

MS4 rate study and fee updates.

The Supervisors reviewed several drafts of the MS4 fee calculation since October 2017, and adopted the rate study prepared by Steckbeck Engineering dated December 12, 2017 via Ordinance 360 approved on December 26, 2017. The Supervisors held a public meeting with the Township's non-single family property owners on January 9, 2018 and received feedback on the rate study and ordinance. Subsequently to that public meeting, the Supervisors requested some changes to the rate study. The following are the changes made for consideration of a revised fee via Ordinance 362.

1. Impervious area calculations for all non-single family residential properties were reviewed and minor adjustments were made where necessary.
2. All private roads which are used as public roads (undedicated streets in new developments, and private streets in developments), were removed.
3. GIS map data updates were added utilizing the January 4, 2018 data provided by County Assessment, which modified some ERU assignments to properties.
4. Revisions from the above are incorporated into Section 5 (Table 2) and Appendix C.
5. The cost narratives and spreadsheet in Section 6 were modified to reflect the costs selected by the Supervisors. These costs were basically reimbursements to the tax revenue general fund. The following were removed from reimbursement to the general fund (\$157,677) which takes the ERU fee closer to the "low level of service" estimate in the rate study:
 - a. Item 4, Record Storage \$2,500
 - b. Items 8 through 11, cleaning, maintenance, and repairs of public catch basins, inlets, pipes, curbs, gutters, and BMP's \$28,800
 - c. Item 12, cleanup after storms \$2,500.
 - d. Item 13, yard waste collection, \$78,015.
 - e. Item 14, street sweeping, \$45,862.
6. Items previously removed from consideration of the MS4 fee (\$116,600) which were for the "high level of service" cost:
 - a. Items 23 and 24, MS4 inspections, televising of public assets, and proactive public asset replacements, \$20,000.
 - b. And, Items 25-28, cleaning and repair of stormwater facilities on private property, \$96,600.
7. The billing cost was reduced from \$40,000 to \$8,500.
8. The "billing" item in Section 8 was revised to indicate that Keystone Collections will be doing the billing.
9. A "Homestead Exclusion" credit was added for farms. Information about this credit appears in Section 7 and the credit manual (Appendix D). This is for consideration of the farm's home to be considered as 1 ERU.
10. The level of service analysis (minimum, moderate, and high) was removed from Section 8 and replaced with a simpler analysis based on the cost items selected by the Supervisors.

11. Information regarding property subdivisions and charging for undedicated roads was removed from the “reviews and changes to the model” item in Section 8.
12. The “Application Procedure” in the credit manual was updated to reflect the possibility of issuing credits for 2018 on the 2019 bills.
13. The sample credit calculation in the manual was revised to show that the credit percentage will be applied to the actual charge for the property and not the number of ERUs.
14. With all the above changes, numerous properties were decreased in assigned ERU’s, and the rate per ERU was reduced from \$41.15 to \$26.49 (35% reduction).