

Surface & Stormwater Management Utility

What is the Stormwater Utility?

The EPA, through the Department of Ecology, introduced the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) program in 2007, requiring Chelan County to obtain a permit (NPDES Permit) that authorizes stormwater discharge to waters in Washington in accordance with the Clean Water Act and the State of Washington Water Pollution Control Act.

As a result, in January 2008, Chelan County adopted a stormwater utility to manage the NPDES Permit and other stormwater needs in developing areas around Wenatchee. All developed properties containing impervious surfaces (impervious surface includes rooftops, and paved areas) are charged a service fee.

This letter is to inform you that either because of an update to the county's stormwater utility service area boundary or because your parcel has new impervious surface, that you have been assessed a service fee.

How much is the charge?

In 2008, the County Commissioners set the service charge at \$5.50 per month for a single family home in the service area of unincorporated Chelan County. Non-single family parcels (multi-family/commercial/industrial) will pay a multiple of this base charge depending on the measured amount of impervious area on their property.

Where does the money go?

Some of the important components of the NPDES Permit include:

a) increased maintenance of the County's stormwater system, b) development of stormwater design standards and regulations c) field inspection/enforcement of these standards d) public information and education e) construction of long overdue capital facilities f) water quality regulatory compliance.

Has this program been implemented elsewhere?

Yes. Large and small communities throughout the nation have adopted stormwater control programs and user fees. Douglas County, East Wenatchee and Wenatchee have implemented stormwater utilities and fees along with many other communities in Central/Eastern Washington including Spokane County, Spokane, Yakima, Ellensburg, Yakima County, and Walla Walla.



Have more questions about stormwater and the stormwater utility?

Look us up online at:

www.co.chelan.wa.us/public-works/pages/storm-water

There you'll find more information, including a printable "Frequently Asked Questions"

To share resources and develop a consistent regional stormwater program, representatives from both cities and counties have been working together to meet the requirements of the permit.

This group is called the Wenatchee Valley Stormwater Technical Advisory Committee (WVSTAC). Over the past five years the program has been developed and implemented. Additional information can be found on the WVSTAC webpage.

Wenatchee Valley Stormwater Program



Chelan County · Wenatchee · Douglas County · East Wenatchee

Pollutants carried in stormwater runoff are quickly becoming a leading cause of water pollution in rivers and lakes.

The federally urbanized area surrounding Wenatchee falls under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination

System (NPDES) Phase II requirements. These require a specific set of actions to meet these Clean Water Act mandates.

Visit the WVSTAC webpage:

<http://www.wenatchewa.gov/Index.aspx?page=319>

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