

TYPE 2 STORM WATER SERVICE FEE CREDIT APPLICATION

SUMTER COUNTY STORM WATER UTILITY
1289 NORTH MAIN STREET
SUMTER , SOUTH CAROLINA 29153

October, 2012

Purpose

Parcels within the unincorporated areas of the Sumter County that are charged a storm water fee based on total impervious surface may apply and qualify for a storm water credit. A storm water credit is a percentage reduction of the storm water fee for a single parcel that is categorized by use as either Commercial, Industrial, Non-profit, or fee assessed Agricultural. Parcels of the aforementioned types are charged an annual fee based on total impervious area as defined in Sumter County Ordinance Section 14-111 et al. A storm water credit alleviates an overestimation of storm water runoff from a given parcel, which is determined from an impervious surface map maintained by Sumter County. In cases where the impervious surface map does not provided an accurate estimation of the contribution of storm water runoff to surface water, one of two types of applications for credit may be made for a given parcel. A Type 1 Storm Water Credit Application involves a detailed analysis of a given parcel's hydrology (*Hydrology*: The study of movement, distribution, and quality of water) and must be completed and certified by a professional engineer. A Type 2 Storm Water Credit Application is more easily completed and does not require a professional engineer's certification. In cases where a storm water device retains storm water runoff, such as with storm water ponds and infiltration basins, in order to receive the full credit that such devices will allow, a Type 1 application must be completed. The following instructions are provided to complete a Type 2 Storm Water Credit Application.

Introduction

The following introduction does not provide essential information for completing the Type 2 Storm Water Credit Application, but is provided as supplementary information to Storm Water Credits.

A storm water fee is not applied to an improved parcel for all the storm water runoff that occurs during a rainfall event, but to only the increase of storm water runoff as a result of the improvements made to that parcel. A parcel of land had a given hydrology, or runoff characteristic, prior to development that was primarily based on soil type and ground cover. As a general rule, pre-development ground cover consisted of trees, pasture and some ground debris, such as bushes, leaves, fallen branches and the like. With the addition of roads, buildings and other modifications to ground cover and the removal of pre-development ground cover, the volume of runoff from a rainfall event increases. The storm water fee is used to pay for the management of this increase of storm water runoff from pre-development to post-development.

Impervious surfaces are those areas which prevent or impede the infiltration of storm water into the soil as it existed in a pre-development condition. In one practice of hydrology, the impedance to storm water infiltration is measured using curve numbers. For a given soil type, the curve number for a gravel road will be higher than the curve number for a dirt road, and both will have higher curve numbers than a lawn. A building or asphalt parking lot will have the highest curve number irrespective of soil type, as they completely impeded the infiltration of water into the soil. An impervious surface layer for a given parcel is determined using data available to Sumter County. However, the accepted methodology for determining the amount of impervious surface does not provide the curve number of any particular parcel. Therefore, estimating the increase in storm water runoff from an impervious surface map without other underlying hydrologic information may overestimate the post-development increase in runoff. The information you provide in this application, and that we verify, will help us determine if any adjustments should be made to the storm water fee. The following provides specific instructions on how to complete a Type 2 Storm Water Credit Application.

Instructions

A Type 2 Storm Water Credit Application consists of:

One pamphlet of instructions – Type 2 Storm Water Credit Application

Storm Water Credit Information Application form

One parcel specific map with a grid overlay (Obtained from the Storm Water Utility Dept.)

One Type 2 Storm Water Credit Table, which is parcel specific (Obtained from the Storm Water Utility Dept.)

The parcel specific map with a grid overlay and the Storm Water Credit Table are specific to the parcel for which a credit application is being made, and can be obtained at the Storm Water Utility Department, 1289 North Main Street, Sumter, SC, 29153, by presenting your current year's county tax notice.

Figure 1 is an example of a parcel specific map. The boundaries outlined in red (shown here) is the mapped impervious area for this specific parcel.

