

# Benefits of a Utility

The Stormwater Utility will:

- Manage and upgrade the City's stormwater infrastructure, such as culverts and storm drains, so that systems continue to meet current regulations and would receive permits.
- Manage, maintain, and handle permitting for residential stormwater systems in the City, after the systems are brought up to current Vermont (2002) standards by residents or homeowners associations.
- Provide technical assistance to South Burlington property owners who need to bring their stormwater system up to current Vermont (2002) standards. A valid stormwater permit is part of the value of your home and property.

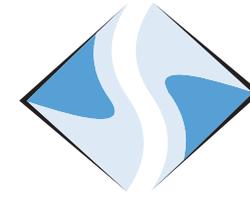


*Vermont Youth Conservation Corps volunteers plant the Bartlett Brook stormwater treatment wetland.*

# Your Job, My Job

The City is responsible for parts of the stormwater system that are in the public right of way and located on public property. This includes storm drains, culverts, conveyance piping, catch basins and stormwater outfalls.

Property owners are responsible for everything on their property. This includes cleaning leaves out of your rain gutters and removing gravel from your driveway.



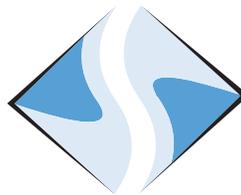
**South Burlington**  
Stormwater Utility

[www.sburl.com/stormwater](http://www.sburl.com/stormwater)

## An Introduction to Vermont's First Stormwater Utility



*Stormwater drain*



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# What is Stormwater?

Stormwater is water that runs off impervious surfaces such as rooftops, paved roads, driveways, and packed gravel roads.

Stormwater carries sediment and surface pollutants such as petroleum products,



*Construction runoff*

trash, phosphorus, and nitrogen.

Stormwater is washed down storm drains. Most

stormwater is not treated before it empties into our waterways and Lake Champlain.

## Stormwater and South Burlington

South Burlington contains all or a portion of six streams impaired by stormwater runoff, the highest number of any community in Vermont. Unmanaged stormwater is causing water pollution, erosion, flooding, and unstable streambanks in areas of South Burlington. Private stormwater systems that are not maintained have become a public problem. Expired permits and difficulty obtaining a valid stormwater permit are hindering property transfers in South Burlington.

## A Stormwater Utility

The City of South Burlington is proud of its history of providing valuable public services for residents and is recognized nationally for its natural resources. Unmanaged stormwater runoff jeopardizes these assets.

There are positive steps the City can and should take at this time to address stormwater and its related problems. Establishing a utility will help the City clean up streams and improve water quality.

The Utility is an efficient way to identify and manage stormwater problems, projects, and infrastructure upgrades. The Utility will provide a stable and adequate source of revenue to complete required maintenance and manage stormwater-related activities.

The entire area of the City of South Burlington, including City-owned and state-owned and maintained roads, culverts, and parking lots, will share the cost and receive services from the Stormwater Utility.

Stormwater is everyone's responsibility. All properties with impervious surface generate stormwater runoff.

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For more information visit our Web site, [www.sburl.com/stormwater](http://www.sburl.com/stormwater) to learn more and view an interactive map which shows stormwater problem areas and improvement projects.

## Stormwater Utility Fee

The Stormwater Utility user fee will be listed on existing sewer and water bills. Just like a water bill, the fee is based on service use.

A scientific process was used to calculate impervious surface area. The rate of \$4.50 per equivalent residential unit (ERU) per month is based on the typical single-family South Burlington home having 2,700 square feet of impervious surface (rooftops, driveways, walkways).

## User Fees

Every single-family home in South Burlington will be assessed a flat fee of \$4.50 per month for services provided by the Utility.

Duplexes with fee simple ownership will be assessed \$2.25 each per month. Triplexes with fee simple ownership will be assessed \$1.50 each per month.

The fee will be billed quarterly. The annual cost is \$54 for single-family homes, \$27 for duplexes, and \$18 for triplexes.

All other property owners (includes condominium ownership properties, businesses, institutions, and government) will be assessed a fee based on the amount of impervious surface.