



8/21/2009

Dear Floyd County Stormwater Utility Customer:

As you are likely aware, the Floyd County Commissioners and the Stormwater Board has adopted and implemented a stormwater user fee over the past two years to address various drainage requirements and needs as it pertains to quality and quantity. In addition to an unfunded, State and Federal mandates, the County is responsible for the inspection, maintenance, and replacement of tens of thousands of feet of culverts, storm sewers, roadside ditches, and other drainage ways. In order to address the stormwater mandates and help protect public safety, a storm water user fee was adopted by the County in February 2007.

To date this fee has been executed at a flat rate, which means all properties have been charged the same rate. However, it is obvious many sites have a different affect on drainage runoff quantity, as well as quality. In order to determine which sites have the greatest impact on both water quantity and water quality, it was necessary to establish a metric. The method of measurement selected was the amount of impervious surface on the property. Impervious surfaces typically generate a more runoff volume and have a higher intensity runoff when compared to natural conditions. These surfaces can also be attributed to excess pollutants for a variety of reasons. Per the aforementioned reasons, the Floyd County Commissioners recently looked at adopting an impervious surface-based stormwater utility. This means stormwater will be billed to all nonresidential properties based on the measured impervious surface per parcel. Residential properties will remain at the flat rate, as these properties have similar amounts of impervious surfaces. Because of this, many nonresidential properties would see an increase in their stormwater fee.

Floyd County recognizes that putting this fee in place will put a strain on utility customer's budgets during these hard economic times. So it has been proposed that Floyd County implement the impervious fee structure in an abatement type schedule. This means that your total bill would be reduced by a sliding scale in a four (4) year period. Starting this year your total fee would be reduced by 75%. In 2010 your bill would be reduced by 50%. In 2011 your bill would be reduced by 25%. Starting in 2012 there would no longer be an abatement. This would not be the only cut in your fee. Floyd County would also like to include a Low Impact Parcel credit to many property owners that minimize the strain on the drainage system. These parcels have less than seven (7) % of its lands in impervious surface. These low impact credits would automatically be

calculated by aerial photographs and GIS. These credits would automatically renew each year unless you lower your pervious lands or increase your impervious lands. Starting in 2010 we would also like to introduce a credits policy in which landowners would receive credits for being good stewards of the stormwater program and help reducing the pollution in our waters.

Floyd County would like to conduct a workshop that will allow you to come in and get your credit worksheet so you can receive all the credits you are eligible for. This workshop would be scheduled for **November 4th 2009**. This meeting would be held in the Commissioners Meeting Room on the 2nd floor of the City-County Building. For more detailed information regarding this meeting and available credits, please contact the Floyd County Stormwater Department at (812)948-5491 or (812)949-5446 or refer to the website addresses below.

If you are interested in more information regarding Floyd County's Stormwater program or would like to learn more about State and Federal mandates, please visit the websites listed below. If you do not have access to the internet, this information will be available from the Floyd County Stormwater Department.

www.floydcounty.in.gov

www.floydswed.org

<http://www.in.gov/idem/4900.htm>

In closing, we would like to thank you for taking the time to review this information. We hope you realize the importance of this program and the efforts that are being made to help ensure the safety of the community and the protection of our environment.