



How is the fee determined?

The fee is based on relative contribution of stormwater runoff from a given parcel to Howard County's Stormwater System. The fee is comprised of two parts: a Base Rate and an Acreage Charge. The Base Rate is a minimum per parcel charge based on the property class assigned by the Assessor's office. The Acreage Charge is an additional charge associated with land area. In addition, there is a Stormwater Boundary area charge that is dependent on the location of the property in relation to the "MS4 area". This rate varies because the Howard County Stormwater District has to meet additional requirements for those parcels found within the "MS4 area." MS4 stands for Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System.

Base Rate: Property Class Base Rate

Agricultural	\$20.00
Commercial	\$40.00
Industrial	\$60.00
Residential	\$30.00
Exempt	\$40.00
Utility	\$20.00
Unclassified	\$30.00

Acreage Rate: \$0.11 (annual/acre)

Stormwater Boundary Charge

Within MS4 area: Add \$2.00

Outside MS4 area: Add \$1.00

Fee calculation:

Base Rate + Acreage Rate + (Within MS4 or Outside MS4) = Amount Paid Per Year

Example:

A Residential home on two acres in Howard County outside the MS4 area: $\$30 + (\$.11 \times 2) + \$1 = \31.22 (per year)



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HOWARD COUNTY STORMWATER DISTRICT

Understanding fees and MS4 program

Clean water, clear choice.



What is the "Water Quality District" fee added to my Spring Taxes?

Stormwater is conveyed through pipes, ponds, and ditches that require maintenance to prevent pollution and improve water quality. Stormwater management was previously funded through the economic development fund and the county general fund, but due to stronger regulatory requirements implemented by the state and federal government this is no longer possible.

How is the fee used?

The fee pays for all actions necessary to meet state and federal requirements: maintain and improve existing stormwater infrastructure and implement a comprehensive stormwater management program as required by EPA (U.S. Environmental Protection Agency) and IDEM (Indiana Department of Environmental Management).

These are the six measures required by the EPA and IDEM:

1. Implement a public education program to distribute materials and conduct activities to inform the public about the impacts of stormwater discharges on our water bodies and the steps that can be taken to prevent stormwater pollution.
2. Provide the public with the opportunity to play an active roll in development and implementation of the program.
3. Detect and eliminate discharges to stormwater conveyances that are not composed entirely of stormwater.
4. Administer a permitting program that requires a stormwater water quality protection plan for construction activities that result in a land disturbance of equal to or greater than one acre.
5. Maintain records and inspections of stormwater protection practices at completed construction sites where land disturbance was equal to or greater than one acre.
6. Reduce pollutants in stormwater runoff from county facilities by utilizing stormwater protection practices in the operation and maintenance of these facilities.

Numbers

500 miles of regulated drains in Howard County
270 miles closed
230 miles open

Howard County MS4
45 miles regulated drains - 21 miles non-regulated drains

The following numbers are for the current NPDES permit cycle:
October 1, 2008 through today (permit end date is actually September 30, 2013)

MCM 1: public education 89 events reaching 22,000 people

MCM 2: public participation 39 events involving 1,200 people

MCM 3: illicit discharge detection and removal

384 water test sites
9 illicit discharges eliminated

MCM 4-5: construction site stormwater management

97 plans reviewed and construction site inspections

MCM 6: good housekeeping at MS4 owned facilities

61 work orders for clean or repair MS4 conveyance
9 stormwater pollution prevention plans at county facilities

