



**BOLTON
& MENK**

Real People. Real Solutions.

STORMWATER UTILITY

A stormwater utility is similar to sanitary sewer and water utilities. A fee is collected as part of a stormwater ordinance. The goal is to collect additional funding to repair, maintain, and improve stormwater infrastructure. The utility could be established as a flat fee, per square foot cost per lot, or per hard surface area. The flat fee should be adjusted for higher impact use, such as commercial and industrial areas. Bolton & Menk is experienced in identifying beneficial rates and want to make sure you are getting the most out of your stormwater utility.

Other Civil/Municipal Services

- Infrastructure Planning & Development
- Water Resources
- Transportation
- Aviation
- Municipal Planning
- Value Engineering
- Sustainability
- UAV/Drone
- Public Involvement
- Funding Experience

How the Stormwater Utility Charge is Calculated

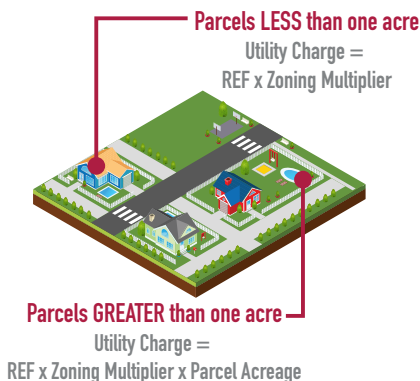
Stormwater utility rates are established in accordance with the projected budgetary needs for eligible stormwater utility projects. Bolton & Menk has experience determining rate schedules using the following methods.

ERU Charges Based on Comparative Impervious Area

GIS or other methods are used to establish the proposed fee structure based on impervious surfacing. By far, the most legally defensible stormwater utilities are based on an ERU (Equivalent Residential Unit) methodology. Using GIS and aerial photographs, an impervious area is determined for each parcel in a random sample and the ERU is used to represent similar resident properties. Spreadsheet database or geospatial methods are used to determine the number of ERUs, and the annual budget can be divided by the number of ERUs to determine the typical fee for the residential lot.

REF Based on Size and Zoning

Stormwater utility charges are calculated with a base charge for all residential and non-residential properties less than one acre in size. Any property less than one acre is charged the base amount, known as the REF (Residential Equivalency Factor) times a multiplier that is based on zoning or



How Stormwater Utility Monies are Collected

Stormwater utility monies are collected in the same way as sanitary sewer and water utilities. The charge appears on the monthly utility bill.

CONTACT

 Tim Olson, PE, CFM, Principal Water Resources Engineer

 Tim.Olson@bolton-menk.com

 Bolton-Menk.com

