HOW IS YOUR MUNICIPALITY PAYING FOR STORMWATER MANAGEMENT?

Does your municipality have a **stable, dedicated, and fair funding mechanism** to modernize drainage infrastructure, reduce flooding, and clean up local waterways?



Recent storms have shown us what happens when water overwhelms our aging stormwater systems. Each of our homes and businesses are vulnerable to poorly supported water infrastructure. Unfortunately, not everyone is paying their fair share to upgrade and maintain those systems.

THERE ARE OVER 2,000 STORMWATER MANAGEMENT UTILITIES IN USA

WHAT IS A STORMWATER FEE PROGRAM?

Similar to a water or sewer utility, a stormwater utility assesses a user fee, which in this case is based on the extent of hard surfaces on a property. It is generally regarded as the most effective - and equitable - model to fund needed improvements to local stormwater infrastructure. Revenue is kept separate from general funds, so it cannot be used for other needs.

WATER QUALITY IMPROVEMENT

- Rainwater kicks up oil, fertilizers, bacteria, and toxic chemicals before arriving directly into a water body.
- Stormwater utilities fund the filtration, treatment, and reduction of water.
- It also helps to stabilize green infrastructure, like rain gardens, permeable pavement, and urban tree trenches—which use nature to filter out pollutants organically.

INCREASED EFFECTIVENESS

Consistent funding is needed to build long-term infrastructure such as clearing culverts, widening storm pipes, and maintaining retention ponds to catch flush flooding before it hits neighborhoods.

FAIR & EQUITABLE FUNDING

Property owners pay based on their relative stormwater flows from impervious surfaces (like roofs, driveways, and parking lots), not based on their property tax assessment.

INCENTIVES FOR PROPERTY OWNERS

If a homeowner or business installs green infrastructure, the utility can approve a credit that lowers their monthly bill.

DEDICATED REVENUES

Every dollar raised must be used strictly to maintain, repair, and upgrade stormwater systems and address local pollution.

TOWNS WITH STORMWATER UTILITIES FEES

New Brunswick City, Middlesex County
Raritan Township, Hunterdon County
Maplewood Township, Essex County
Borough of Carlstadt, Bergen County

There are over 2,000 stormwater utilities in the USA.

STORMWATER UTILITY SUBCOMMITEE

Jersey Water Works members are eager to share insights and information. To connect, email us at: info@jerseywaterworks.org.

www.jerseywaterworks.org

JERSEY WATER WORKS
Smart infrastructure. Strong communities.

STORMWATER RESOURCE LIST

Guides, checklists, and tools for New Jersey communities

01 **ANJEC Stormwater Utility Brochure**
https://anjec.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/08/2026-Stormwater-Utility-Final.pdf

02 **ANJEC Stormwater Management Brochure**
https://anjec.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/06/Stormwater-brochure-V-3-11.25-x-8.75-in-1.pdf

03 **ANJEC MS4 Permit Checklist**
https://anjec.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/04/MS4-Tier-A-Permit-brochure.pdf

04 **Stormwater Utility Can Facilitate Green Infrastructure**
https://www.jerseywaterworks.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/12/SWUs-Can-Facilitate-GI-12022022.pdf

05 **New Jersey Future Stormwater Utility Resource Center**
https://stormwaterutilities.njfuture.org/

06 **New Jersey Future – MS4 Permit Primer**
https://www.njfuture.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/NJF_MS4PermitPrimer.pdf

07 **NJDEP Stormwater Utility Guidance**
https://www.nj.gov/dep/dwq/SWU_stormwaterutility.html

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