



# Stormwater Utility

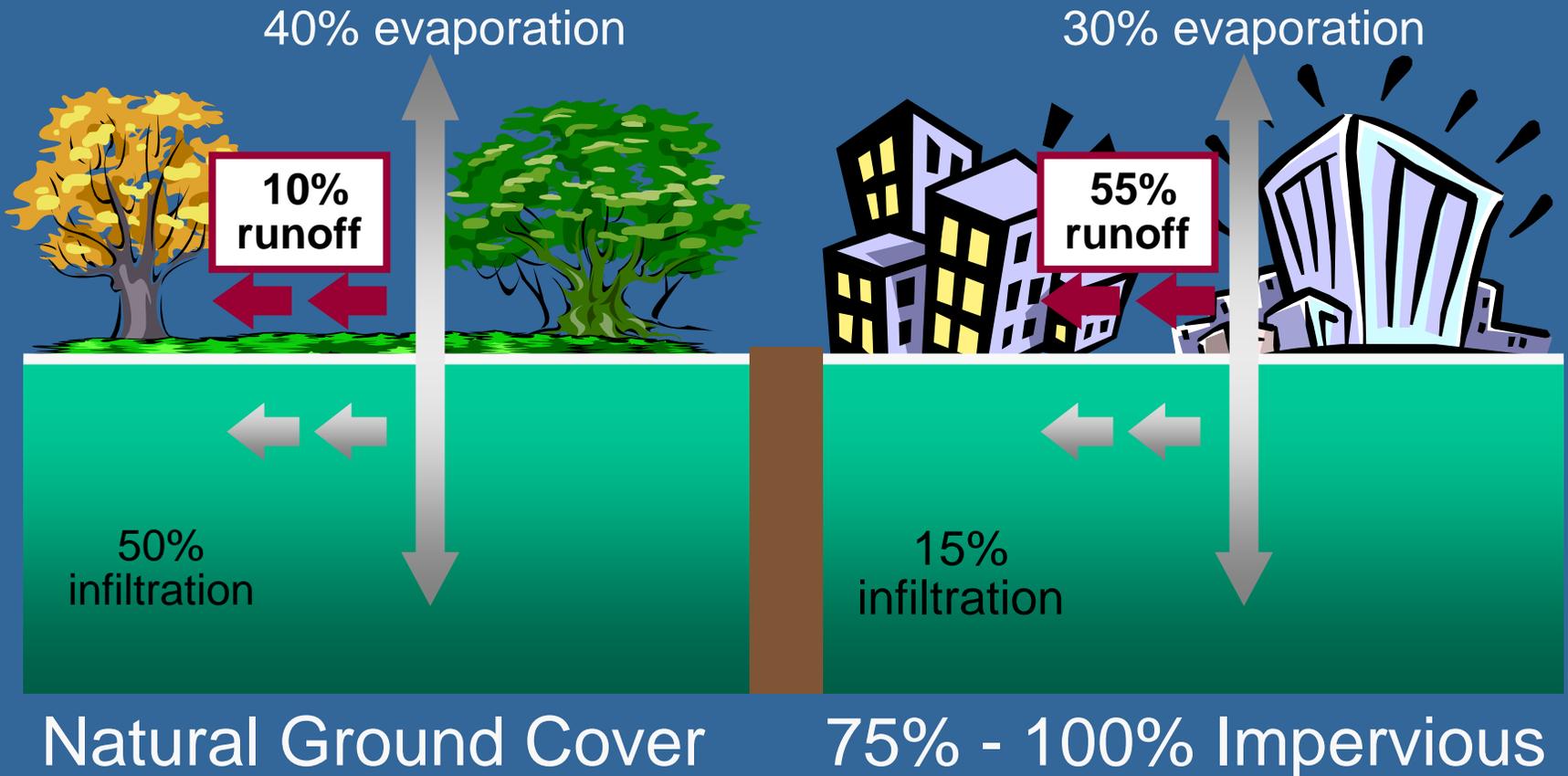
## Public Outreach Fall and Winter 2009

# How can we better address our stormwater flooding needs?

- **Dedicated funding reduces reliance on General Fund**
- **Similar to any other utility**
  - **Water**
  - **Sanitary**
  - **Natural Gas**
  - **Electricity**

