

STORM WATER FEE CREDITS FOR PROPERTIES ADJACENT TO THE MECKLENBURG COUNTY LINE

INTRODUCTION

Charlotte-Mecklenburg Storm Water Services has adopted fee credit policies applicable to all properties including individual single-family residential properties. In December 1994, a fee credit policy was adopted for property owners adjacent to the Catawba River due to the drastic difference their property has on the storm water system downstream of their property.

Owners of properties located immediately adjacent to the Mecklenburg County line have expressed concern that the impact on the storm water system downstream of their property is drastically different from the impact of other properties in Mecklenburg County. Because Charlotte-Mecklenburg Storm Water Services may not provide services on storm water systems downstream of these properties, a 100% fee credit policy to include properties immediately adjacent to the County line was implemented in 1997.

In December 1999, the Policy to charge storm water fee in Mecklenburg County was modified based on the Storm Water Utility Rate Allocation Analysis, which took into account past and anticipated expenses incurred by Charlotte-Mecklenburg Storm Water Services. Due to the fact that Mecklenburg County does not fund water quality activities from the storm water fee, the water quality portion of the fee credit was eliminated. The other remaining components of the fee are:

- **Peak:** costs associated with controlling peak storm discharges. These include capital improvements to increase the size of drainage systems, flood control and protection of structures from flooding.
- **Volume:** costs associated with controlling normal flows and maintaining existing drainage features.

The financial analysis of the City and County storm water utilities showed that 60% of the storm water fees are used to pay for volume control expenditures and 40% are used to pay for peak discharge control expenditures. These percentages are based on both major and minor system expenditures.

Even though the new credit policy modified, or eliminated, portion of the fee credit, the properties that meet the criteria below do not contribute storm water runoff to storm water natural or man-made systems that would operated or maintained by Charlotte-Mecklenburg Storm Water Services. Therefore, the 100% fee credit remains for these properties.

QUALIFYING CRITERIA

As part of this policy, the property in question must meet the following basic qualifications to be considered for storm water fee credit:

- The property must be contiguous to the Mecklenburg County line.
- All but incidental runoff from the impervious area on the property must flow directly to the adjoining county.
- The runoff from the impervious area on the property cannot flow to either a minor or major system prior to flowing into the adjacent county.

POLICY

In accordance with the Mecklenburg County Policy to Establish Periodic Storm Water Service Charges for Properties within Mecklenburg County, any customer can request a fee adjustment through the appeals process. For those properties (single-family and non-single family) that are located adjacent to the County line and meet the criteria specified in this policy, the following fee credits will be given:

<u>Category</u>	<u>Percent Credit</u>
Peak (40% maximum)	40%
Volume (60% maximum)	<u>60%</u>
	100% Total Credit

ADOPTED THE _____ DAY OF DECEMBER, 1999.

County Engineer

County Manager