

What is an Impervious Surface?

In general terms, an impervious surface is a hardened surface (concrete, rooftop, asphalt, compacted gravel, etc.) that does not absorb storm water. Impervious surface areas cause increased pollutant loading, increased volume and rate of storm water runoff, lower stream base flows, and decreased infiltration of storm water into the soil and availability to plants' roots



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How is the utility funded?

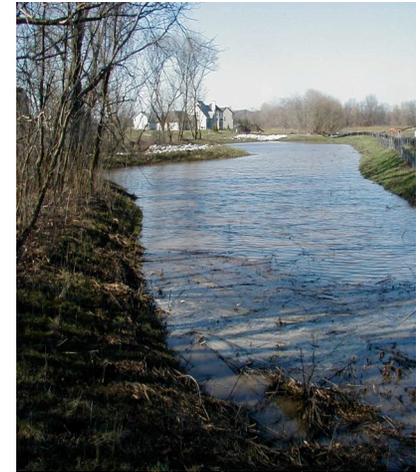
The utility is funded by fees collected from all properties, including tax exempt properties, contributing storm water runoff to the storm water management system. The \$3.00 monthly Equivalent Runoff Unit (ERU) fee plus \$0.25 base charge per parcel was set by the Village Board for the 2007 budget year. One ERU is equal to the estimated average impervious area of a single family home on a 1/3 acre lot. The fee will be added as part of your monthly Utility bill.

Details of the Village of Pleasant Prairie Clean Water Utility can be found on Cable Channel 25 and online at

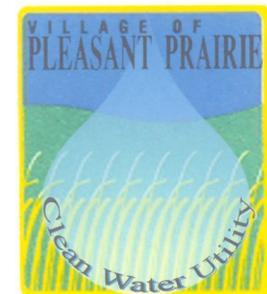
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Facts About Your Monthly Clean Water Utility Fee



Working together to improve water quality and protect your property



What's the Problem with Storm Water?

Storm water is generally rain and melting snow that runs off surfaces that cannot readily absorb water. Along the way it picks up contaminated sediments such as oils, grease, fertilizers, pesticides, litter, and metals.

Storm water can carry high concentrations of these pollutants to nearby lakes, rivers and drinking water supplies. Polluted runoff is the nation's greatest threat to clean water, even rivaling discharges from factories and sewage plants.

Why Do We Need a Clean Water Utility?

The requirements of the CWU are a federally mandated program. A clean water utility is a "public enterprise" structure similar to a water and sewer utility. With a utility, the Village will create a user charge that will distribute the cost of storm water management based on how a property generates storm water runoff rather than the assessed value of the property.

Where Does the Money Go?

The Clean Water Utility fee enables Pleasant Prairie to provide a wide variety of services that will improve and protect the quality of storm water, including:

- Maintenance of Village owned storm water infrastructure
- Repair and cleaning of catch basins and storm sewers
- Preserving natural drainage systems such as streams and vegetative buffers
- Build a Capital Fund to complete projects, replace existing infrastructure



10 Things I Can Do to Reduce Storm Water Pollution

Each of us can do our part towards enhancing the quality of life in Pleasant Prairie by observing a few simple guidelines.

- Compost yard waste
- Sweep paved areas to keep waste and debris out of storm sewers
- Reduce the amount of fertilizers and pesticides I apply on my lawn
- Keep leaves out of the street and gutter
- Direct downspouts away from paved surfaces to lawns or gardens
- Take my car to the car wash
- Pick up after my pet
- Dispose of toxic waste properly
- Recycle used oil
- Keep cars tuned-up and in good operating condition

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