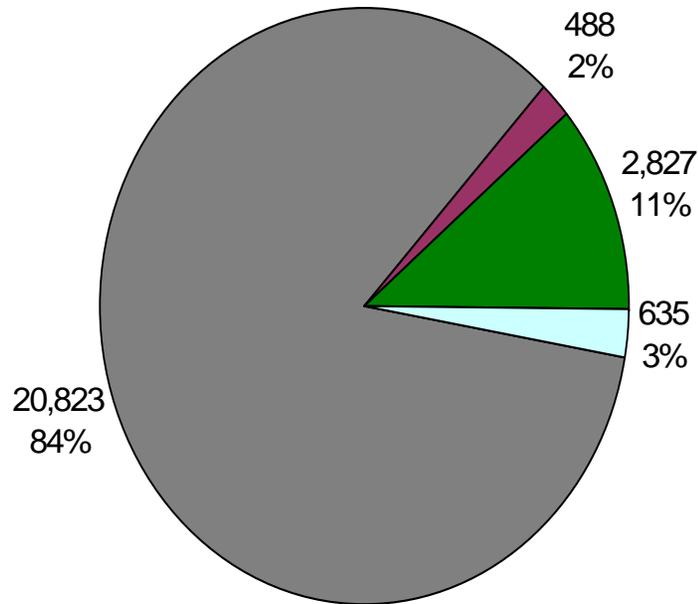


# Impervious Surfaces and Stormwater Runoff

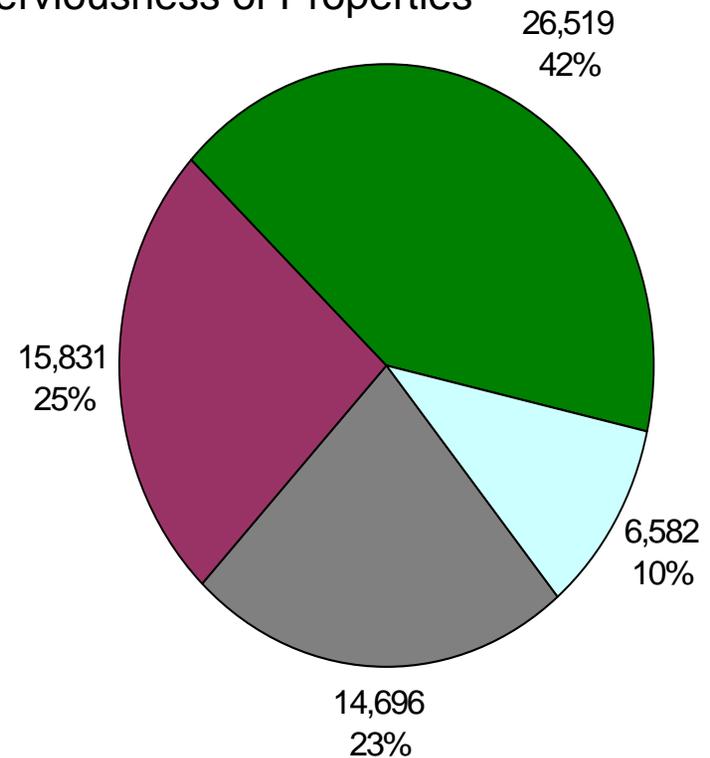


# Stormwater Utility Fees Will Be Based on Impervious Area

Number of Properties



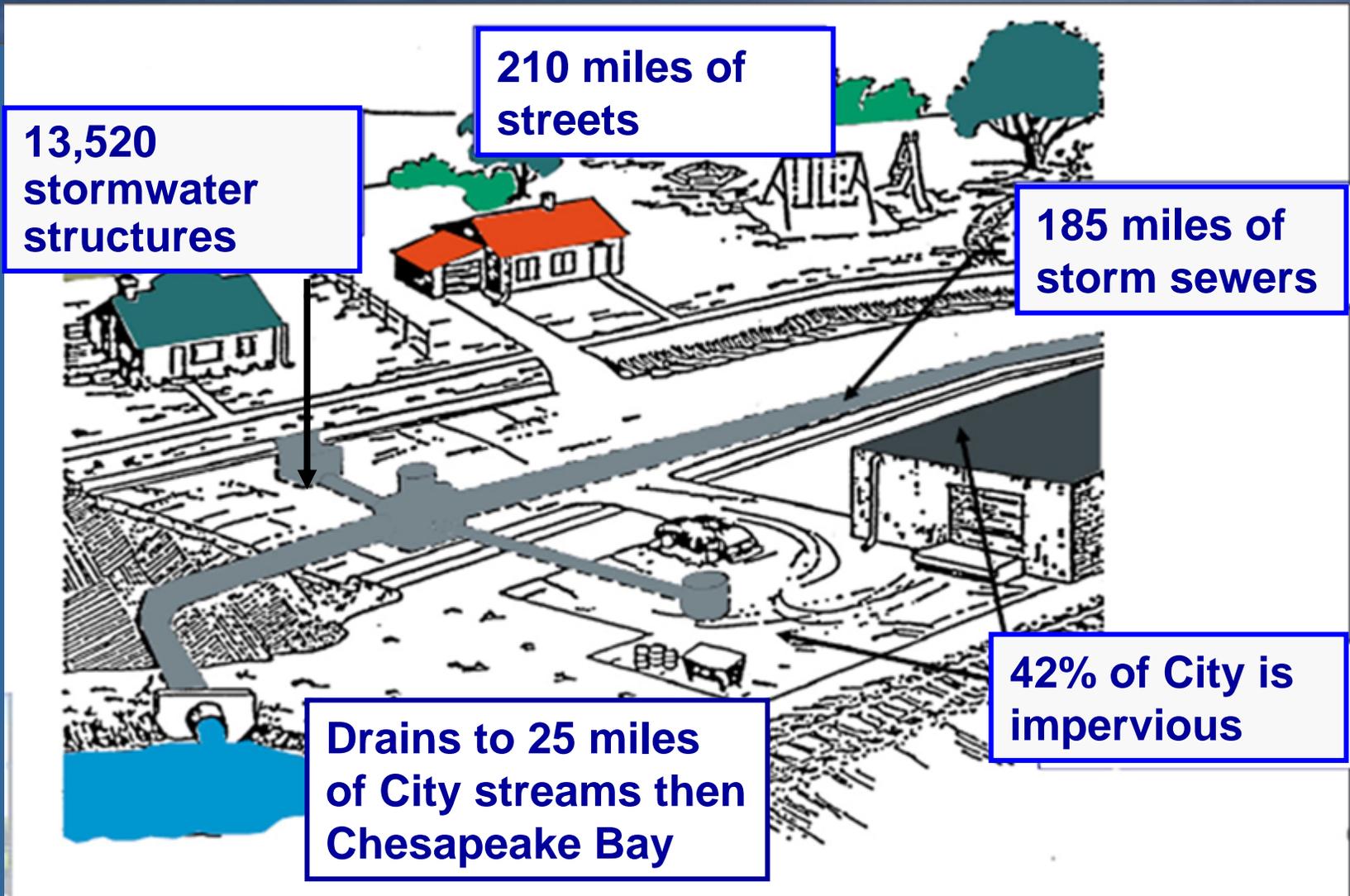
Imperviousness of Properties



# How would a Stormwater Utility program work?

- Owners of properties that contribute to stormwater runoff will be charged a user fee
- User fee based on amount of impervious surface contributing to stormwater runoff
- Properties with greater impervious area contribute more to stormwater needs
- Credits will be provided for on-site stormwater management

# City's Stormwater Infrastructure



# How does the City manage stormwater?

- Clean and inspect sewers and catch basins
- Repair and replace storm sewer infrastructure