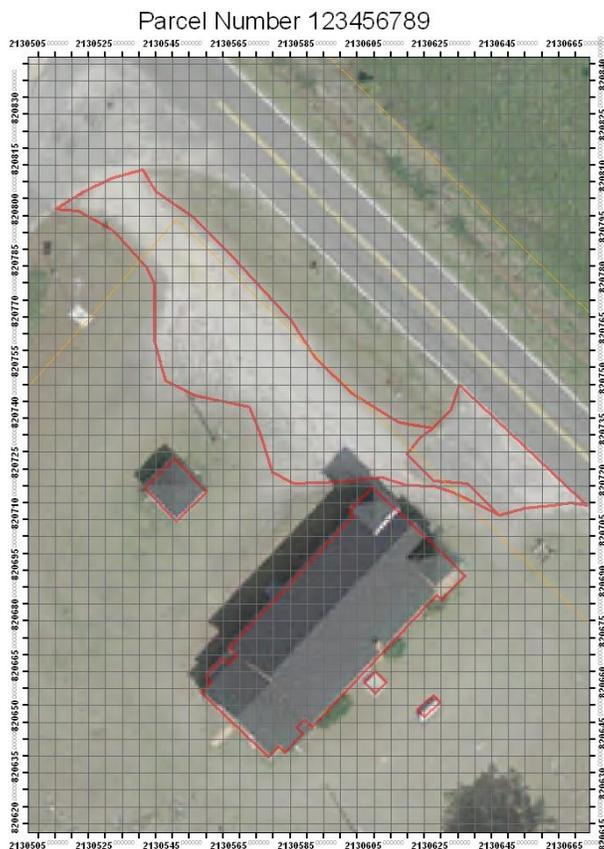


Figure 1. Parcel specific map with 5' x 5' grid.

Step 1 of the Type 2 Storm Water Credit Application

The purpose of the parcel specific map is for the property owner to mark those areas that have changed from when the impervious map was created, or to provide additional information regarding the actual cover that comprises the impervious area.

Where the actual ground cover of the indicated impervious area is a lawn, or a thick stand of grass, the property owner will mark each grid box with the letter “L”.

Where the actual ground cover of the indicated impervious area is dirt, or sparsely vegetated ground, the property owner will mark each grid box with the letter “D”.

Where the actual ground cover of the indicated impervious area is gravel, gravel or crushed stone, the property owner will mark each grid box with the letter “G”.

Where the actual ground cover is asphalt or structure, the property owner will not mark that portion of the map.

Step 2 of the Type 2 Storm Water Credit Application

After the property owner has completed marking the parcel specific map provided, the property owner may return the completed map with the parcel specific Storm Water Credit Table to the Storm Water Department.

| Storm Water Credit Table | | | | | |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------|------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------|
| | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| <u>Pre-Development</u> | | | | | |
| A | Soil Type | | A | (A,B,C or D) | |
| B | Curve Number, CN _{pre} | | 43 | (NRCS TR-55) | |
| C | Run-Off, Q _{pre} | | 0.2 | (5yr, 24hr Storm) | |
| <u>Post-Development</u> | | | | | |
| D | Impervious Area | | 176,145 | (A _{imp} , square feet) | |
| E | Curve Number, CN _{post} | | 98 | (NRCS TR-55) | |
| F | Run-Off, Q _{post} | | 4.4 | (5yr, 24hr Storm) | |
| <u>New Run-Off</u> | | | | | |
| | LAWN | Number of Boxes | (1G) X 100 square feet | Curve Number | 2G X 3G |
| G | | ^{1G} | ^{2G} | 49 | ^{4G} |
| | DIRT | Number of Boxes | (1H) X 100 square feet | Curve Number | 2H X 3H |
| H | | ^{1H} | ^{2H} | 83 | ^{4H} |
| | GRAVEL | Number of Boxes | (1I) X 100 square feet | Curve Number | 2I X 3I |
| I | | ^{1I} | ^{2I} | 88 | ^{4I} |
| J | | | | 4G+4H+4I | |
| Office use Only | | | | | |

Figure 2. Example of a parcel specific Storm Water Credit Table

Application Submittal and Review Process

A credit application will not be considered complete, and will not be processed unless it is accompanied with a complete **Storm Water Credit Information Application** form, the marked parcel specific map, and the parcel specific Storm Water Credit Table. It is the intent of the Storm Water Department to process applications within thirty (30) days of receiving a completed application package. Each application submitted to the Storm Water Department will be followed by a visit to the affected property; in cases where it is found the parcel specific map was incorrectly marked, it may take up to a one (1) year for the application to be processed. Applicants will be notified by mail of the result of a completed credit application once the review process is completed. Any storm water fee credit shall be applied to the fee appearing on the current county tax notice if the application is received by January 15th. A pending application for credit shall not constitute a valid reason for nonpayment of the current Storm Water Service Fee. The rate adjusted fee shall remain in effect provided no new impervious surfaces have been constructed since the date of the credit application.

With the presentation of the current year's tax notice, all storm water credit documentation may be obtained from:

Sumter County Storm Water Utility
1289 North Main Street
Sumter, South Carolina 29153

For questions regarding storm water credit applications, contact:

Sumter County Storm Water Utility
1289 North Main Street
Sumter, South Carolina 29153
Phone: 803-774-3854