



Borough of Dormont Stormwater Authority

Creation of a Stormwater Authority and Fees

What is a Stormwater Authority?



- A Stormwater Authority is a separate entity and fund established by a Municipality to ensure that its storm sewer system is well maintained and stormwater is managed
- The Authority funds operations and maintenance of the stormwater system, administers the federally mandated municipal permit requirements, and designs, funds and constructs capital improvements

Background



- August 2012 - citizens living on Kelton and Hillsdale Avenues attended a Council meeting to discuss flooding of their properties
- 2012 - held several public meetings
- Council retained an engineering firm to develop solutions
- May 2013 - bulk mail sent to residents explaining stormwater issues

Background



- August 2013 - Stormwater committee was formed
- **Committee's mission was to identify** stormwater issues in the Borough & develop a recommendation on how stormwater control measures should be funded
- Spring 2014 - Fall 2014 - Stormwater 101

Background



- October 2014 - began methodology for a fee
- February 2015 - began work on TMDL
- 2015 - Letters to Council from Committee discussing MS4, TMDL & flooding
- June 2015 - Stormwater Public Workshop
- August 2015 - Ordinance passed to form a Stormwater Authority

Background



- February 2016 - Incorporated
- March 2016 - first official Stormwater Board meeting
- June 2016 - first pro-rated billing
- 2017 - first full year in operation

The Fee



- Established to ensure that the stormwater infrastructure is well maintained and stormwater quantity and quality are adequately managed
- Will fund operations and maintenance of infrastructure, administration of state and federally mandated Clean Water Act permit requirements, engineering and technical staff, and the design and construction of capital improvements

The Fee



- Until 2016, funds for repairing and maintaining the stormwater system came from the General Fund of the Borough operating budget. That is no longer feasible because of:
 - Severity of stormwater problems
 - State and federal mandates to reduce sediment and phosphorus runoff into waterways
 - The need to meet requirements of the PA DEP and US EPA
 - Aging, deteriorating and undersized storm sewer system in need of repair to address community flooding issues

Fee vs. Tax



- Based on impervious area and not assessed value
- Fair and equitable amount for all property owners
- Every property owner pays the fee including non-profit organizations
- Dedicated funds specifically used for stormwater only
- Funds will not be included in general budget with tax dollars

Who pays the fee?



- Every property owner in the municipality
 - homeowners
 - commercial property owners
 - non-profit entities
 - tax-exempt properties
 - public facilities
 - municipal
 - school district

Impervious area vs. Flat rate



The Amount of Stormwater runoff flowing from properties into our stormwater system and ultimately Saw Mill Run and the Ohio River depends on the amount of impervious surface and is the most equitable method of determining the fee.

How is the fee calculated?



- Dormont hired an independent engineering consultant
- Used aerial photographs to measure impervious surfaces
- Owners of single family homes and multi-family units will pay a flat fee based on (ESU) Equivalent Stormwater Unit, which is the median amount of impervious surface found
- Larger properties are based on actual amount of impervious surface

Dormont's Fees



SFR- 1.00/ESU (\$8.00/m)

2 Family - 1.25/ESU (\$10.00/m)

3 Family - 1.50/ESU (\$12.00/m)

4 Family - 1.75 ESU (\$14.00/m)

Rowhouse - .50/ESU (\$4.00/m)

Option to pay all at once or quarterly

Credit to the Fee



Rate payors have the opportunity to earn credit to their fee

- Rain Barrel
- Rain Garden
- Peak Flow Attenuation

Successful Utility



- Education and Outreach
- Feedback from residents
- Concerned Board Members
- Meet state and federal guidelines
- Improve water quality
- Limit water quantity/flooding





Only Rain Down the Drain

THANK YOU