

STORMWATER UTILITY FEE

The City of Alexandria adopted a Stormwater Utility (SWU) Fee in May 2017 and first billed in May 2018 to fund the City's Stormwater Management Program, including Chesapeake Bay cleanup mandates and the operating programs and capital projects under the Flood Action Alexandria program (see below) launched in spring 2021 in response to recent flooding. Since the SWU Fee shifts stormwater management costs to the properties with a greater impact on stormwater runoff and requires all properties to pay, the fee funds stormwater management more equitably than by raising the real estate tax.

This is not a bill

The SWU Fee is billed as a separate line item on the real estate tax consistent with the [Code of Virginia §15.2-2114](#). All property owners are billed for the first half of the Fee in May and the second half billed in October. Properties that do not pay a real estate tax receive a bill for just the SWU Fee. If payment is not made by the property owner's bank or mortgage company, information on payment methods for the real estate tax bill is available at alexandriava.gov/Payments.

How Your Fee Is Determined

Single-family residential property owners are billed flat fees based on their property types. The fees for non-residential and multifamily properties are billed based on each property's total impervious area. This is the exterior impervious area that includes hard surfaces such as roofs, parking lots, and driveways, which don't allow rain or snow to soak into the ground. Impervious area differs from the floor area or interior square footage of a home or other building.

First half 2023 Stormwater Utility Fees due June 15, 2023, and the second half is due October 15, 2023.

View Your Stormwater Utility Fee Information

You can find the estimated annual Fee amount for an individual property online at <https://www.alexandriava.gov/stormwater-management/stormwater-utility-fees-and-credits-for-residential-properties>. The estimated SWU Fee billed in May is based on the adopted Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 rate and the October billing is based on the FY 2024 rate, as reviewed and set annually by City Council to be effective on July 1 each year.

Petitions for Adjustment Must Be Filed Within 30 Calendar Days After Billing

To file for an adjustment to your Fee with the Director of the Department of Transportation and Environmental Services, you must submit a *Stormwater Utility Fee Appeal and Petition for Adjustment Form* to adjust the annual billing within 30 calendar days after the first bills are issued in May 2023. This deadline is expected to be approximately June 15, 2023. Forms are available online at: <https://media.alexandriava.gov/docs-archives/tes/stormwater/stormwaterfeeappealform.pdf>. Grounds for appeal are limited to Section 5-6-238 of the City ordinance. City Council does not hear SWU Fee appeals.

Flood Action Alexandria

In response to flash flooding events over the last few years, City Council approved an increase in the fee for FY 2023 to continue funding the design and construction of large capacity projects to mitigate flooding and to accelerate the delivery of smaller 'spot improvement' capital project to address localized flooding, and fund acceleration of storm sewer operations and maintenance. The Fee also funds the new Flood Mitigation Grant Program launched in August 2021 that provides a reimbursement of up to 50% of the total cost up to a maximum City match of \$5,000 for implementing eligible flood mitigation measures on private property. More information is available at alexandriava.gov/FloodAction.

Additional Information

For more information, including how property owners can lower their fees in 2024 and beyond by implementing select practices that reduce stormwater runoff or improve stormwater quality, visit <https://www.alexandriava.gov/stormwater-management/stormwater-utility-fee> or contact the Stormwater Management Division at stormwater@alexandriava.gov or 703.746.6499.