



TOWN OF SURFSIDE BEACH STORMWATER UTILITY FEE FACT SHEET

What is Stormwater?

Stormwater runoff occurs when rain flows across land and impervious surfaces like roofs, driveways, parking lots, streets, and other hard surfaces. Because these impervious surfaces don't allow stormwater to soak into the ground, the runoff can cause flooding. As it flows across the ground, stormwater runoff may pick up pollutants like grease, oil, pet waste, fertilizer, metals, and other pollutants before entering the Town's storm drain system. Stormwater is not treated, so the Town's storm drains lead directly to local waterways, and ultimately, the Atlantic Ocean. Stormwater pollution and flooding harms our environment, pets and wildlife, and can damage property. Flooding from heavy rains, tropical storms, or coastal storm surge can be crippling to homeowners and the tourist economy.



Stormwater Management Services Funded by the Fee

The Stormwater Utility Fee was adopted to provide a dedicated funding source for existing stormwater management services and new capital projects to reduce flooding and pollution into our local waterways, and the Atlantic Ocean.

Funds raised by the fee go toward operation and maintenance of public stormwater quality and public drainage infrastructure in the separate storm sewer system, stormwater quality initiatives, compliance with our MS4 stormwater permit, plan review, and our flood management program. Several Stormwater Infrastructure Projects are underway to help the Town meet State and Federal MS4 stormwater mandates, while Town Drainage and Flooding Projects mitigate drainage issues in problem areas. The Stormwater Utility Fee is an equitable way to spread the cost of this necessary work among all users of the system.

Questions and concerns about the fee should be directed to stormwater@surfsidebeach.org, or by phone at 843-839-8800.