

# STORMWATER MANAGEMENT CODE FOR MUNICIPALITIES



## 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](https://www.neorsd.org/in_your_community.php).

### Municipality Requirements:

The Stormwater Management Code creates a number of new responsibilities and requirements for municipalities.

**Watershed Advisory Committee:** Each community is expected to fill one position in the Watershed Advisory Committee for each applicable watershed the community is within. These committees assist the NEORS in choosing regional stormwater management program activities and priorities in each watershed's Stormwater Master Plan as well as help develop additional regional stormwater standards.

**Minimum Standards for Stormwater Management:** The Code requires that municipalities meet the NPDES General Permit for MS4s requirements and any additional standards from the NEORS.

**Stormwater Management Plans:** Municipalities are required to submit stormwater management plans for any project regulated by the community and located within the Service District to NEORS within seven days of receiving the plan.

### 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 ft<sup>2</sup> 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

(CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE)

## 2016 Stormwater Fee Schedule for Residential Parcels

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

## 2016 Stormwater Fee Schedule for Non-Residential Parcels

Number of Non-Residential ERUs	1 <sup>st</sup> -10 <sup>th</sup>	11 <sup>th</sup> -50 <sup>th</sup>	51 <sup>st</sup> -100 <sup>th</sup>	101 <sup>st</sup> -250 <sup>th</sup>	251 <sup>st</sup> 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.

### 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 ft<sup>2</sup> of impervious surface. The base fee associated with one ERU is set at \$5.15/month/ERU.

### Community Cost-Share Program:

NEORS operates a financial account for the collection and distribution of funds derived from stormwater fees. This money is then used to provide funding to assist member communities in the implementation and completion of District-approved projects.

Project Requirements: To be approved for cost-share funds, projects must address current and minimize new flooding, erosion, and water quality problems. Project funds can be used for the construction, operation, and maintenance of local stormwater systems. A list of eligible activities is available in Section 5.0903 of Title V. Projects are subject to post-construction inspection for maintenance requirements for at least three years. If a project is not being maintained properly, the community can be held responsible for all cost-share funds used in the project.

Cost-Share Funding Requirements: A minimum of 25% of the total annual funds collected in each member community shall be allocated to that member community through the Community Cost-Share Account. Communities may accumulate up to five years of Cost-Share funds. By **July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021**, communities must apply to be able to receive and use their funds from 2016. After this deadline, if a community has not applied, Cost-Share funds from year one will revert back to the District's Stormwater Account. If approved for a plan for the use of accumulated funds, communities may accumulate funds beyond the five-year timeframe. Otherwise, it is in your community's best interest to use these funds within five years! Cost-Share funds may be used at any time that they are available upon District review of a community's application. The Community Cost-Share Program can be reviewed and adjusted at the discretion of the NEORS Board of Trustees.

### 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:

Babette Gowda  
Tinker's Creek Watershed Coordinator  
330-963-6243  
babette@tinkerscreekwatershed.org

