

Why is there a Stormwater fee?

While no one likes the idea of paying another bill, the City of Asheville's Stormwater Services program is an important community resource that has a positive impact on our city – from working to prevent water pollution in our rivers and streams to addressing land erosion and risks of flash flooding.



It is also part of a federal stormwater mandate that requires cities like Asheville to implement comprehensive stormwater programs.

Stormwater is rain that falls on your streets, roofs, parking lots and other man made surfaces and flows down gutters and into storm drains. The storm drain system empties directly into creeks, rivers, lakes and other bodies of water. When rain flows into the storm drain system, it picks up pollutants like pesticides, paint, household chemicals, sediment, yard waste, detergents, oil and grease, trash and pet waste.

Stormwater runoff is the #1 source of impairment for freshwater streams and shorelines in North Carolina.

The cost of Asheville's stormwater program is funded completely by a fee not tax dollars. The fee is based on:

- 1) How much each property contributes to stormwater runoff and;
- 2) The cost of providing stormwater services in Asheville.