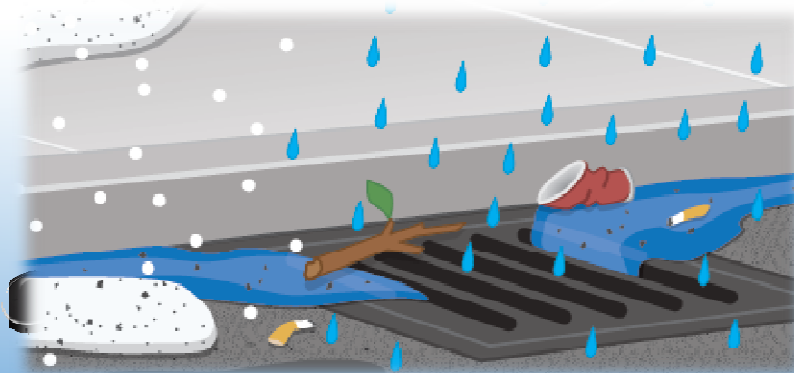




City of Peterborough

STORMWATER PROTECTION FEE

Committee of the Whole
November 6, 2017



Stormwater is...

The name given to rain or melted snow that falls and runs along the ground.

Collected in a series of ditches, sewers and ponds and carried to our local creeks, or directly to the Otonabee River

Contains significant pollutants, often exceeding provincial water quality objectives after a rainfall

The facts:

Urbanization results in significantly more stormwater being generated than would occur naturally and reduces the amount being soaked into the ground

The City's stormwater infrastructure includes over 12,500 manholes and catch basins, 320km of storm pipe, 31 storm water ponds, 230 outfalls emptying into various watercourses, as well as many ditches culverts

All of this infrastructure has a value of approximately \$508 million

A new model for stormwater funding

“Stormwater fees provide a dedicated, stable, fair and equitable funding source, and incent better property management”, Environmental Commissioner of Ontario, 2016



In 2016, staff, with their consulting team, undertook the Water Resource Funding Study

In February of this year, Council endorsed the implementation of a Stormwater Protection Fee

Over the past 8 months, staff has worked to develop the details of a Stormwater Protection Fee Program (SWPF)

Details of the Stormwater Protection Fee program

The SWPF will be included on tax bills in the summer of 2018, and identified in the “Special Charges” box

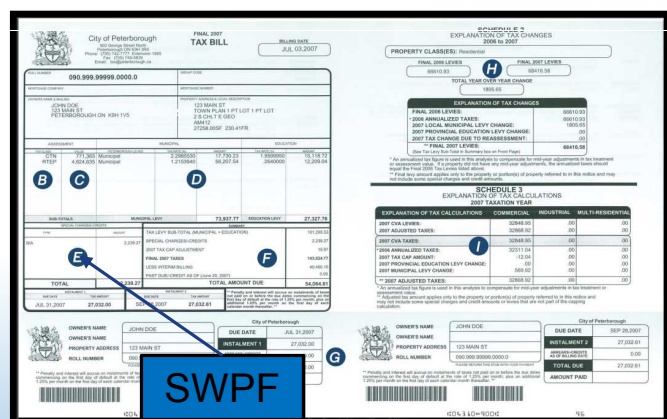
The SWPF is calculated individually for each property using the following formula:

$$\text{SWPF} = \text{Effective Runoff Area (ERA)} \times \text{Stormwater Sewage Rate (SSR)}$$

Where, the ERA is based on a property's total hard (impervious) and soft (pervious) surfaces

$$\text{ERA (m}^2\text{)} = (0.9 \times \text{Imp.}) + (0.05 \times \text{Perv.})$$

And, the SSR is a rate set annually according to budget needs and confirmed by Council. In 2018, the budget includes \$620,000 dedicated for the SWPF, this results in a SSR of \$0.054 per square metre of ERA



The image shows a sample City of Peterborough tax bill for the year 2017. The bill is divided into several sections. A blue arrow points to a box labeled 'SWPF' (Special Charges) in the bottom left corner of the bill. The bill includes property information, a table of charges, and a summary of the total amount due. The 'SWPF' box is highlighted with a blue background and a blue arrow pointing to it from the left.

Lets take a look at this property and determine the SWPF....

Here's our formula...

