PROPOSED CHANGE TO HOW THE CITY CALCULATES STORM SEWER FEE

The City is considering a change to how the storm sewer utility fee is calculated. The current fee is based on total lot area, and with this proposal, the storm sewer fee will be based on the property’s impervious area. With this new model 90 percent of customers will see a reduction or no change in their bill beyond any annual rate increases.

Switching to an impervious area model will help the City encourage the use of green infrastructure to manage stormwater and make the utility easier to understand and administer. This is an important shift for our City as we look to a future with more frequent high-intensity storms.

BENEFITS OF PROPOSED CHANGE

EQUITABLE
Eliminates non-residential and residential classifications and creates flat rate based on impervious area

ENCOURAGES GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE
Allows individuals, businesses and industries to lower their annual fees by reducing the property’s impervious area.

SIMPLIFY UTILITY FEES
Rates based each property’s impervious area makes the fee easier to understand and administer

EXAMPLE #1
.25 TOTAL ACRES
.1 IMPERVIOUS

$60.26 CURRENT
$62.12 FY17
$62.12 ANNUAL
$62.12 COST

EXAMPLE #2
10 TOTAL ACRES
5 IMPERVIOUS

$2,651.40 CURRENT
$3,106.15 FY17
$3,106.15 ANNUAL
$3,106.15 COST

EXAMPLE #3
100 TOTAL ACRES
75 IMPERVIOUS

$3,133.20 CURRENT
$46,592.25 FY17
$46,592.25 ANNUAL
$46,592.25 COST

QUESTIONS
Email sewer@cedar-rapids.org
Phone (319) 286-5826

CURRENT RATE STRUCTURE VS. PROPOSED RATE STRUCTURE

The current storm sewer rate effectively decreases as the size of a lot increases. The proposed system will maintain a flat rate regardless of the property’s size by charging $0.17 per ERU per day.