits available?

Yes, credits are available to homeowners on a one-time basis for the installation of a rain barrel or a rain garden. Businesses can apply for a credit based on best management practices and management facilities present on the site. Contact the Utility to begin this process, or visit the website to download the necessary forms. Properties adjacent to the Plover and Wisconsin River may also be eligible.

RESIDENTIAL FEE STRUCTURE

Single family residences:

The annual fee for a single family residence (1 ERU), will be \$59.08, or \$14.77 per quarter. If you own the home and live there, this fee will be on the same bill as your water and sewer quarterly bill. If you own the home, but live elsewhere, the bill will be sent to your billing address, separately.

Duplex/Triplex residences:

Duplex and triplex units are billed to the owner of the property. The stormwater fee will be .8 ERU's per unit, per year. A duplex unit will pay a total of 1.6 ERU's per year, and a triplex unit will pay a total of 2.4 ERU's per year. Each unit (.8 ERU) will have a fee of \$47.26 per year or \$11.82 per quarter.

Apartments (over 3 units)

If you live in a building that has more than three units the stormwater fee is calculated based on the total impervious area, and billed to the property owner. The rates are calculated according to the formula in the section to the right for commercial, industrial, and public accounts.

Other

Some properties such as condo units and rooming houses can vary for many reasons. If you have questions on your stormwater fees, please contact the utility office.

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COM./INDUSTRIAL/PUBLIC

Stormwater fee calculation

All stormwater fees for properties that fall into the commercial, industrial, or public account classification are calculated using the following formula.

$$(a/3,364) \times \$59.08 = \text{annual fee}$$

where 'a' = total impervious area

Example:

The total area of impervious surface at "Store X" is equal to 10,500 square feet. Divide 10,500 by 3,364 (to get the number of ERU's) and multiply the result by \$59.08 (fee per ERU). This gives a total annual stormwater fee of \$184.41.

$$(10,500/3,364) \times \$59.08 = \$184.41$$

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