# How does the City manage stormwater?

- Construct improvements to stormwater infrastructure



# How does the City manage stormwater?

- Maintain streams and channels
- 5% of tax parcels are vulnerable to flooding



# Stormwater Funding Options

## Existing Stormwater Funding

- General Fund
- Competes with other city-wide priorities
- Each property's contribution based on property value

## Proposed Stormwater Utility

- Typically set up as an enterprise fund
- Dedicated revenue for stormwater program
- Based on extent to which a property contributes to stormwater runoff (impervious area)

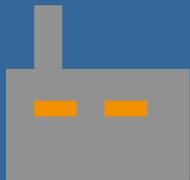
# The selected rate structure should be fair and simple



Residential



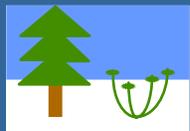
Flat Fees



Non-Residential  
& Multi-Family  
Residential



Actual Impervious  
Area



Undeveloped



No Fees

# The typical residence defines the base unit (**E**quivalent **R**esidential **U**nit)

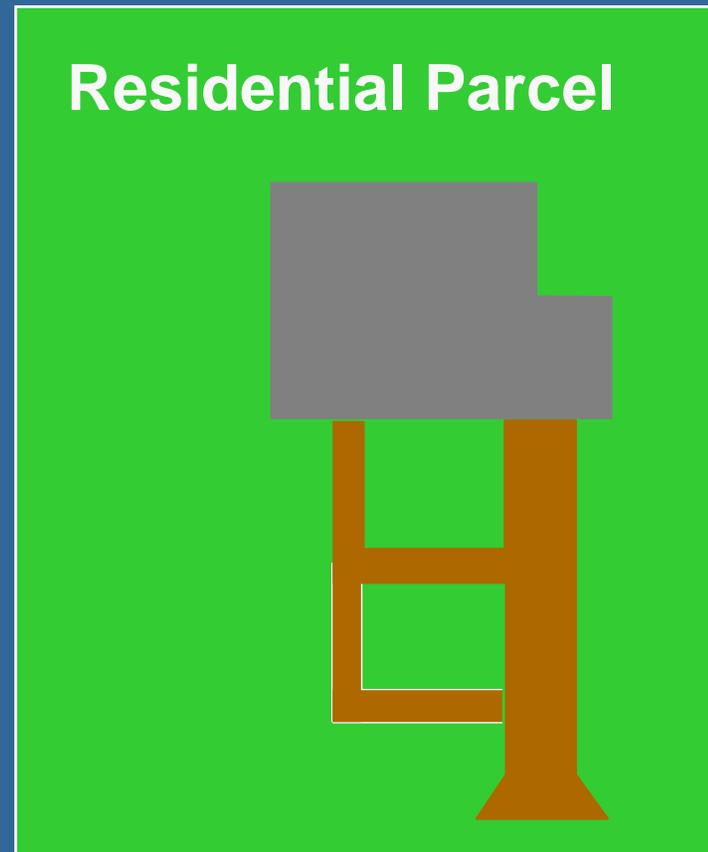
House	1,550 ft <sup>2</sup>
Other Impervious	421 ft <sup>2</sup>
Total	1,971 ft <sup>2</sup>

