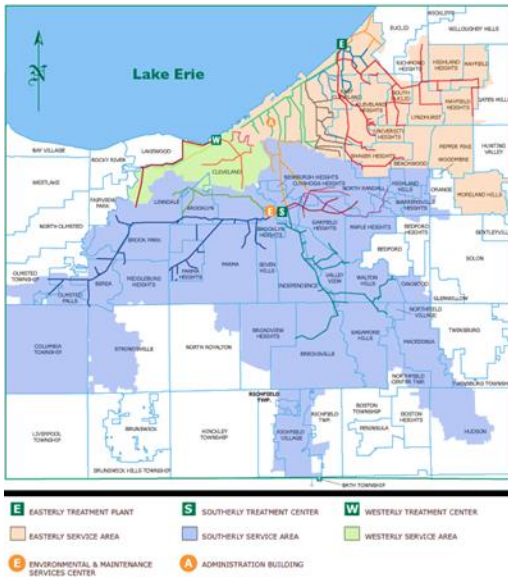


STORMWATER MANAGEMENT CODE FOR HOMEOWNERS AND BUSINESSES



Title V of the Code of Regulations of the Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District

Flooding poses a major threat to property within the Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District (NEORS) Service District. Within this area, erosion also threatens property, water quality, wildlife, and terrestrial habitats. The Stormwater Management Code was developed to counteract and prevent future problems associated with poor stormwater management, and this code is applicable to all parcels within the NEORS Service District.

To view a larger image of the NEORS Service District and identify if your community or residence is included in the Service District, visit https://www.neorsd.org/in_your_community.php

Stormwater Basics:

Stormwater refers to water that used to soak into the ground prior to development but now runs off of impervious surfaces, collecting pollutants until it ultimately enters our surface waters. These pollutants include trash, chemicals, sediment, and oils among many others.

The Problem: Stormwater runoff is usually not treated prior to discharge, so these pollutants are directly inputted into local waters. Population growth and development rates are increasing the amount of pollutants and the volume and rate of runoff from impervious surfaces. Stormwater runoff pollution causes changes in hydrology and water quality that then result in habitat modifications, increased flooding, decreased aquatic biological diversity, and increased sedimentation and erosion.

The Solution: Stormwater control measures (SCMs) or best management practices (BMPs) filter out pollutants and/or prevent pollution by controlling it at its source. These practices are usually designed to treat both water quantity and quality through natural processes.

Stormwater Fees:

NEORS operates a separate account for all revenues and expenses associated with the regional stormwater management program (SWMP). To fund all aspects of this program, stormwater fees have been created. These fees are distributed based on the demands each parcel imposes on the regional SWMP or the level of service required at each parcel.

Fee Exemptions: The following are exempt from stormwater fees: grouped parcels with less than 400 ft² of impervious surface; designated non-self-supporting municipal function owned by member communities; cemeteries owned/operated by State of OH, county, member community, or not-for-profit entity; and parcels held by county/member community land reutilization organization.

Stormwater Fee Credits:

If your parcel owns, operates, and maintains a stormwater control measure (SCM), you may be eligible to receive stormwater fee credits from NEORS. The application, guidelines for review and approval of applications, and procedures for credits are available in [Stormwater Fee Credit Policy Manual](#).

Stormwater Quantity Credit: Available for SCMs controlling peak flows and volumes of stormwater, this credit cannot exceed 75% of the stormwater fee that would be charged to the associated impervious surfaces.

Stormwater Quality Credit: Available for SCMs filtering pollutants from stormwater, this credit cannot exceed 25% of the stormwater fee that would be charged to the associated impervious surfaces.

Stormwater Education Credit: Public and private primary, elementary, and secondary schools recognized by the State of OH that provide approved stormwater pollution prevention curricula to students are eligible for this credit if they meet and maintain the minimum requirements of the [Manual](#). This credit can be a maximum of 25% of

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2016 Stormwater Fee Schedule for Residential Parcels				
Parcel:	Tier:	Impervious Area:	Fee Formula:	Fee:
Small Residential	1	Less than 2,000 ft ²	0.6 ERU/month	\$3.09
Medium Residential	2	2,000-3,999 ft ²	1 ERU/month	\$5.15
Large Residential	3	4,000 ft ² and above	1.8 ERU/month	\$9.27

2016 Stormwater Fee Schedule for Non-Residential Parcels					
Number of Non-Residential ERUs	1 st -10 th	11 th -50 th	51 st -100 th	101 st -250 th	251 st and above
Rate Discount*:	None	5% for 40 ERUs	10% for 50 ERUs	15% for 150 ERUs	20% for remaining ERUs

*For non-residential parcels, discounts are additive. For example, a 53-ERU parcel would pay the normal rate for 10 ERUs, receive 5% off the rate for 40 ERUs, and receive 10% off the rate for the remaining 3 ERUs.

Stormwater Fee Credits (continued):

the stormwater fee. The District provides curricula for grades 3, 5, 7, and 10 as well as student workbooks and teacher manuals.

Residential Credit: Residents who do not qualify for the Stormwater Quality Credit can receive the Residential Credit for implementation and maintenance of approved site-based water quality SCMs. This credit is 25% of the stormwater fee, and no partial credit will be awarded.

Best Management Practices (BMPs) for Private Property:

BMPs are designed to treat both water quantity and water quality to reduce the amounts of polluted stormwater entering our valuable water resources. Each BMP comes with its own cost, implementation, and maintenance requirements, but the benefits far outweigh these costs. For more information on BMPs for private property, economic incentives for green infrastructure, or related topics, contact Tinker’s Creek Watershed Partners.

Tree Plantings: Trees provide a number of water quality benefits by intercepting rainfall, increasing soil infiltration and storage, and minimizing runoff. Other benefits include improving air quality, improving habitat, and improving community life through recreational and aesthetic benefits. Trees are shown to reduce smog by 6%, to absorb up to 240 lbs. of pollutants, and to reduce energy use by 8-12%. Adding trees to your property can increase the property value by up to 5%!

Rain Barrels: Outdoor irrigation accounts for one third of all residential water uses, totaling approximately 7 billion gallons of water each day. Harvesting rain water using rain barrels or cisterns combats this figure by reducing your reliance on potable water for outdoor uses and minimizing the amount of stormwater leaving your property. Using a rain barrel will help you save money on water bills, increase the available water supply, and improve your plants’ health.

Rain Gardens: Rain gardens are depressed areas planted with deep-rooted native plants to absorb nutrients and encourage infiltration of stormwater. Rain gardens are shown to reduce copper by up to 97%, total nitrogen by up to 67%, lead by up to 5%, phosphorus by up to 87%, zinc by up to 95%, and calcium by up to 27%.

Fee Assessment:

Fees are assigned relative to the amount of impervious surface present on your property. The primary parameter used by the NEORS is the Equivalent Residential Unit (ERU). One ERU is equal to 3,000 ft² of impervious surface. The base fee associated with one ERU is set at \$5.15/month/ERU.

Education Economically Disadvantaged Stormwater Fee

Public and private primary, elementary, and secondary schools, school districts, and school systems are eligible to receive a discounted rate if they are (1) recognized by the State of Ohio and (2) have a student population in which at least 25% of current students are eligible to participate in Free Lunch Program under Richard B Russel National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. § 1751, et seq.). Contact the Chief Executive Officer for the District for more information.

For more information, contact:

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