



**IN JANUARY 2025, WE WILL BE LAUNCHING A STORMWATER UTILITY.  
THE FIRST BILL WILL BE SENT TO RESIDENTS IN FEBRUARY 2025.**

# STORM WATER UTILITY

## What is Stormwater and why do we need a Stormwater Utility

- Stormwater is the water that flows off of impervious surfaces, such as roads, driveways, and rooftops, carrying sediment and surface pollutants into our streams and Lake Champlain.
- The Essex Junction Stormwater Utility is in response to State-mandated permitting, which requires the City to manage and decrease the amount of stormwater runoff entering local waterways and Lake Champlain.
- A stormwater utility creates a fair, equitable, and stable source of funding for stormwater management that is paid by all properties, including tax-exempt.

## How would the Stormwater Utility be structured?

- The utility fee would apply to taxable and tax-exempt properties and be dedicated to funding essential stormwater infrastructure and administrative costs.
- It would be structured similarly to water or sewer fees and based on a property's impervious surface (rooftops, paved driveways, etc, shown in blue in the photo.).
- It would also be part of the utility bill sent tri-annually for sewer and water use.



## How is the utility fee calculated?

- The Equivalent Residential Unit (ERU) has been established as the standard unit of charge.
- For single-family homes, duplexes, and triplexes, the charge will be 1 ERU.
- Non-single-family residential property fees will be calculated based on their measured impervious area.

**Annual Fee = # ERUs x ERU Rate**

**The annual ERU rate is estimated to be  
\$75-80 for 2025.**

## What happens next, and where do I get more information?

- The City anticipates presenting a Stormwater Utility ordinance at an upcoming City Council meeting in November.
- For updates on the stormwater utility, visit the stormwater utility page at [www.essexjunction.org/departments/stormwater](http://www.essexjunction.org/departments/stormwater).
- Contact Chelsea Mandigo, Water Quality Superintendent, at [chelsea@essexjunction.org](mailto:chelsea@essexjunction.org).