SWPF = Effective Runoff Area (ERA) x Stormwater Sewage Rate (SSR)

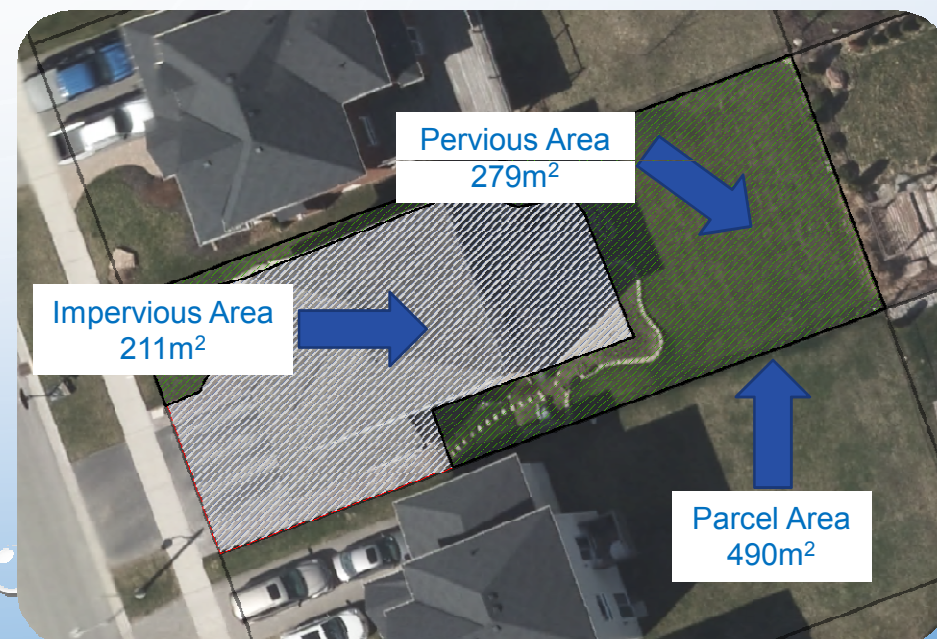
$$\text{ERA} = (\text{Impervious Area} \times 0.9) + (\text{Pervious Area} \times 0.05)$$

The impervious area is multiplied by a larger factor than the pervious area. This accounts for the fact that impervious areas produce more runoff, and therefore is given greater "weight" in the calculation.

If our Stormwater Sewage Rate for 2018 is \$0.054/m²-ERA, then

$$\text{SWPF} = [211 \times 0.9] + (279 \times 0.05) \times 0.054$$

Annual SWPF = \$11.01



Details of the Stormwater Protection Fee program

SWPF Credits and Subsidies

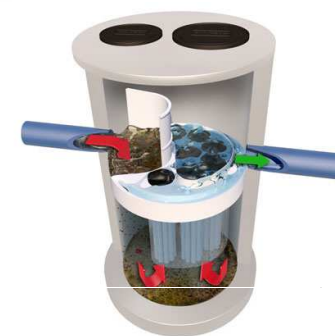
The program includes up to a 50% credit, available to all industrial, commercial, institutional and multi-residential properties

Single family residential (SFR) properties are not included, research into other municipalities indicates a credit is not substantial enough to incentivize action on these properties

The credit system recognizes existing and proposed stormwater management controls in three categories; peak flow reduction, water quality improvements and water volume reductions.

A subsidy program is being developed for all properties (including SFR), that will help offset the costs to implement and construct SWM controls and best management practices

Staff plans to continuously monitor and improve these programs to maximize their effectiveness in reducing the negative impacts of stormwater



Stormwater Management Controls



Details of the Stormwater Protection Fee program

Appeals

A process has been developed to resolve appeals related to the SWPF and the Sanitary Sewage Rate

An appeal can be made due to a disagreement with the calculated fee or to resolve errors and miscalculations

The intent is to resolve appeals at the Staff level, through a simple and transparent process

The Director would make a final determination on any appeal based on the evidence presented by the property owner



Details of the Stormwater Protection Fee program

Exemptions and Fee Caps

Properties are categorized using the MPAC property code system

Properties identified as Conservation Authority Lands and Managed Forest Properties are exempt from paying a fee

In 2018, a maximum SWPF or fee cap, of \$2,000 is applied to the following property types:

- Post secondary, secondary and elementary schools
- Other educational institutions
- Hospitals
- Places of Worship

The fee cap of \$2,000 was selected to lower the fee for large, previously tax exempt property, considered to be outliers in comparison to similar property types

In 2018, only 5 properties would have a fee greater than \$2,000. Staff will assess the financial circumstances annually and may recommend adjustments in the fee cap

What to expect as we implement the SWPF...

A significant number of questions and inquiries are expected, to assist with these, staff are:

- Creating guidance documents, and information sheets for the website. This includes a web app to “look up” your property, see how we mapped your hard surface and a sample of your SWPF calculation
- Other educational and notification initiatives including;
 - advertisements (paper and radio)
 - tax bill mail outs
 - social media ads and posts, including developing a video to explain the new fee
 - training of other staff that may be questioned about the SWPF



What to expect as we implement the SWPF

Immediately after the Sewage Rate By-Law is passed, staff will finalize website material, including forms and applications for appeals and credits. The intention being that these would be ready early in 2018 and residents may submit appeals or apply for credits

The Rethink the Rain program, an educational initiative will continue to educate residents about the importance of stormwater and policy and procedural documents will be prepared to create the Stormwater Improvement Subsidy Program for 2019

Staff will continuously monitor and analyze the program, to look for efficiencies and improvements, with a goal of maximizing the implementation of SWM controls and BMP's on private property.

It's all one water!



Thank-you

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