

Chapter 13.22

Stormwater Management

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13.22.010 Purpose. Absent effective maintenance, operation, regulation and control, existing stormwater drainage conditions in all drainage basins and sub-basins within the City constitute a potential hazard to the health, safety and general welfare of the City. Natural and man-made stormwater facilities and conveyances together constitute a stormwater system and effective regulation and control of stormwater requires formation, by the City, of a Stormwater Management Utility. (Ord. 806 §1, 2009)

13.22.020 Definitions. The following terms used in this Chapter shall be defined as follows:

"City" means the City of Scappoose.

"City Council" means the City Council of the City.

"Customer" means the person in whose name service is rendered as evidenced by the signature on the application/contract for stormwater, sanitary sewer or water service or, in the absence of a signed instrument, by the receipt of such services and payment of bills for such service regularly issued in his/her/its name.

"Equivalent Service Unit (ESU)" means a configuration of development or impervious surface estimated to contribute an amount of runoff to the City's stormwater system which is approximately equal to that created by the average developed single family residence within the City. One ESU is equal to 2,750 square feet of impervious surface area.

"Impervious Surface" means that hard surface area which either prevents or retards the entry of water into the soil mantle on real property and/or causes water to run off the property surface in

greater quantities or at an increased rate of flow from that present under natural conditions. Impervious surfaces may include, but are not limited to, rooftops, concrete or asphalt paving, walkways, patios, driveways, parking lots or storage areas, and oiled, macadam or other surfaces which similarly impede the natural infiltration of stormwater.

"Developed" means an area which has been altered by grading or filling of the ground surface, or by construction of any improvement or other impervious surface area, which affects the hydraulic properties of the location.

"Single Family Residential" means property which is improved with a dwelling unit for occupancy by a single family or a similar group of people. A single family residence also may be an individual dwelling, manufactured home, flat or unit in a multi-family building, with the exception of multi-story buildings providing adult care accommodations with full-time, on-site staff.

"Undeveloped" means any area which has not been altered by grading or filling of the ground surface, or by construction of any improvements or other impervious surface area, which affects the hydraulic properties of the location. (Ord. 845 §1, 2015; Ord. 806 §2, 2009)

13.22.030 Stormwater Management Utility created. A. There is hereby established in the City a Stormwater Management Utility and incurred charge rate structure to fund such Utility.

B. All references to "the Utility" in this chapter refer to the Stormwater Management Utility.

C. The Utility will have regulatory authority and responsibility for planning, design, construction, maintenance, administration and operation of all City stormwater conveyances and facilities. (Ord. 806 §3, 2009)

13.22.040 Incurred Charge Imposed. A. All customers of the City's water utility and those persons otherwise responsible for impervious surfaces within the City which contribute runoff into the stormwater system or who otherwise use or benefit from the stormwater system of the City shall pay to the City a Stormwater Utility charge as provided herein. Charge amounts shall be set and amended from time to time by resolution of the City Council. (Ord. 806 §4, 2009)

13.22.050 Property Subject to Utility Control. A. The following assets of the City shall hereafter be the responsibility of the Utility: all properties, interests and physical and intangible rights of every nature owned or held by the City, however acquired, insofar as they relate to or concern stormwater; further including, Chapter 13.22 page 2 (Scappoose 11/15)

without limitation, all properties, interests, and rights acquired by adverse possession or by prescription, directly or through another, in and to the drainage or storage, or both, of stormwater, through, under, into or over lands, watercourses, drywells, pipes, channels, detention/retention facilities, sloughs, streams, ponds, lakes, and swamps, all beginning in each instance at a point where stormwater first enters the stormwater system and ending in each instance at a point where the stormwater exits from the system, and in width to the full extent of inundation caused by storm or flood conditions. (Ord. 806 §5, 2009)

13.22.060 Utility Administrator. A. The Stormwater Management Utility shall be managed by the a Utility Administrator designated by the City Manager. (Ord. 806 §6, 2009)

13.22.070 System of Charges. A. There is hereby imposed a system of fees on customers within the City served by, or to which is available for service, the Utility established by this Chapter.

