Why a Storm Water Utility?

Because of the US Environmental Protection Agency storm water regulations (National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System, Storm Water Phase II), Franklin and most other cities are required to minimize storm water pollution with enhanced storm sewer system maintenance and the implementation of storm water management activities. These activities include public education programs, public participation in storm water management functions, control of storm water runoff from new developments during and after construction, and ongoing search for illicit discharges into the storm sewer system and municipal pollution prevention programs such as street sweeping.

In the past, storm sewer system planning concentrated on significant flood control.

Modern storm water system management must take a total water resource management point of view and pay significant attention to pollution prevention. Most people think storm water runoff is a relatively harmless, natural occurrence and do not realize it pollutes our most precious natural resources like Young's Creek and Hurricane Creek. Storm water frequently has high levels of sediment, litter, phosphorus, nitrogen, heavy metals, oil, grease, pathogens and organic materials.

Why a Storm Water Utility?

On October 25, 2004, Franklin Ordinance Number 04-18 created within the existing municipal Sewage Works a Department of Storm Water Management, a special taxing district, and a storm water utility fund. The stormwater fee was adopted by the Franklin City Council on December 2, 2009. The fee beginning in February 2010 is dedicated to improving drainage, controlling flooding, improving water quality and implementing the EPA water quality regulations in Franklin.

Franklin Storm Water Fees

Residential Users:	
Single Family	$5.00
Apartments & Mobile Homes	$2.50
Non-residential Users:	
Less than 40,000 sq. ft. of land	$5.00
Greater than 40,000 sq. ft. of land	$15.00

Why is the Storm Water Fee Necessary?

When it rains or snow melts, storm water runs off driveways, parking lots, sidewalks and roofs into the storm water drainage system. The drainage system includes storm sewers, ditches, culverts, ravines, streams and roadside swales that carry rainwater away from roads and private property. The more asphalts, rooftops, and other hard surfaces the rainwater hits, the more runoff our system has to handle. The fee pays for projects that improve drainage and reduce water pollution as well as implementing the EPA water quality regulations. The fee pays for projects that improve drainage and reduce water pollution as well as implementing the EPA water quality regulations.

What is Impervious Surface Area?

Impervious area is area that prevents or impedes the infiltration of storm water into the soil.

Common impervious areas include, but are not limited to, rooftops, sidewalks, walkways, patio area, driveways, parking lots, storage area, compacted aggregate and awnings. Storm water runoff directly attributed to impervious area do not allow rain water to soak into the ground. This allows the water to fill up the streams more quickly and at higher levels. The additional water load on the storm system can cause flooding during heavy rains. The additional usage of the system also increases maintenance repairs due to the accelerated erosion of ditches and the stormwater system.

What is Infiltration?

Infiltration is the process of allowing runoff to penetrate the ground surface and flow through the upper soil surface.

Continued...

Who is in Charge of the Storm Water Utility?

The Storm Water Utility has been placed under the administrative responsibility of the Board of Public Works, the same department that oversees the Wastewater Utilities.

What Areas are Served by the Storm Water Utility?

Only areas within the corporate limits of the city are served by the Storm Water Utility.

Can My Fees Be Reduced?

Currently, there are no reductions available for either residential or non-residential properties.

Additional Information

If you would like additional information on the Storm Water Utility or have specific concerns about storm water management issues, please contact us.

WWW.FRANKLINPUBLICWORKS.COM

Contact Information

Website:

WWW.FRANKLINPUBLICWORKS.COM

Drainage Problems:

Call the City of Franklin Street Department at

317-736-3660

Report an Illicit Discharge:

Call the City of Franklin Department or Public Works at
317-736-3640

Information Provided to you by the
City of Franklin
Fred L. Paris, Mayor

City of Franklin

Storm Water UTILITY & FEES

What it Means for You