

Flat Fees Based on Property Code

Property Class Code	Monthly Fee
100-199 Agricultural	\$5.00
300 Industrial Vacant Land	\$5.00
330-399 Industrial	\$63.00
400 Commercial Vacant Land	\$5.00
401 Commercial Apartment 4-19 Units	\$27.00
402-499 All Commercial including Apartment Buildings over 19 Units	\$63.00
500-509 Residential Vacant Land	\$2.00
510-545 Residential Single Family, Duplex and Three Unit including excess acreage	\$9.00
550 Residential Condo	\$9.00
599 Other Residential Structure	\$9.00
650 Board of Education	\$27.00
600, 610, 620, 621, 622, 630, 640, 645, 660, 661, 662, 665, 669 State, County, Municipal and Other Exempt Properties	\$9.00
670 Exempt Private Academy / College	\$27.00
680, 685, 686 Charitable, Religious and Churches	\$27.00
690 Cemetery	\$5.00
699 Other Exempt Properties	\$9.00
820 Heat and Power Utilities	\$63.00
821 State Assessed LHP	\$45.00
830-84 Railroad and Pipeline	\$5.00
850-871 Sewage, Phone and Water Utilities	\$63.00

The legal documents to support this unfunded mandate are:

- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency - Phase II of the National Pollution Discharge Elimination System program (FR Doc. 99-29181) authorized by the 1972 amendments to the Clean Water Act
- Indiana Department of Environmental Management - Rule 13 (327 IAC 15-13)
- Town of Merrillville - Ordinance 16-22 adopted by Town Council on 9/13/16



Last Revised 9/22/17

TOWN OF MERRILLVILLE

STORMWATER UTILITY FEE



Merrillville Stormwater Utility

7404 Broadway
Merrillville, IN 46410
(219) 472-8668

How the Rates were Developed

Current local stormwater user fees were established through Merrillville Ordinance #16-22 adopted on September 13th 2016. Each parcel is assessed and billed a flat monthly fee based on the property class code. The table included in this brochure shows the user fee structure for each property class code. Although there is a monthly assessment, you will not be mailed a monthly bill. Instead, billing is incorporated as a stormwater user fee on your Lake County Treasurer's Property Real Estate Tax Bill and is due on the same date as real estate taxes.

Benefits

Revenue generated from the stormwater user fee will improve the town in the following ways:

- **MAINTAIN COMPLIANCE WITH IDEM'S RULE 13 (327 IAC 15-13)**
- **IMPLEMENT FLOOD CONTROL PROJECTS ASSOCIATED WITH TOWN'S STORMWATER MASTER PLAN**
- **ENHANCE ROADWAY DRAINAGE SYSTEMS**
- **MAINTAIN AND MANAGE ALL PUBLIC STORMWATER INFRASTRUCTURE**
- **MINIMIZE OFF-SITE SEDIMENT/POLLUTANTS FROM PERMITTED CONSTRUCTION SITES**
- **CONDUCT ROUTINE TESTING OF STORMWATER OUTFALLS**
- **ENFORCE ILLICIT DISCHARGES INTO WATERWAYS**
- **PROVIDE PUBLIC EDUCATION/OUTREACH ON WATER QUALITY**
- **MAINTAIN GIS/MAPPING OF STORMWATER INFRASTRUCTURE**
- **REVIEW AND APPROVE ALL STORMWATER PLANS ASSOCIATED WITH NEW DEVELOPMENT AND RE-DEVELOPMENT**
- **ENHANCEMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE HABITAT**
- **PROTECT WETLANDS**



Background on Federal Unfunded Mandate

According to U.S. EPA, polluted stormwater runoff is a leading cause of impairment to the nearly 40 percent of surveyed U.S. water bodies which do not meet water quality standards. Over land or via storm sewer systems, polluted runoff is discharged, often untreated, directly into local water bodies. When left uncontrolled, this water pollution can result in the destruction of fish, wildlife and aquatic life habitats; a loss in aesthetic value; and threats to public health due to contaminated food, drinking water supplies and recreational waterways.

Mandated by Congress under the Clean Water Act, the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Stormwater Program is a national program for addressing the non-point sources of stormwater discharges. These discharges adversely affect the quality of our nation's waters. The program uses the NPDES permitting to require the implementation of controls that are designed to prevent harmful pollutants being washed by stormwater runoff into local water bodies.

Operators of regulated small MS4s (which includes the Town of Merrillville) are required to have permit coverage through the Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM). Under the small MS4 Stormwater Program, operators of regulated small MS4s are required to comply with 327IAC15-13 "Rule 13".

Without funding to implement the requirements, small MS4s have to develop mechanisms to fulfill federally mandated objectives to treat stormwater.