



## Stormwater Utility Frequently Asked Questions

### WILL MY UTILITY BILL INCREASE?

- Stormwater costs were formerly included in your wastewater fee. The formation of the stormwater utility will result in the removal of those costs from your existing wastewater rate, resulting in a wastewater fee reduction of 17.9%. Thus, the wastewater rate decrease will partially offset the new stormwater charge for accounts with sewer service.

**Residential users** will see a slight increase in their monthly bill as shown below:

Residence Type	Old Monthly Wastewater	New Monthly Wastewater	New Monthly Stormwater	Combined New Monthly WW/SW	Net WW/SW Monthly Increase
Single Family	\$35.60	\$29.23	\$7.06	\$36.29	\$0.69
Multi-family	\$27.69	\$22.73	\$6.67	\$29.40	\$1.71

- If your residence does not have City sewer service, your monthly bill will increase by the full stormwater utility fee of \$7.06 for single family residences or \$6.67 for multi-family residences.

**Commercial and institutional users** may see either an increase or decrease in their monthly bill. On October 1<sup>st</sup> the wastewater rate decreased by 17.9%, and the new stormwater fee began. Rate projections for some business types are shown below:

Sample Business Type	Approximate Size	Old Monthly Wastewater	New Monthly Wastewater	New Monthly Stormwater	Combined Monthly WW/SW
Drive-in Bank	6,000 SF	\$54.24	\$44.48	\$15.23	\$59.71
Gas Station w/ Carwash	8 VFP	\$49.90	\$40.96	\$20.41	\$61.37
Grocery Store	54,000 SF	\$758.48	\$622.67	\$135.40	\$758.07
Realty Office	3,000 SF	\$35.60	\$29.22	\$7.09	\$36.31
Restaurant	2,000 SF	\$243.10	\$199.57	\$11.07	\$210.64

### WHY IS A STORMWATER UTILITY NEEDED?

- The City of Redmond is forming a stormwater utility to pay costs associated with draining stormwater runoff from public streets within Redmond. In the past, these storm drainage costs had been paid from the existing wastewater utility, which has become unsustainable.
- The drainage system helps to prevent local flooding and protects the purity of the groundwater aquifer, which is the sole source for Redmond's water supply.
- The Oregon Department of Environmental Quality has recently issued the City a stormwater permit requiring additional stormwater management activities to comply with the federal Safe Drinking Water Act.

### WHAT WILL THE STORMWATER UTILITY PAY FOR?

The current cost to operate and maintain the stormwater drainage system is approximately \$1.2 million each year. These costs include:

- Street sweeping – removal of dust, cinders, leaves and debris from roadways

- Cleaning of stormwater catchbasins, manholes, drywells, and pipelines
- Repair and replacement of existing stormwater facilities
- Sampling and analysis of stormwater contaminants
- Flooding mitigation projects
- Spill response

This utility is not used for construction of stormwater facilities in areas of new development. These infrastructure costs are paid for by the developer.

#### **WHO WILL BE BILLED FOR THE STORMWATER UTILITY AND WHEN?**

- All Redmond water, wastewater, or garbage utility customers will be billed. Owners of developed properties within Redmond city limits that may not have public water or sewer service will also be billed.
- The stormwater utility charge is scheduled to appear on monthly utility bills starting in October 2013. October's bill will be prorated for a partial month and thus the amounts billed will be different than for subsequent months.

#### **HOW IS THE STORMWATER UTILITY RATE CALCULATED?**

- **All users**
  - The rate has two parts, a fixed rate (drainage volume & administrative costs) and a variable rate (water quality costs).
  - The fixed rate component is the same for all users and is \$5.81/month.
  - The variable rate component is based on vehicle trip generation (trip ends) for each type of property usage, according to the recognized industry standard (Institute of Traffic Engineers – Trip Generation).
- **Residential users**
  - For residential users, the variable component is based on ITE traffic calculation of 9.45 trip ends per day per single family dwelling and 6.5 trip ends per day per multi-family dwelling unit. The monthly variable rate for residential users is \$0.132 per average daily vehicle trip-end.
  - A credit may be available in cases of financial hardship, in accordance with the City's existing utility assistance criteria. Approved utility assistance accounts receive a 25% rate reduction.
- **Non-residential users**
  - For non-residential users, the variable component is based on the amount of traffic generated by the type of site. The monthly variable rate for non-residential users is \$0.05 per average daily vehicle trip-end.
  - Adjustment in the variable rate component is possible in cases of significant variation from standard vehicle trip patterns. This will be considered on a case-by-case basis, with proper supporting evidence.
  - The stormwater utility is structured similarly to the water utility in that one stormwater base charge is matched to one water meter. If multiple properties are served by a single meter, a single base charge is applied. Conversely, if a property or properties are served by two meters, two stormwater base charges are typically applied.

#### **WHO CAN I CONTACT FOR MORE INFORMATION?**

For wastewater and stormwater rate questions:

Wastewater and Stormwater Divisions

Phone: 541-504-5075

Email: [stormwater@ci.redmond.or.us](mailto:stormwater@ci.redmond.or.us)

For general utility billing account questions:

City of Redmond Utility Billing

Phone: 541-923-7765

Email: [utilitybilling@ci.redmond.or.us](mailto:utilitybilling@ci.redmond.or.us)