

Herriman City Stormwater Utility Fee

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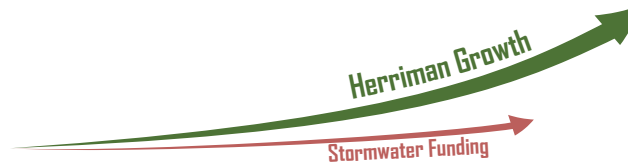
Beginning August 2019, a monthly Stormwater Utility fee will be assessed in Herriman. The amount billed depends on the type of structure on each property:

Class 1: Single Family Residential	\$7
Class 2: Multi-Family Residential 1 <i>Townhomes, Duplexes</i>	\$4.90
Class 3: Multi-Family Residential 2 <i>Condominiums, Stacked Housing</i>	\$4.20
Class 4: Institutional, Commercial, Apartments <i>Amount based on measured impervious area, at \$7 per ERU per month (see "How are fees calculated?")</i>	

Why am I getting charged?

As part of the Clean Water Act (1972), the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is tasked with protecting our nation's water quality. The EPA works with the State of Utah's Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) to ensure the state's stormwater and facilities are within Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) regulations. MS4s and their regulations are required in urbanized areas like Herriman.

Historically, all funding for Herriman's stormwater services has come from the City's general fund, which is based on tax revenue. As the city has grown in recent years, demands on the general fund have grown, as have the financial requirements to comply with federal and state MS4 mandates. Due to competing funding needs and interests in our fast-growing city, the stormwater program has been consistently and severely underfunded. This fact was confirmed by a recent audit performed by the DEQ, which showed the city was not meeting many MS4 requirements. Failure to comply would likely mean severe fines for the City. To meet the requirements, the City must increase funding for stormwater expenditures.



Though new to Herriman, a stormwater utility fee is a very common approach used by other cities in Utah to fund stormwater programs, including the vast majority of Salt Lake County. The fee amount is comparable to other cities in our area.

How are the fees calculated?

The fee structure is based on an Equivalent Residential Unit (ERU), or the amount of impact that a typical single-family residence has on the city's stormwater system.

After an extensive study, the amount of \$7 per ERU was deemed sufficient to fund the stormwater

system and bring it in compliance with federal and state requirements. Rather than have every single property in the city measured for exact square footage of impervious surface (surface that water runs off rather than soaking in the ground), the four classes were created based on Herriman's average amount of impervious surface, or about 4,000 square feet for a single-family residential lot.

So, Class 1 customers are billed at \$7 per month, or 1 ERU. Class 2 customers are billed at 0.7 ERUs, or \$4.90 per month, and Class 3 customers cover 0.6 ERUs or \$4.20 per month. Class 4 customers include all other types of properties, such as commercial, industrial, or government buildings, apartment complexes, churches, schools, parks, etc. Because these surfaces vary so greatly, the fee is calculated based on actual impervious surface area of the property.

But do I even use the stormwater system?

Every structure includes impervious surfaces that cause water to run off instead of soaking in, like roofs, driveways, sidewalks, and roads. The runoff water from these surfaces flows through gutters, grates, detention ponds, pipes, and other parts of the stormwater system. Thus, everyone uses the stormwater system and every entity with a building is responsible for paying the stormwater utility fee—including Herriman City itself!