B. Such fees are to be reasonable and necessary as a means for funding stormwater management within the City, and shall be sufficient to fund the administration, planning, design, construction, water quality programming, operation, maintenance and repair of the stormwater system, facilities, underground injection controls (UICs), conveyances and program.

C. The following rate structure is hereby established for all Utility customers in the City:

1. Single Family Residential: A monthly single family residential customer fee shall be set by resolution of the City Council for each residential dwelling. This uniform rate is based on each single family residence being equal to one equivalent service unit (ESU).

2. Undeveloped: Undeveloped areas shall not be charged under this structure of charges.

3. Other Customers: The monthly charge for all other customers shall be based upon the total amount of measured impervious surface on the property divided by one ESU, and rounded to the nearest whole number. The actual total monthly service charge shall be computed by multiplying the measured ESU's for the area by the monthly rate per ESU. The monthly rate shall be set by resolution of the City Council.

4. Certain Areas Exempted: The Utility shall apply its charge to all publicly owned impervious surfaces except streets and public rights of way.

5. Special Programs: Rate adjustments for special programs may be determined by the Utility Administrator on a case by case basis through individual contracts that delineate in-kind

contribution by the customer to management of the City's stormwater management system. (Ord. 845 §1, 2015; Ord. 806 §7, 2009)

13.22.080 Billing and Collection. A. Stormwater Utility charges for each Utility customer within the City shall be computed on a monthly basis. The amount to be billed shall be included on existing utilities billed as a separate line item.

B. A "stormwater only" billing shall be sent to those customers who are not currently receiving a Utility bill upon receipt of written request for stormwater service.

C. The City shall bill the occupier of the location being served by the Utility consistent with the City's water utility billing system. (Ord. 806 §8, 2009)

13.22.090 Penalties for Nonpayment of Charges. A. In the event that any Utility account shall become delinquent, water service may be terminated by the City and discontinued until all delinquent fees for the use of the stormwater system, sanitary sewer service, and water service shall have been paid in full. The provisions for collection provided herein shall be in addition to any rights or remedies which the City may have under the laws of the State of Oregon. The Stormwater Management Utility fee shall not become a lien against a customer's property. (Ord. 806 §9, 2009)

13.22.100 Stormwater Utility Account. A. All money collected as Stormwater Utility charges shall be deposited in the Stormwater Utility Account. (Ord. 806 §10, 2009)

13.22.110 Appeal of Charges. A. Any customer making a timely payment of the City's total utilities bill who considers the City's stormwater charge incorrect as applied to their impervious surface area or who otherwise disagrees with the Utility's rate determination, may apply to the Utility Administrator for a service charge adjustment, stating in writing the grounds for such an adjustment. The Utility Administrator will determine whether an adjustment to the charge is necessary to provide for reasonable and equitable application of the Utility service charge.

B. Appeals of decisions made by the Utility Administrator may be brought before the City Manager who may evaluate the determination of the Utility Administrator.

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C. Any appeal under this chapter shall be filed with the Utility Administrator no later than twenty (20) days after initial billing. Any subsequent appeal to the City Manager shall be filed with the City within twenty (20) days of the decision of the Utility Administrator. (Ord. 806 §11, 2009)

13.22.120 Classification. A. The City Council determines that the fees imposed by this Chapter are not taxes subject to the property tax limitations of Article XI, Section 11b of the Oregon Constitution. (Ord. 806 §12, 2009)

13.22.130 Severability. A. If any section, sentence, clause or phrase of this Chapter should be held to be invalid or unconstitutional by a court of competent jurisdiction, such invalidity or unconstitutionality shall not affect the validity or constitutionality of any other section, sentence, clause or phrase of this Chapter. (Ord. 806 §13, 2009)