

INFORMATION



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## Stormwater Utility Facts

Approximately 90 percent of New Jersey waterways do not comply with water quality standards, and on average 60 percent of the pollution load is carried by stormwater. And as of 2017, New Jersey ranked fifth in the nation in flood insurance policies, with 226,588\*.

All communities spend money on stormwater needs, but the service is obscure and the amount budgeted is often insufficient.

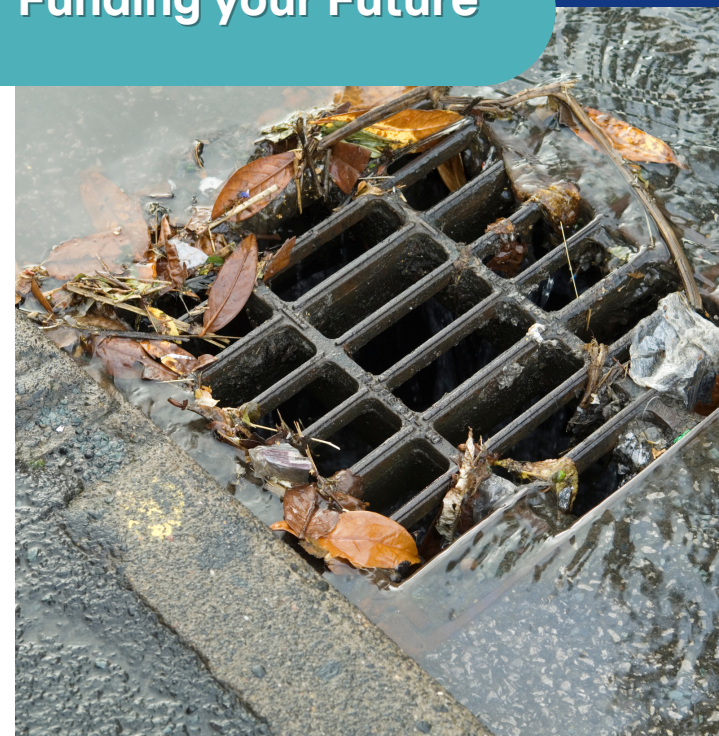
There are over 2,000 stormwater utilities throughout the United States.

The Clean Stormwater and Flood Reduction Act exclusively dedicates fee revenue to a local fund that can only be spent on stormwater needs.

It is not necessary to create a separate agency to administer a stormwater utility. Most often, the responsibility is simply added to an existing department of public works or sewerage authority.

# Stormwater Utility: Managing Stormwater for a Stronger Community

## Funding your Future



# What is Stormwater Utility?

A stormwater utility is a dedicated funding mechanism to pay for a community's stormwater management program. Much like an electric, gas, or water/sewer utility, the stormwater utility assesses a user fee based upon the property owner's usage of the system.

## Preparedness is cheaper than cleanup

**"Being Prepared for the Next Disaster Pays Off, New Study Shows"**

*A new economic study finds every \$ spent on climate resilience and preparedness saves communities \$13 in damages, cleanup costs, and economic impact.*

*Source: US Chamber of Commerce  
Being Prepared for the Next Disaster Pays Off, New Study Shows"*

## Key Benefits of Stormwater Utility

- ✓ Build critical infrastructure
- ✓ Improve your environment
- ✓ Water quality improvement
- ✓ Fund your future
- ✓ Erosion control
- ✓ Support economic development
- ✓ Flood protection



## Stable, Equitable, Dedicated

- ✓ **Stable** - Revenue is generated continually, usually in monthly or quarterly billings.
- ✓ **Equitable** - \*all\* properties (except agricultural) pay their fair share
- ✓ **Dedicated** - Can \*only\* be used for stormwater expense.

## It's Not a Rain Tax!

A stormwater utility does not randomly tax rainfall, but rather charges a user fee based on the stormwater generated by each property, which must then be managed by the stormwater system in order to prevent flooding and water pollution. The fee supports important public benefits. Depending on the community, it could eliminate raw sewage from streets, curtail property damage from flooding, or protect local tourism and recreation-based economies.

It is a fair way to fix serious problems.

**"Stormwater utilities have been used in over 1,700 localities around the United States to solve stormwater issues in a cost-efficient manner that provides local governments with new resources to do so."**

**Senator Bob Smith**  
**NJ – Legislative District 17**