Single Family Detached < 3,942 ft<sup>2</sup> = 1 **ERU**

Single Family Detached > 3,942 ft<sup>2</sup> = 2 **ERU**

Single Family Attached = 0.43 **ERU**

Single Family Semi-Detached = 0.43 **ERU**

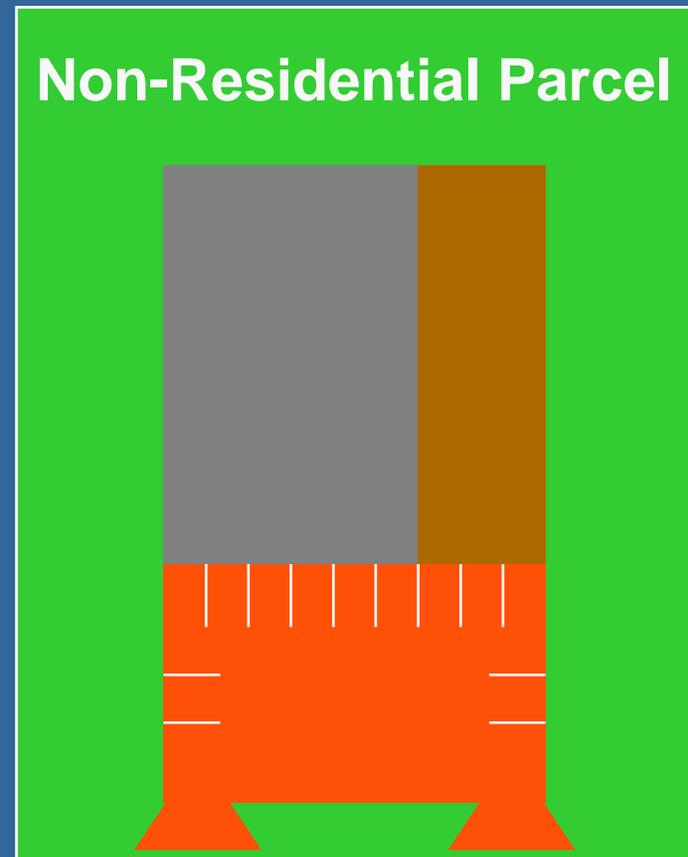


Single Family Detached

# Non-Residential & Multi-Family billed as multiples of the base unit

Building	6,000 ft <sup>2</sup>
Parking	10,000 ft <sup>2</sup>
Other Impervious	3,710 ft <sup>2</sup>
Total	19,710 ft <sup>2</sup>

$$\frac{19,710 \text{ ft}^2}{1,970 \text{ ft}^2} = 10 \text{ ERU}$$



# Stormwater Utility Jurisdictions Comparison Virginia & Washington Metro Area

<b>Jurisdiction</b>	<b>Land Area (Sq. Miles)</b>	<b>Approximate Population</b>	<b>Rate (\$/Yr/Unit)</b>
Norfolk, VA	66	241,727	96.96
Virginia Beach, VA	310	439,467	73.00
Portsmouth, VA	33	99,617	72.00
Newport News, VA	69	181,647	58.20
Hampton, VA	55	146,878	55.20
Chesapeake, VA	353	210,834	53.40
Takoma Park, MD	2	18,540	48.00
Montgomery Co., MD	496	932,131	45.00
Gaithersburg, MD	10	57,365	45.00
Richmond, VA	60	193,777	45.00
Prince William Co., VA	345	357,503	26.36

# Proposed Stormwater Utility Rate

- **Single Family (20,823 parcels)**
  - Typical detached (8,570 parcels) \$48/yr
  - Larger detached, 2 x typical (546 parcels) \$98/yr
  - Attached & semi-detached (11,707 parcels)  
(0.43 x median) \$20.64/yr

