

Mayor: Tim Smith
Ward 1: Timothy Hawkins
Ward 2: James Pelkey
Ward 3: Marie Besette
Ward 4: Michael McCarthy



Ward 5: Kate Laddison
Ward 6: Chad Spooner
Clerk/Treasurer: Curry Galloway
City Manager: Dominic Cloud

August 17, 2018

Hello,

For the first time, you may be seeing a Stormwater Utility Fee on your St. Albans Water and Sewer bill. In May and June of 2018, the St. Albans City Council created a stormwater utility and adopted a budget, to take effect on July 1st. This bill will be charging for the first five months of the utility's fiscal year.

If you do not see the stormwater utility fee on your bill, then it is likely because you are not the property owner for whom the fee has been assessed.

If you do not typically receive a St. Albans Water and Sewer bill, and the stormwater utility fee is the only charge you see, then it is because you are the property owner on record for the parcel that is being billed.

What is the stormwater utility?

The City of St. Albans created the stormwater utility in order to fund new ways of managing our stormwater system and finding ways to treat stormwater pollution. We need to do these things because we now operate under new water quality requirements from the State of Vermont and the U.S. EPA. All of the properties in the City contribute to stormwater pollution in some way. You have probably heard of the impaired states of the brooks in our City or of the seasonal algae blooms in St. Albans Bay. Well, our stormwater utility will be working to improve these situations! We will begin supplying more information on the utility's work and accomplishments at www.StAlbansVT.com/Stormwater.

The basis of your stormwater fee is the amount of impervious surface on your property. Impervious surfaces include structures, asphalt, hardscapes, packed gravel/dirt and more. As with many utilities across the country and in Vermont, the City calculated the typical amount of impervious surface that you might find on a single or two-family property in the City. That amount came out to be 3,000 square feet of impervious surface. That number is our Equivalent Residential Unit or "ERU." Every property is assigned a number of ERUs rounded up or down. For the July 1, 2018, utility budget the City Council adopted a stormwater utility fee of \$2.50 per month per ERU. That is the basis of your property's stormwater utility fee.

If your property has more than one ERU of impervious surface, and you have a verifiable stormwater treatment system, then please contact us for the possibility of earning a credit toward your stormwater fee.

We look forward to providing future updates on your utility's efforts to fight stormwater pollution in the City of St. Albans.

Seasonal Reminder: If you are leaving the area for the winter, please don't forget to make arrangements with Kristen Smith at City Hall to ensure we mail your water/sewer bill to the appropriate address. **Typically, the USPS will not forward these utility bills.** Kristen can be seen at City Hall on the 2nd floor, or contacted at (802) 524-1500x*253 or at k.smith@stalbansvt.com.

Questions?

Contact: Kristen Smith, City of St. Albans, (802) 524-1500 x*253, info@stalbansvt.com