

# Stormwater Frequently Asked Questions

Summer 2021



## ➤ What Is Stormwater Runoff?

Stormwater runoff is the water that flows off of roofs, driveways, parking lots, streets, and other hard surfaces during rain events and snowmelt. Any water not absorbed into the soil is also considered runoff. Stormwater and snowmelt that flows into ditches, culverts, and storm sewers does not receive any treatment to remove pollutants before entering our rivers and streams.

## ➤ What Is Impervious Area?

Impervious areas are hard surfaces such as structures, asphalt, compacted gravel, concrete, or other man-made surfaces that prevent stormwater from being absorbed by the soil.

## ➤ Why Does Brandon Need To Manage Its Stormwater Runoff?

Much like water, sewer, roadways, or solid waste systems, stormwater must be managed to protect our drinking water supplies, prevent flooding and preserve natural resources. Management is essential to protect the quality of the waterways we use for drinking water supplies, recreational activities, and for the health of local wildlife.

## ➤ Why Is The City Starting A Stormwater Utility Fee?

After completing a stormwater utility feasibility, the City decided to adopt a stormwater utility fee to pay for stormwater infrastructure capital, operation, and maintenance. The primary benefit to instituting a utility fee is it fairly distributes the cost of the City's stormwater services across all eligible properties based on the parcel's contribution to stormwater runoff.

## ➤ How Is The Fee Calculated?

The City of Brandon will adopt a stormwater utility fee to fund the City's program. A stormwater utility fee is based on total property area and the amount of impervious area on a property that prevents rainfall or snowmelt from soaking into the ground. The cost for a residential property will be \$4.91 per month in 2022. The cost for a pollution generating non-residential property will be \$0.01470 per square foot of impervious area. The cost for a non-pollution generating non-residential property will be \$0.00980 per square foot of impervious area. The rate will increase by 5% annually between 2022 & 2027.

## ➤ When Will This Go Into Effect?

The utility will be created as a City Ordinance in 2021. The rate will change utility bills starting in January 2022. More information about rates and billing will be available in the Fall of 2021.

## Stormwater Facts



There are 3,670 parcels in Brandon with more than 37 million square feet of impervious surface.



On average, residential properties in Brandon are 38% covered by impervious surfaces.



Non-residential parcels in Brandon are covered on average, with 61% impervious surfaces.



One inch of rain on an acre of land is the equivalent of 27,154 gallons of water, weighing about 113 tons.



Pollutants picked up by stormwater can be carried to sources of drinking water on the surface and underground.



Residents can help by picking up litter, disposing of trash and pet waste appropriately and never changing the oil of a vehicle near a stormwater drain.



The City of Brandon has listed over \$6 million in stormwater infrastructure projects.