# Proposed Stormwater Utility Rate

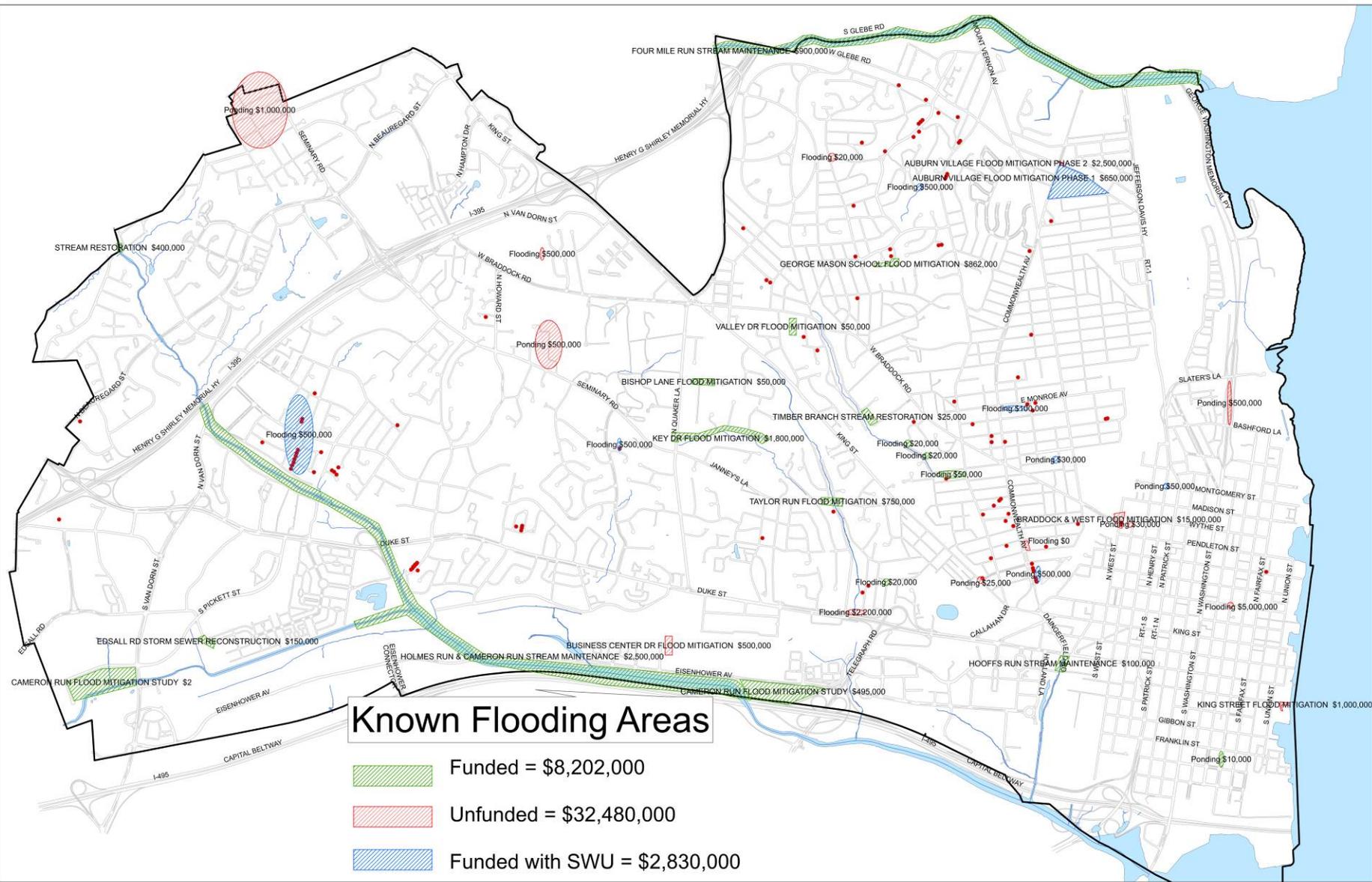
- **Multi-Family (488 parcels) & Non-Residential (3,090 parcels)**
  - Annual fee is dependent on impervious area
  - **(\$48 per 1,971 ft<sup>2</sup>) x (ft<sup>2</sup> of impervious area)**

# Stormwater Program Overview

- **Infrastructure**
  - **Prioritization of projects and needs**
  - **Capital Improvement Projects**
  - **Operation & Maintenance**
- **State and Federal Environmental Regulations**
- **Climate Change**

# Proposed Stormwater Utility Budget

- **Stormwater Utility Rate of \$48 annual ERU ~ \$2.6M annual revenue**
- **Enhanced storm sewer maintenance ~ \$250K**
  - Increased inspection & cleaning of catch basins
  - Increased inspection & cleaning of storm sewers
- **Drainage infrastructure capital improvements ~ \$2.35M**



