

JULY 2012

# CITY OF CREEDMOOR STORMWATER UTILITY



For more information please contact  
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## STORMWATER UTILITY

Stormwater is the runoff that occurs over land, roads, parking lots, and other surfaces during and after rain. If it rains hard enough, water cannot be absorbed into the ground and instead flows over the surface, where it picks up dirt and pollutants. Eventually, this water makes it into streams, rivers, and lakes with everything it picked up along the way.

These materials can be harmful to the water quality in these water bodies.

Stormwater drains and ditches along the roadside are meant to control the flow of stormwater and keep it from picking up too many harmful materials. Creedmoor has established a stormwater utility to manage and fund stormwater services within the City.

The City of Creedmoor's Board of Commissioners passed the Ordinance creating the Utility and the utility rates on June 11, 2012.

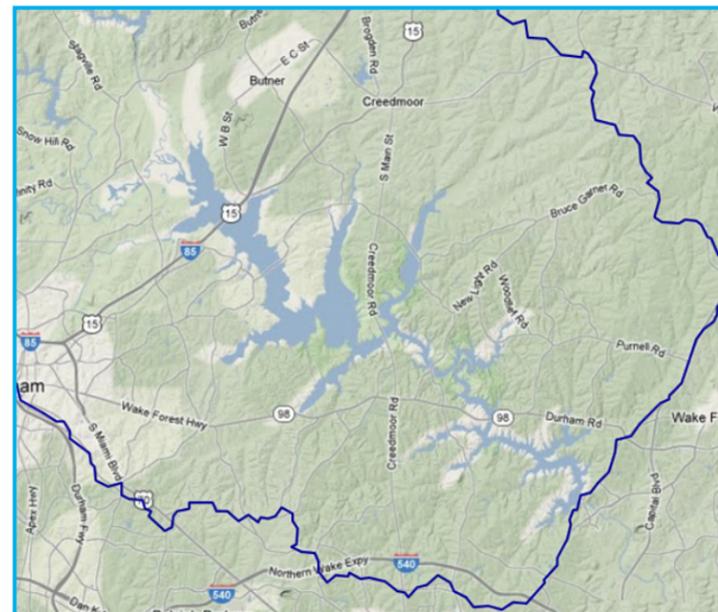
## STORMWATER SERVICES

The following stormwater services are provided within the City of Creedmoor, and are funded through the utility:

- Drainage system maintenance
- Falls Stage I Retrofit Projects
- Remedial capital improvements to drainage system
- Water Quality Permit (NPDES Phase II permit) compliance
- Leaf collection

## FALLS LAKE RULES

In 2008, Falls Lake was added to the state's biannual list of impaired waterbodies. The creation of this list, identifying waterbodies not clean enough to meet their intended uses, is a federally-mandated Clean Water Act requirement. Falls Lake is a drinking water supply, but is not meeting the water quality standards for its designated uses because of contributions of nitrogen and phosphorus from the areas that drain to it. Instead of waiting on the federal government to impose one-size-fits-all clean up requirements upon the areas that drain to the lake, Falls Watershed jurisdictions, stakeholders, and state regulators worked together to formulate our own strategy. Creedmoor has been working with other jurisdictions and the State for the last five years to negotiate the most favorable rules possible. The rules are very stringent, but they are a better alternative than the federally-imposed plan, called a Total Maximum Daily Load, or TMDL. The Stormwater Utility has been designed to keep Creedmoor in compliance with the Falls Rules.



Creedmoor lies within the Falls Lake Watershed

## STORMWATER UTILITY FEE

To keep up with the rising costs of stormwater services, the City of Creedmoor implemented a utility fee. A fee is fairer than a tax in assigning costs to property characteristics that are responsible for increased stormwater runoff. There are three components to the fee.

**First**, there is a fixed rate to cover utility administration of \$12 per parcel per year. **Second**, there is a rate based on the gross property area as it relates to stormwater runoff (see rate structure below). There are four tiers of gross area charges called blocks. The following table shows the area associated with the four blocks.

Acreage	Blocks
0 to less than 2 acres	1 block
2 to less than 10 acres	2 blocks
10 to less than 100 acres	3 blocks
100 or more acres	4 blocks

**Third**, there is a rate for a property's impervious area, to cover costs linked to the amount and quality of runoff from properties. The impervious area fee for single family residential parcels is uniform, and equals \$70 per year. The total fee is calculated by adding the three components together.

Fixed Rate	Rate per 2,600 sq. ft. of Impervious Area	Rate per Gross Area Block
\$ 12	\$ 70	\$ 25

## 2012 FEE CALCULATIONS

Fees assessed on the 2012 tax bill are reflective of property characteristics as of December 31, 2011. Data from the Granville Tax Office and aerial imagery were used to assess the gross land area and impervious area on each piece of property within the City of Creedmoor.

## BILLING

Beginning in 2012, the stormwater fee will be included in your annual tax fill sent out by Granville County in July. Owners of multiple parcels will receive one fee per parcel.

## TAX-EXEMPT STATUS

Churches, schools, non-profits, and other select groups within each jurisdiction are exempt from taxes, but are still subject to the stormwater fee. As these groups receive the stormwater services provided, and own properties that contribute to runoff, the allocation of costs in this way is fairer to all. Keep in mind that these groups will remain tax exempt, so the bill for these properties will only contain the stormwater fee.

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