# Proposed Stormwater Utility Fee Funded Drainage Improvements

- Street and basement flooding from right-of-way, Commonwealth Ave & Glebe Rd (Auburn Village), \$650k
- Basement flooding adjacent to Hooff's Run Park, 60 120 blocks Commonwealth Ave, \$500k
- Basement flooding from stream overflow, 300 block Beverly Drive, \$500k
- Basement flooding from City right-of-way and properties, 900 block N. Paxton, 500 - 600 block N. Pegram, \$500k

# Proposed Stormwater Utility Fee Funded Drainage Improvements

- Property flooding due to stormwater management pond overflow, Templeton Place, \$500k
- Alley and basement flooding due to storm drain surcharging, E. Monroe & E. Nelson, 10 - 110 blocks, \$100k
- Ponding due to undersized curb inlet, N. Henry at Montgomery, \$50k
- Ponding in gutter, Adams Av, 200 block, \$30k

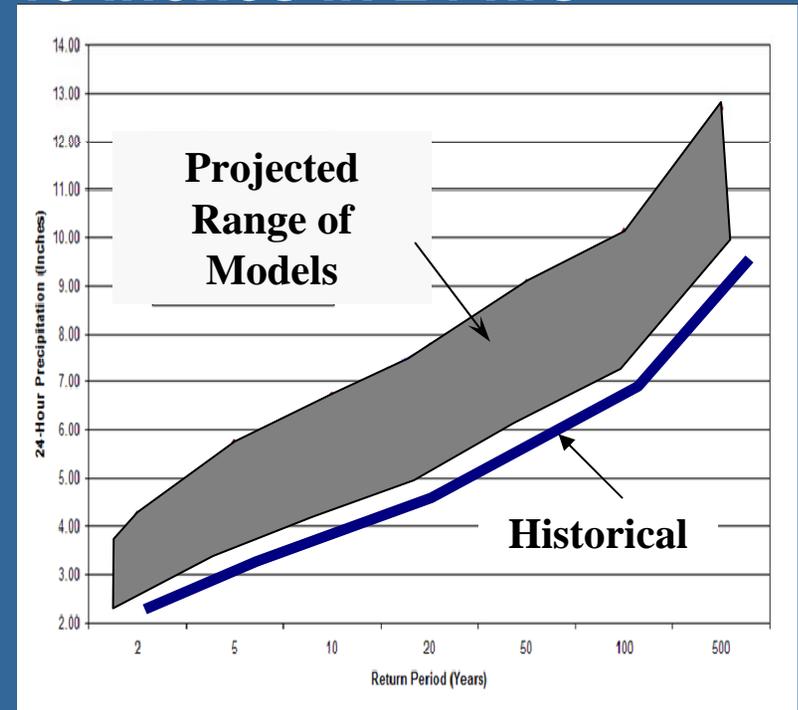
# Why does the City need to protect stormwater quality?



- **Environmental Action Plan 2030, Water Resources Principle Goal to establish funding source such as SWU**
- **State & Federal requirements:**
  - Chesapeake Bay Preservation Act & Regulations
  - Presidential Executive Order and new EPA “Bay czar”
  - Virginia Stormwater Management Act & Regulations
  - VSMP Permit Regulations (amended Oct 2009)
  - VSMP Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) Permit
  - Total Maximum Daily Loads (Local and Chesapeake Bay)
  - Erosion & Sediment Control Law & Regulations
  - National Flood Insurance Program requirements

# Climate Change Predictions for Stormwater Runoff

- Storm intensities will be greater
  - Storms with a 100 year recurrence currently produce 7.8 inches in 24 hrs and in the future will produce up to 10 inches in 24 hrs
- Storm frequencies will increase
  - Storms historically occurring once every 100 years will occur every 20 – 50 years



# Next Steps

- **Community and stakeholder outreach: Fall – Winter 09**
- **Recommendations to Council: February 2010**
- **Decisions on funding options: May 2010**
- **Implementation (if approved): November 2010**

*Thank You*



**Questions & Answers**  
**Transportation & Environmental Services**  
**703.746.4025**